



An Introduction to Global Adolescent Girls' Education



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Every girl on the planet should have the same opportunity to fulfill and shape her own destiny.

—MICHELLE OBAMA

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In some parts of the world, when girls hit adolescence they are expected to assume full-time responsibilities in the home or get married and start families of their own.

Shame and stigma around menstruation can also prevent adolescent girls around the world from attending school.



Sometimes a lack of resources keeps girls out of school: families can't afford the school fees, the nearest school is hours away, or schools do not have adequate bathroom facilities for girls.

In conflict zones, the challenges are even greater. Commutes to and from school can be dangerous, and sometimes it's not safe for girls to attend school in the first place. Adolescent girls can even face sexual harassment or assault at school.



Right now, there are more than 98 million adolescent girls around the world who are not in school.

This has a significant impact on the welfare of their families, communities, and countries.



But often, the barriers
are about attitudes and
beliefs about girls

So how can adolescent girls' education create change?





When girls get the opportunities they deserve, amazing things start to happen.

Poverty goes down.

Economies grow.

Families get stronger.

Babies are born healthier.

And the world, by all accounts, gets better... for all of us.



NEED MORE REASONS?

- 420 million people would be lifted out of poverty with a secondary education. This would cut the number of people living in poverty by more than half.
- Each year of secondary education reduces the likelihood of marrying as a child by five percentage points or more.
- Studies show that educated girls earn higher salaries—10 to 20 percent more for each additional year of secondary school.
- The World Bank reports that limited educational opportunities for girls and barriers to completing 12 years of education cost countries between \$15 trillion and \$30 trillion dollars in lost lifetime productivity and earnings.



An Educated Girl Can Lift Up Her Family, Her Community, And Her Country



The future of our world
is only as bright as our girls



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Imagine a world
where every girl got
the education she
deserved.

—MICHELLE OBAMA

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LEARN MORE:

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