

Project Title: PREVENTION OF CHILD MARRIAGE IN INDIA

Name: [Your Name]

Class: 10

Roll Number: [Your Roll Number]

School: [Your School Name]

Date: [Submission Date]

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my teacher for her guidance and support in helping me complete this project on "Prevention of Child Marriage in India." I am also thankful to my parents and friends who encouraged me to conduct thorough research and present it in an effective manner.

Certificate

This is to certify that [Your Name], a student of Class 10 at [Your School Name], has successfully completed the Social Science project on "Prevention of Child Marriage in India" under my supervision. This project adheres to the guidelines set by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

Teacher's Signature: _____

Date: _____

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1. Introduction to Child Marriage

Child marriage refers to any formal or informal union involving a person below the age of 18. It is a violation of children's rights and has lasting negative impacts on health, education, and development. Despite being illegal, child marriage still persists in many parts of India, especially in rural and economically weaker regions.

2. Causes of Child Marriage

- **Poverty:** Families may marry off daughters early to reduce financial burden.
 - **Gender Inequality:** Preference for boys over girls leads to undervaluing girls' education and rights.
 - **Social Traditions:** Deep-rooted customs and beliefs support early marriage.
 - **Lack of Education:** Uneducated parents are less aware of the law and consequences.
 - **Fear of Honour-Based Violence:** Parents believe early marriage preserves family honour.
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3. Consequences of Child Marriage

- **Health Risks:** Increased maternal and infant mortality, malnutrition.
 - **Educational Disruption:** Girls often drop out of school after marriage.
 - **Domestic Violence:** Higher likelihood of abuse in child marriages.
 - **Economic Dependency:** Lack of education and skills leads to lifelong poverty.
 - **Violation of Rights:** Denies children the right to a safe and secure childhood.
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4. Laws Against Child Marriage in India

- **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006:**
 - Prohibits marriage of girls below 18 and boys below 21.
 - Punishes those involved in conducting, promoting or permitting child marriage.
 - **Indian Penal Code:** Provides for prosecution of adults engaging in child marriage.
 - **Right to Education Act, 2009:** Helps delay marriage by promoting compulsory education.
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5. Government Programs and Initiatives

- **Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Yojana:** Promotes girl child education and welfare.
 - **Kanyashree Prakalpa (West Bengal):** Provides financial support to delay marriage.
 - **Apni Beti Apna Dhan (Haryana):** Incentivizes parents to educate daughters and delay marriage.
 - **Conditional Cash Transfer Schemes:** Link financial benefits with delayed marriage.
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6. Role of NGOs and International Organizations

- **UNICEF and UNFPA:** Work with the government to combat child marriage.
 - **Girls Not Brides:** A global partnership to end child marriage.
 - **Save the Children:** Educates communities and empowers girls.
 - **Breakthrough India:** Runs awareness campaigns using media and local outreach.
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7. Awareness and Education

Awareness programs in schools and communities are essential to:

- Inform people about the legal age of marriage.
 - Highlight harmful effects of early marriage.
 - Empower girls with education and life skills.
 - Encourage families to prioritize education over marriage.
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8. Role of Society and Youth

- Youth can be powerful change-makers.
 - Peer-led groups can raise awareness.
 - Communities must break the silence around this issue.
 - Religious and local leaders can help shift social norms.
 - Celebrating girls' achievements can inspire others.
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9. Conclusion

Child marriage is a serious human rights violation that continues to affect millions of children in India. While legal frameworks and government schemes exist, much more needs to be done to

eliminate this harmful practice. Prevention of child marriage requires a collaborative effort between government, civil society, families, and the youth. By empowering girls through education and changing societal attitudes, India can ensure a better and brighter future for its children.

10. Bibliography

- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
 - UNICEF Reports on Child Marriage
 - Government of India Websites and Schemes
 - National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
 - Save the Children India Publications
 - CBSE Social Science Textbook
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