

#WeObject



Until we are all equal



Youth Manifesto

Youth vow to end child marriage and unions



Visit our webpage to join us in objecting to child marriage

To speak out!



We, the Global Young Influencers Group, are a diverse group of young leaders, activists, and changemakers from across the world, united by a shared commitment to gender equality and the rights of girls. We object to child marriage and unions.

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We vow to speak out because marriage should be a choice made in freedom and love, not a fate decided by duty or someone else's decision. We raise our voices because every girl deserves a childhood, an education, and the chance to realise her dreams. We speak out because tradition must never come before a girl's rights and well-being, and silence only protects injustice.

To honour lived experiences



Our voices are from real lives, real pain, and real hope for change. Our stories remind us why our vow is urgent, and why change is possible.

"People call child marriage a tradition. I call it a childhood I never got to live." - Anon, Rwanda

"I was told marriage would secure my future. Instead, it took away my school, my friends, and my confidence. I am rebuilding my life now, and I speak so other girls don't lose theirs." - Anon, Rwanda

"Living in a world where a bride's price is more valuable than a girl's dreams has affected many mentally and if we don't act now the victims will increase." - Firstborn, 20, refugee based in Malawi

"Child marriage violates a child's basic rights to safety, education, health, and freedom." - Lia, 18, Canada

"When we allow girls to be married as children, we send a clear message; that female autonomy doesn't matter. That women's choices don't count, that gender equality is negotiable." - Sofia, 20, Philippines



No girl should have to become a wife before she has the chance to become herself.

To lead with courage and change what must change



We vow to challenge the harmful norms, traditions, and systems that value marriage over education, obedience over ambition, and silence over self-expression. We question poverty-driven decisions that use marriage as a survival strategy and push for real economic support so families can choose opportunity instead.

We vow to demand education, youth-friendly health services, and accurate sexual and reproductive health information, because knowledge, confidence, and choice protect girls' futures. We amplify girls' voices, involve boys and young men in changing attitudes, and strengthen community awareness so families and leaders understand the long-term harm of child, early and forced marriage.

We vow to confront laws that fail to protect children and cultures that confuse control for care. Tradition must never justify a violation of rights. Ending child marriage means ending inequality, in homes, classrooms, communities, and mindsets.

We vow to lead by example: raising awareness, challenging harmful norms, supporting peers and survivors, engaging parents and leaders, creating platforms for girls to speak, and organising initiatives that empower and protect.

To build the future we deserve



We imagine a world where every girl chooses her own path, continues her education, and defines her own destiny. A world without child marriage is one where love is free, equality is real, and childhood is protected. We envision a world where childhood is protected, education is guaranteed, dreams are nurtured, dreams are limitless, and opportunities are equal for all.

We vow to work, speak, and stand together to make this future real. The change we seek does not start tomorrow; it starts today. In our schools, homes, communities, and online spaces. Every voice raised, every action taken, every story shared brings us closer to the world we deserve.

A collective call to action



We call upon all young people, activists, students and the public to advocate for change that protects girls and enforces their rights. We must speak, act, and stand together, as youth, as allies, as a movement. We call on families, communities, leaders, and governments to join us in ending child, early, and forced marriage. We call for courage, action, and solidarity, because change is not possible alone, but it is possible together.

**These are our shared vows.
This is our commitment.
And we will not stop until every
girl is free to live the life she
deserves.**

Signed By:

Lead Youth Authors:

Joseline, 25, Rwanda

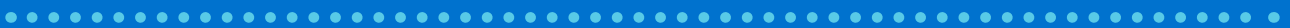
Firstborn, 20, Malawi

Tomoko, 18, Thailand

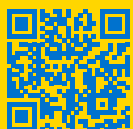
Mahmoud, 19, Sierra Leone

Emmanuel, 25, Kenya

These young leaders write on behalf of the Global Young Influencers Group — a group of 30 young people united by a shared vision of equality and justice, representing: Nepal, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Bangladesh, Thailand, Philippines, Ecuador, Peru, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Malawi, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Ethiopia, Guinea, Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Canada, USA, Ireland, and Germany.



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Our Voices. Our Futures. Our Freedom.



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us in objecting to child
marriage**