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# Circle of Sisterhood 101

## Answering the Call to Help Diminish Educational Injustice

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One World. One Sisterhood. ®



## Answering the Call to Help Diminish Educational Injustice

There is a global crisis in girl's education. Over 100 million girls are not in school. The sorority community is one of the largest, identifiable bodies of college educated women in the world while not even 7% of the world's population holds a college degree. As a community of women, we can and should use our privilege to help our spheres of influence understand the critical need to remove barriers to education around the world. We have a responsibility to help girls and women gain access to the one thing we all have—education.

Women across the globe lack basic legal rights and protections. Mounting research by the United Nations Development Programme indicates that:

“women's empowerment helps raise economic productivity and reduce infant mortality. It contributes to improved health and nutrition. It increases the chances of education for the next generation.”

### Why get involved?

**Strategically**, the Circle of Sisterhood would be a great organization for sororities on your campuses—collectively—to support because:

- You already do amazing domestic philanthropic work and through this effort will become global citizens providing humanitarian impact beyond your campus, local community, and the United States.
- By focusing on global issues related to girls and women, you will help make your community even more relevant to faculty, administrators, and other campus officials.
- By creating awareness about the brutality inflicted upon girls and women around the world, mean girl behavior and hazing in your own community may be confronted.
- You will become global citizens and better leaders.

Leaders invested in higher education are **calling for students** to graduate from college understanding humanitarianism and civic engagement. It is expected that students “will have an appreciation of cultural and human differences; understand their responsibility to social justice; a global perspective; and a sense of civic responsibility.”



Start a book club or watch a documentary to really understand the issues. Start with the book/documentary “Half the Sky” or the documentary “Girl Rising.”

Visit our website for more resources and ideas at [www.circleofsisterhood.org](http://www.circleofsisterhood.org).

Email us at [campussupport@circleofsisterhood.org](mailto:campussupport@circleofsisterhood.org). If you choose to support the Circle of Sisterhood, **LET US KNOW** what you choose to do so we can capture your great ideas, brag about them, and share them with other campuses. As well, we will assign you a Campus Relationship Manager to help you get engaged!



**Build awareness by educating others about the oppression of girls and women worldwide:**

<b>Human trafficking</b>	According to UNICEF, an estimated one million children, mostly girls, enter the sex trade each year and the United Nations estimates that 4 million women and girls are trafficked annually.
<b>Discrimination</b>	Two-thirds of the world's 754 million illiterate adults are women. [1] Less than two thirds of girls in low-income countries complete primary school, and only one in three girls completes lower secondary school. [2]
<b>Poverty</b>	One in every 10 women in the world lives in extreme poverty. The number of women and girls living in conflict-affected areas has doubled since 2017, now, more than 614 million women and girls live in conflict-affected areas. In conflict areas, women are 7.7 times more likely to live in extreme poverty. [3]
<b>Brutality</b>	One in three girls and women worldwide will experience physical or sexual violence during their lifetime. [4] Women aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria, according to World Bank data.
<b>Gendercide</b>	According to UN statistics, millions of girls are missing around the world. “More girls have been killed in the last 50 years, precisely because they were girls, than men were killed in all the wars of the twentieth century. It is estimated that 60-101 million females are missing from the globe today.” - Book: <i>Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide</i>

Sources:

- [1] UNESCO, 2024. <https://www.unesco.org/en/literacy/need-know?hub=401>
- [2] Missed Opportunities: The High Cost of Not Educating Girls. The Cost of Not Educating Girls Notes Series. © World Bank
- [3] United Nations Women, 2024
- [4] World Health Organization, 2024

**As college educated women, we have a responsibility to come together to assist in the provision of education for girls and women around the world because...**

- Educated women are more likely to overcome poverty.
- Educated women positively impact their community's economy.
- Educated women earn 25% more income than those not educated.
- Educated women reinvest 90% of their income back into their families.
- Educated women have smaller, healthier families.
- Educated women have children who are 40% more likely to live past the age of 5 years old.
- Educated women are three times less likely to contract HIV.
- Educated women help to diminish misogyny and oppression.
- Educated women live in less volatile, extremist cultures.

**Join our international effort to raise funds to uplift girls and women from poverty and oppression through education.**



## What Can We Do on Our Campus?

Introduce the work of the Circle of Sisterhood to your community at a meeting or through chapter visits ([use the video on our website](#)). Host an interest meeting and go through this worksheet together to identify what will work on your campus to create awareness and fundraise.

**Who Are Our “Go-To” People?** (logical and realistic potential collaborators to create awareness such as women’s resource center, other Greek Councils, local alumnae, etc.)

**Ways we can** work with these collaborators to **create awareness** about these critical issues:

**Where Are “Our Untapped or Under-utilized People Resources”?**

Potential Campus Collaborators we do not normally work with that we should work with to create awareness (residence life, campus ministry, international student services, etc.):

**Ways we can** work with these collaborators to **create awareness** on these critical issues:

**Beyond Raising Awareness, Move to Raising Money**

CofS values grass-roots efforts, so we want to empower you to do IMPORTANT things that will work on your campus. Make them Quick. Simple. Effective. Fun!

*Fundraising Ideas:*

For more information:

- Visit the CofS website for ideas and a Fundraising Guide: [www.circleofsisterhood.org](http://www.circleofsisterhood.org).
- Email us at [campussupport@circleofsisterhood.org](mailto:campussupport@circleofsisterhood.org) when you decide to become a partner campus!

