

STATEMENT

TEN RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED ON GIRLS' EDUCATION BY THE ETHIOPIAN TEENAGERS' FORUM 4 MARCH 2004

1. We must consider girls (women) as agents of change.
2. We must work to change the public's perception and attitude towards girls. The media should devote more attention and provide greater coverage to the achievements of successful women so that they can become examples to others.
3. Persons who inflict harm upon girls should be punished to the extent that they will never consider repeating their crimes.
4. All differences between boys and girls should be eliminated.
5. Religious and traditional leaders should make every effort to end the problems that arise as a result of religion and tradition.
6. In order to ease the burdens and problems on girls and women, particularly in rural areas, Government should teach the public and provide incentives to the community to educate girls.
7. Families should encourage girls to express their thoughts and feelings freely and openly and foster their self-confidence and reliance from an early age.
8. The laws of the country must be enforced and whenever new policies are devised they should take into consideration the situation and include the participation of girls and women.
9. Sayings and proverbs that are hurtful and inflict damage on the self-confidence and morale of girls should be avoided.
10. Special consideration should be accorded to girls facing difficult circumstances including those with physical handicaps.

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