

GIRLS' EDUCATION: THERE CAN BE NO EXCUSES ADVOCACY VIDEO

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September 2003

| Video | Audio |
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| 1 school bell ring. Children in school, then others not | UNICEF believes education is a fundamental right for every girl and every boy. Education is the key to a better world for all people. |
| Clip/caption: UN SG Kofi Annan | <i>No development strategy is better than one that involves women as central players. It has immediate benefits for nutrition, health, savings and reinvestment at the family, community and ultimately country level. In other words, educating girls is a social development policy that works.</i> |
| 2 | Yet today, there are millions of children who don't go to school, and most of them...are girls. |
| 3 girls and families with chores 4 5 6 | There are many barriers that prevent girls from going to school: Poverty, traditional beliefs, lack of accessible schools, ...discrimination. While other girls in her village go to school, 12-year-old Ibtisan has to earn money weaving carpets to help her family survive. Godhana's family can afford to send all of their sons to school, but only one of their daughters. Godhana spends her days at home working with her mother. Saftey is another factor. Many parents keep their girls at home rather than letting them walk to school alone along dangerous roads. |
| Clip/caption Carol Bellamy UNICEF Executive Director | <i>The fact is that in a great majority of developing countries today there are many more barriers for girls going to school than for boys going to school. And so the emphasis here is to get rid of those barriers, so that all boys, AND all girls are able to get an education.</i> |
| 7 boys, girls, poverty, betterment 8 9 | UNICEF has started a campaign to accelerate girls education in 25 targeted countries. The goal is to have as many <i>girls</i> in school as boys by the year 2005. Getting EVERY child in school by 2015 is one of the millennium development goals agreed at the United Nations in 2000. To do this we need the support of governments, religious leaders, communities and families worldwide. |
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| CB bite | <i>Education for girls is probably the best investment for society, but for that girl, it means she'll grow to be a healthy adult, she's more likely to have healthy children, and her family's more likely to be economically secure.</i> |
| 10 | Education allows young women to make informed decisions about their own lives. Girls are particularly vulnerable to HIV and AIDS, and education can help stop the spread of the disease. |
| 11 | By insisting she go to school like her brothers, Lalita overcame centuries of discrimination. |
| Lalita, 18 | Before I started studying and going to school, I never had the confidence to speak to anybody, or go out and meet anybody. I had not even seen any other village or district or town. |
| | She's now a karate instructor! |
| | In Afghanistan, girls like 10-year-old Mirya are back in the classroom once again, helping to build a lasting peace. |
| Mirya, 10 | I don't want to wear a burka. I want to come to school with boys, like brothers and sisters, and study until I become somebody. |
| 14 school bell call to action. closing montage | By taking action on girls' education now, the crushing cycles of global poverty can be broken, benefiting <i>all</i> children...and their communities. |
| 15 | Together we can create a world free from ignorance, abuse and exploitation. |
| Clip/caption: Carol Bellamy, UNICEF ED | <i>Without human development, there won't be economic development. One of the best ways to move human development forward is to educate girls.</i> |
| 16 | Education is every child's right, every girls, and every boy...there can be no excuses. |
| Unicef Advance Humanity close | music concludes |