

DAY SIX: Dec 2nd **CHILD BRIDES**

Each year 15 million girls are married as children.

The Story of a Child Bride

On her wedding day as an 11-year-old bride, Noora remembers her childish delight at receiving gifts and being thrilled because friends and family gathered for a three day party in her honour. Noora didn't realise that dressing up as an adult and putting on jewellery meant she was now the bride of a distant cousin. He was three times her age, and saw marriage as a means to act like a depraved animal.

(Source: www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2013)

Question:

What is my reaction to this true story?

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Global Facts about Children

- If all children learned to read, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty.
- 6.3 million children under five died in 2013, nearly 17,000 every day.
- 31 million girls of primary school age are out of school (Unesco)
- Over 8 million children are living as refugees in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt.

www.voanews.com/a/unicef www.worldhunger.org/world-child

'*Girls Not Brides*' is a campaign of 'The Elders', a group of former leaders that has become a global partnership of 800 civil society organisations. They are committed to ending child marriage and enabling girls to fulfil their potential. www.girlsnotbrides.org/

POPE FRANCIS has pledged:

"..To work strenuously for the protection of minors and their dignity, including online" He said a coordinated, international approach is needed, to protect children from the "*corruption of their minds and violence against their bodies*". Rome 6th October 2017

UN Sustainable Development Goals

(SDG), most of these reference Women, and children, particularly SDG # 5:

Achieve gender equality and empower all Women and Girls

Target 5.3: *Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.*



www.google.ie/search?q=free+images

UN Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC) Article 4:

Governments have a responsibility to ensure children's rights are respected and protected.

CEDAW (Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women) Adopted 1979 with the aim of:

- ✓ Reducing feminized poverty and exclusion
- ✓ Ending violence against women
- ✓ Achieving gender equality during peace and war

Suggest reading this during **16 Days**

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

ACTION I will take to protect children:

- ✚ See what you could do by reading: <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/take-action/>
- ✚ Offer support to organisations working to protect and look after children's welfare.
- ✚ Campaign to ensure all children receive their basic rights in my country.

<https://en.unesco.org/gem-report/sites/>
<http://srsq.violenceagainstchildren.org>

Prepared by the 'Future We Need' (FWN) a faith-based group, with members from the Columbans, Franciscans, Mercy, Presentation and Salesians

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence...

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

is a systematic and widespread human rights violation. It cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries...



www.google.ie/search?q=images+of+orange+the+world+for+free



49 Countries have no laws to protect women from domestic violence.

DAY 6

30th

November

CHILD MARRIAGE....



www.google.ie/search?q=Photos+of+child+brides+pixabay

15 million girls under the age of 15 are married each year.



See www.pbvm.org