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ADVOCACY FOR CHILD JUSTICE

EVEN SOCIETY SUFFERS FROM CHILD MARRIAGE



Ending child marriage can reduce population growth rates by one tenth in high prevalence countries like Zambia.



A lower population growth can help Zambia save more on its health and education budget in the future.



Ending child marriage would also increase labour market earnings and productivity for women and nations as a whole



Mr. Joshphat Njobvu
Executive Director

END CHILD MARRIAGE AND CHILD PROSTITUTION IN ZAMBIA

As Advocacy for Child Justice, we remain focused on the vision to attain a child friendly Zambia at all levels.

We will therefore continue to fight all forms of injustice to children



BRIEF STATISTICS ON

THE DANGERS OF CHILD MARRIAGE AND CHILD PROSTITUTION IN ZAMBIA

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What is child marriage?

Child marriage in Zambia, according to the Zambian law, is a marriage where either or both the female or male are below the age of 18 years. The most common form being young girls that are married off to much older men in their 30s - 60s

What is child prostitution?

Child prostitution refers to the use of children for sexual activities in exchange for remuneration or another form of retribution (gifts, food, clothes, etc).

Key facts

- According to Girls Not Brides, as of early 2022, Zambia was ranked the third highest country with cases of child marriages in the SADC region.
- According to the UN, as of the year 2022, Zambia was home to 1.8 million child brides. Of these, 400,000 were married before age 15.
- Districts, Isoka and Chama in Muchinga Province, and Masaiti, Mpongwe, and Lufwanyama in the Copperbelt Province are hotspots with the highest likelihood of child marriage in Zambia.
- Married girls are over four times more likely to be out of school than unmarried girls.

Causes

- Severe poverty
- Extreme gender inequality and inadequate access of girls to quality education
- Lack of economic empowerment
- Poor legal services

Impact of Child Marriage on the girl child

ECONOMIC

- Become economically less secure
- It curbs their influence within the household and limits their bargaining power

EDUCATIONAL

- Children fail to attain their educational dreams
- Contributes to low literacy levels in communities
- Leads to girls dropping out of school



HEALTH/ MENTAL

- Risk of HIV, STI's and Cervical cancer
- Risks during pregnancy
- Risk during labor and delivery
- Postpartum haemorrhage
- Children born to adolescent mothers are more likely to have low weights at birth and poor nutrition throughout childhood.
- Isolation and Depression
- Suicidal thoughts
- Anxiety

DEVELOPMENTAL

- Disrupts the proper developmental growth of children especially the girl child
- It narrows the aspirations in life of children that are married off



#EndChildMarriage



#EndChildProstitution