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# Child Marriage

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# Outline:

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অপরিনত বয়সে বিয়ে নিঃসন্দেহে শিশুর জন্মদান, পুষ্টিহীন ভবিষ্যত প্রজন্ম ও মাতৃমৃত্যু ঝুঁকির অন্তরায়।

এখন বিয়ে নয়

আমি শিক্ষিত ও  
স্বনির্ভর হতে চাই।



সমাজকে সুন্দর করি বাল্য বিবাহ দূর করি।



আপনার সন্তানকে আধুনিক শিক্ষায় শিক্ষিত করুন।





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প্রথা বিয়ে নয়  
আমি শিক্ষিত ও  
বনির্ভর হতে চাই।



# Problem statement

***Child marriage is defined by UNICEF as “a formal marriage or informal union before age 18” and occurs throughout the world. Being forced into marriage before one is able to give consent violates the basic human rights of boys and girls. Most married youth are girls, with estimates revealing that 1 in 3 girls in the developing world are estimated to be married before the age of 18. On average globally, only 5% of males marry before their 19th birthday. The proportion of young women aged 15-19 married to young men aged 15-19 in 2003 was 72 to 1 in Mali.***

- An estimated 10 million girls are married every year before they reach the age of 18.*
- In the developing world, 1 in 7 girls is married before her 15th birthday, with some child brides as young as 8 or 9.*

# Causes of child marriage

- ❖ Dowry and bride price
- ❖ Persecution, forced migration, and slavery
- ❖ Fear, poverty, social pressures and sense of protection
- ❖ Religion, culture and civil law
- ❖ Politics and financial relationships

# Consequences of child marriage

- ❖ Mental Health
- ❖ Illiteracy and poverty
- ❖ Domestic violence
- ❖ Women's rights
- ❖ Increase maternal and child mortality rate
- ❖ The daughter returned to her father's house for long time
- ❖ Pressure for dowry from father-in-law's house

# Solution (Desired behavior)

- ❖ Empowerment of adolescent girls
- ❖ Work with families and communities
- ❖ Provide training on small earning sources like handicraft
- ❖ Ensure health, education, and protection
- ❖ Establish laws
- ❖ Support government from each level to establish laws and policies
- ❖ Take personal initiatives for your locality/ village/ Para
- ❖ Campaigning



# Barrier to change child marriage

- Religious
- Education
- Poverty
- Health
- Environmental factors
- Lack of law establishment

# Audiences

- Males (age > 30) mainly fathers
- Decision makers
- Teachers can influence
- Emphasis village/ rural areas

# Demand variables

- Lack of proper knowledge and future expectations
- Lack of knowledge of the physical and mental health after marriage
- Education of women and their husband
- Women's occupation
- Place of residence
- Religion

# Alternative behavior

- Need to encourage for education, self dependency and empowerment
- Need to suggest (father/family) for an alternative source of income so that they can ensure education cost
- Provide information about scholarships, education loan etc.
- Strict implementation of Gov. rules
- Stop frequent change of policy

# Communication Media

- TV, Radio, Billboard, Print and Electronic Media
- Social Media
- NGO/ iNGO local level staff

# Steps to behavior change

- Establish national level hotline/ call center like (999/333)
- Area based counselling center as like the CHT-Hill tracks by UNICEF
- Increase advocacy through government programs
- More involvement of the NGO and iNGO like Brac, USAID, UKAID UNICEF etc.
- Create opportunities for adolescent girls
- Fathers alternative source of income (like 5 coconut trees for a girl)
- To design eye catching and attractive bill board that will be understandable to the audience



# Challenges may face to change existing behavior

- Family
- Society
- Political
- Environmental
- Financial

# Personal initiatives

- Collect updated information from my locality
- Counselling center establishment (yearly two-four times counselling is ongoing)
- Support to buy educational materials
- Job opportunity create
- Provide 5 Vietnam Coconut trees
- Connect government stakeholders with mass people

## **In future:**

- Local level industry establishment
- Household level employment opportunities
- Develop entrepreneurship

# Thanks

Any queries?