
Circle of Sisterhood 101

The Facts about Girls' Education

One World. One Sisterhood. ®



The facts below can be used in a multitude of ways to educate your community as well as your whole campus about the importance of access to educational opportunities for girls and women. Make every effort to increase awareness and educate your community when hosting events on behalf of the Circle of Sisterhood Foundation.

65 million girls are out of school globally.

Source: EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2012.

There are 32 million fewer girls than boys in primary school.

Source: Education First: An Initiative of the United Nations Secretary General, 2012.

Two-thirds of the 792 million illiterate adults in the world are female.

Source: EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2012.

A girl with an extra year of education can earn 20% more as an adult.

Source: The World Bank, 2011.

Statistics show that when women earn an income, they reinvest 90 percent of their income in their families and communities.

Source: Phil Borges. 2007. Women Empowered: Inspiring Change in the Emerging World. New York.

An educated mother is more than twice as likely to send her children to school.

Source: UNICEF, 2010.

10% fewer girls under the age of 17 would become pregnant in sub-Saharan Africa and South and West Asia if they had a primary education.

Source: EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2012.

If India enrolled 1% more girls in secondary school, its GDP would rise by \$5.5 billion.

Source: CIA World Factbook, Global Campaign for Education, and RESULTS Education Fund.

Girls with secondary education are 6 times less likely to be married as children.

Source: International Center for Research on Women, 2006.

If all girls had a secondary education, there would be two-thirds fewer child marriages.

Source: EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2012.

Less than half a cent of every development dollar goes to programs specifically for girls, particularly those ages 10-14.

Source: The world's adolescent girls. (2013, March 30). Retrieved from <http://www.girlup.org/learn/the-worlds-adolescent-girls.html>

A literate mother has a 50% higher chance that her child will survive past the age of 5.

Source: UNESCO, 2011.

There are 9.9 million girls out of school in Nigeria, Pakistan, and Ethiopia.

Source: World Bank Education Statistics, 2012.

By attaining a secondary education, a Pakistani woman can earn 70 percent what men earn, as opposed to only 51 percent with a primary education.

Source: EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2012.



In developing countries, the #1 cause of death for girls 15-19 is childbirth.

Source: World Health Organization, 2012.

And 50 % of sexual assaults in the world victimize girls under the age of 15.

Source: UNFPA, 2005.

Education empowers women to overcome discrimination. Girls and young women who are educated have greater awareness of their rights, and greater confidence and freedom to make decisions that affect their lives, improve their health, and boost their work prospects.

Source: Education First: An Initiative of the United Nations Secretary General, 2012.

Child deaths would be cut in half if all women had a secondary education, saving 3 million lives. And all maternal deaths would be reduced by two-thirds if each mother completed primary education.

Source: EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2012.

