



**Education
is a
universal
right**

On average, girls can expect to receive one year less of education than boys in African and Arab States and two years less in South Asia. In 14 African countries girls represent less than 45% of the primary school population. In Pakistan they represent just 41%-gender parity would put another 2 million girls in the country in school. In the developing world as a whole, primary school completion rates are 75% for girls but rise to 85% for boys. Gender disparities are even wider at the secondary and tertiary levels. These deep gender disparities represent not just a violation of the universal right to education, but also a threat to future human development prospects: girls' education is one of the most powerful catalysts for social progress across a wide range of indicators.

~ UN Human Development Report 2005

Inequality matters.

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