IT TAKES A MOVEMENT

REFLECTING ON FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS TOWARDS ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE
About this report

Child marriage has been practised for centuries around the world, cutting across countries, religions and ethnicities – undermining the potential of girls everywhere. Yet five years ago, little attention was paid to this issue. Much has changed since.

This *Girls Not Brides* report looks at the progress we’ve made, where we are now, and where we need to go next.

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- Progress made to #endchildmarriage over last 5yrs must be matched by action, says @GirlsNotBrides [bit.ly/2cGGW77](https://bit.ly/2cGGW77) #ItTakesAMovement

- We’ve achieved so much to #endchildmarriage in just 5 yrs, but we need to do a lot more! [bit.ly/2cGGW77](https://bit.ly/2cGGW77) #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016

- #ItTakesAMovement to #EndChildMarriage! Look at how much we’ve achieved in the last 5 years [bit.ly/2cGGW77](https://bit.ly/2cGGW77) #IDG2016

**Facebook**

- It’s hard to believe how far we’ve come – from global commitments and national strategies, to increased funding and better research, look at what the movement to end child marriage has achieved in just 5 years. [bit.ly/2cGGW77](https://bit.ly/2cGGW77)

- It takes a movement to end child marriage. And look at what this movement has achieved! Read @GirlsNotBrides’ five-year progress report: [bit.ly/2cGGW77](https://bit.ly/2cGGW77)
Join our tweet-chat!
What progress has been made on child marriage, and what remains to be done? Come chat with us on Wednesday 28 September, 10 am GMT. Follow #GNBchat.

Take our Twitter surveys
In the lead-up to Day of the Girl, we are asking our followers where they have seen progress & where change is still needed. Follow @GirlsNotBrides to take part!
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL 2016

Activities & Messages
Who inspires you?
Share the stories of those working to end child marriage at the global, regional, national levels and in your community too.

In the run-up to Day of the Girl, we will profile the most inspiring stories of change. Use #IDG2016 and #ItTakesAMovement to share your stories, and don’t forget to tag @GirlsNotBrides!
• On #IDG2016, let’s raise our voices & call for govt accountability to #endchildmarriage by 2030! #ItTakesAMovement

• We’ve made huge progress to #endchildmarriage, but more needs to be done to improve girls’ lives! #IDG2016 #ItTakesAMovement

• Leaders need to turn their #SDGs commitment to #endchildmarriage into action bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016

• If we don’t step up efforts to #endchildmarriage, 1.2 billion women will have been married by 2050 #IDG2016 #ItTakesAMovement
SOCIAL MEDIA INFOGRAPHICS

CLICK ON EACH PHOTO TO DOWNLOAD (OR VIEW THE ALBUM HERE)
Key statistics about child marriage

720 million women alive today were married before 18
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#EndChildMarriage #IDG2016

CHILD MARRIAGE AROUND THE WORLD: KEY FACTS

15 MILLION girls a year marry before the age of 18

1.2 BILLION women will have married as children by 2050 if there is no reduction in child marriage

720 MILLION women alive today were married before the age of 18

1 IN 4 GIRLS globally are married before the age of 18

250 MILLION women alive today were married before the age of 15

156 MILLION men alive today were married before the age of 18

Child marriage occurs around the world, and cuts across countries, cultures, religions and ethnicities:
Percentage of 20-24 year old girls married before 18:

45% in South Asia
39% in sub-Saharan Africa
23% in Latin America and the Caribbean
18% in the Middle East and North Africa.

Child marriage also persists in some communities in Europe and North America.
Child marriage trends

#Childmarriage is on the decline, but it’s not happening fast enough
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#ItTakesAMovement
#IDG2016
Global and national progress

Which countries are making progress on #childmarriage? Have a look bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016
Putting child marriage on the agenda: key milestones

#Childmarriage is firmly on the global agenda – let’s keep it that way!
bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016
"The world is now blessed with the biggest generation of girls in history. By ending child marriage we can empower millions of girls to fulfil their potential and help to transform communities on an unprecedented scale." Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Co-founder and Champion of Girls Not Brides and former Chair of The Elders

“Child marriage needs a comprehensive approach with strategic actions. The more sectors we can involve in finding solutions to child marriage, the more we can make it work.” Sophia Piral, Asociación Pro Bienestar de la Familia de Guatemala (APROFAM), Guatemala

“Culture is the best of the values that we as human beings cherish. What we need to challenge are the traditions and practices that have developed over time that are harmful to girls and women and which do not represent our values. Traditions were made by people; they can be changed by people.” Graça Machel, Co-founder and Champion of Girls Not Brides, and a member of The Elders

If we #endchildmarriage, we can empower millions of girls & transform communities – Desmond Tutu #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016
WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

1 Hold governments accountable to their international, regional and national commitments, in particular to developing ambitious plans for implementing target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals with clear indicators for progress.

2 Develop, implement and fund comprehensive policies, programmes and plans to end child marriage and support married girls, in partnership with civil society and other key stakeholders. This might involve the development of targeted national strategies and/or integration of child marriage into related strategies for girls and children.

3 Continue to grow and strengthen the movement by involving new stakeholders, developing new partnerships, and supporting new champions. Ensure that young people are at the forefront of the movement.

4 Celebrate and share successes, including case studies of individuals overcoming child marriage, of communities who have united to promote a better future for their girls, of policy change or programmatic initiatives which have had a large-scale impact and ultimately of regions and countries where child marriage has been tackled in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

5 Engage related sectors such as those addressing education, health or violence – at global, regional, national and local levels, so that they integrate a focus on ending child marriage into their work.

6 Learn from what works and what doesn’t so that efforts to end child marriage are based on the latest evidence. Ensure the necessary research, documentation and evaluation of programmes and policies, and learn from other sectors and initiatives which address social norm change.

7 Increase funding for efforts which prevent child marriage and support married girls, and ensure the necessary support for grassroots groups working directly with those affected. In particular, target investment in education and health programmes for girls, as well as in initiatives which tackle social norm change over the long term.

What next?

Here is a 7-step recipe to boosting global efforts to end child marriage!

#ItTakesAMovement

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