

CHILD MARRIAGE AND HIV



15 million girls a year are married before the age of 18



Marrying before 18 can increase the risk of HIV infection in girls

5,000

girls and young women acquire HIV every week

1 in 7

of all new HIV infections occur among adolescents and this rate is increasing

2nd AIDS is the second leading cause of death among adolescents globally

Child brides are at a relatively high risk of getting HIV due to:

- Their young age and physical immaturity
- Their limited power in negotiating safer sex
- The frequency with which they have unprotected sex
- The pressure on them to demonstrate their fertility

Child brides are often married to older men who have had previous sexual partners. This increases the lifetime risk of HIV infection among child brides.

So, what needs to be done?

Increase research and share learning about child marriage and HIV, so that more effective responses can be developed on a larger scale.

Target child brides and girls at risk of child marriage with HIV information and services.

Link HIV programming with multi-sectoral initiatives to end child marriage and empower girls.

END CHILD MARRIAGE TO HELP GIRLS FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL.

www.GirlsNotBrides.org

[#EndChildMarriage](https://twitter.com/EndChildMarriage)



GIRLS NOT BRIDES

The Global Partnership to End Child Marriage