



URGENT ACTION !

for girls' education



Educating girls leads directly to better family health, economic growth, lower rates of child mortality and malnutrition. In other words, it is the cornerstone of sustainable development. Yet of the 115 million out-of-school children worldwide, two-thirds are girls, and of the 860 million illiterate adults, two-thirds of them are women.

World Leaders at both the UN Millenium Summit and the Dakar World Education Forum in 2000 agreed an ambitious target to end the gender gap in education by 2005. They promised that, by 2005, equal numbers of boys and girls would be enrolled in primary and secondary school. With only two years to go, they are well short of target. Immediate action must be taken to reduce the barriers to girls' education in order to meet the 2005 goal.

It's easy to take urgent action NOW!

1. Check to see whether your country is on track for girls' education at <http://www.globalmarch.org/gaw3> (the site will help you find all the information you need to fill in the Education Report Card below, including the contact details of your Minister of Education).
2. Download an Education Report Card – don't forget to print off lots of copies and distribute them amongst your friends and family!
3. Grade your country's progress in getting girls into school – simply answer yes or no to the evaluation questions. Remember, the more you answer no to the lower the grade!
4. Send one copy of the report card to your Minister of Education and one copy back to us by email or post at:

Global March Against Child Labour
L-6 Kalkaji, New Delhi, 110019, INDIA
childhood@globalmarch.org

EDUCATION REPORT CARD

Country Name: _____

Subject: Girls' Education Year of Report: 2003

Current Performance:

Total % of girls in school Total % of boys in school
= _____ = _____

Record of Late Attendance: My country will have a permanent late mark on its 2005 Report Card if efforts are not accelerated to achieve the Education For All goal for girls' education by 2005

Evaluation:

- Is girls' education a top government priority? For example: does your government have a strategy to reach the 2005 goal? Has the government increased spending on education?
- Are schools in your country girl friendly? (e.g. are there separate latrines for girls'? are the schools close enough to home? Are there enough female teachers? Is there gender bias in the curriculum?)
- Is school free? Have indirect costs for schooling, such as costs for uniforms and books been abolished?
- Is there a high proportion of girls' working instead of going to school in your country?

Grade (graded according to the evaluation above):

A = excellent C = good E = very poor
 B = very good D = poor F = appalling

Signature:..... Date:.....

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