

Gender Inequality Of Education in South ASIA

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Date: 1/7/2020

Contents

Introduction	3
Exploratory Analysis	4
Recommendation	9
Conclusion	10
Data sources	11

Introduction

Gender equality is one of the sustainable development goals that needs to be achieved by 2030. It is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Here gender inequality means that men and women are not equally valued and do not get the same rights and opportunities across all sectors of society, including economic participation, access to education and gender based violence. It has become the greatest problem around the world, especially Africa, Asia and middle east areas where women do not get as much access to every field as men, whereas Europe and Central Europe has been developed over the 50 years.

Sustainable Development Goals



Through the lens of SDG-5, I am going to explore the data. Would increasing the enrollment of female education help to lower the gender inequality in South Asia?

Exploratory Analysis

Gender Inequality is higher in South Asia than other parts of Western Europe.

Gender Index Inequality rank between South Asia and Western Europe



Data indexes show that South Asia has the highest index in equality of gender than Western Europe. In south Asia, Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh reach higher index than its Neighbor countries India, Bhutan and there is significant lower in equality (rank 73) in Sri Lanka in contrast Norway is the number one in gender inequality in Western Europe and other top ranks Switzerland, Denmark and Netherlands respectively.

The Education rate is much higher in Sri Lanka of South Asia that found less inequality of both female and male.

Education of Sri Lanka provides free education as a fundamental right and the system was brought about by its integration into the British Empire in the 19th century. Primary and secondary school are available to all children free of charge. On the other hand, there are so many factors behind the lower education of other countries of both sexes where females have less access to education compared to male. Poverty, Early marriage, Adolescent Birth rate, Education system and mandatory fees are the root of this problem.

Total Population with Secondary Education between Male and Female in South Asia



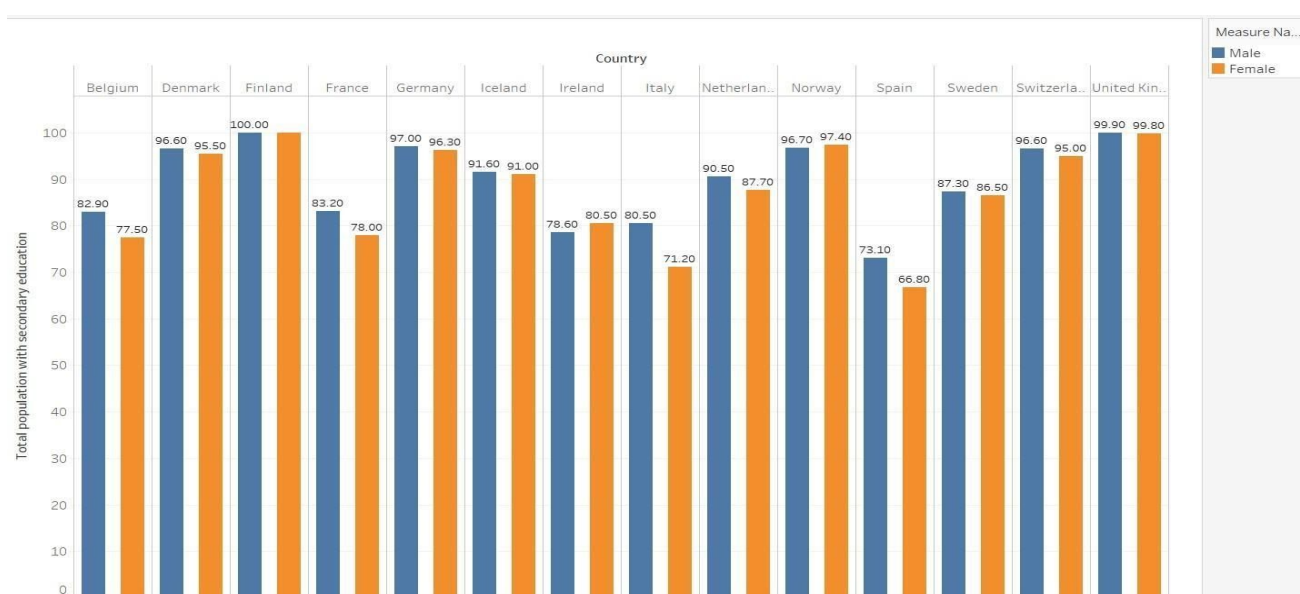
Figure 1: The graph compares the percentage of secondary education of both male and female

The bar chart represents that the percentage of education of both sexes is highest in Sri Lanka compared to neighboring countries and female has 4% lower than male (around 72 and 76 respectively). India and Pakistan is lowest in gender inequality on Education where girls are three times lower than boys.

Western Europe is almost equal to both genders in education with the highest percentage than South Asia.

There are many reasons why education of western is better than South Asia. Education system of primary and secondary education is free in almost all countries of Europe and well subsidized from the Government. Besides the education system is one of the good reason to make children realize better of both sexes value and importance in the world whereas in South Asia, teacher and parents do not teach the proper lesson and guide to all children that boys and girls should equally to access the education and should get enough supports from parents, teachers and governments.

Total Population with Secondary Education between Male and Female in Western Europe



The Second bar chart shows that Finland has equal gender with 100% of education and as well as other European countries. However France, Belgium, Spain and Italy for females has slightly lower (4%) than male. Overall Europe shows satisfactory results of both sexes in secondary Education.

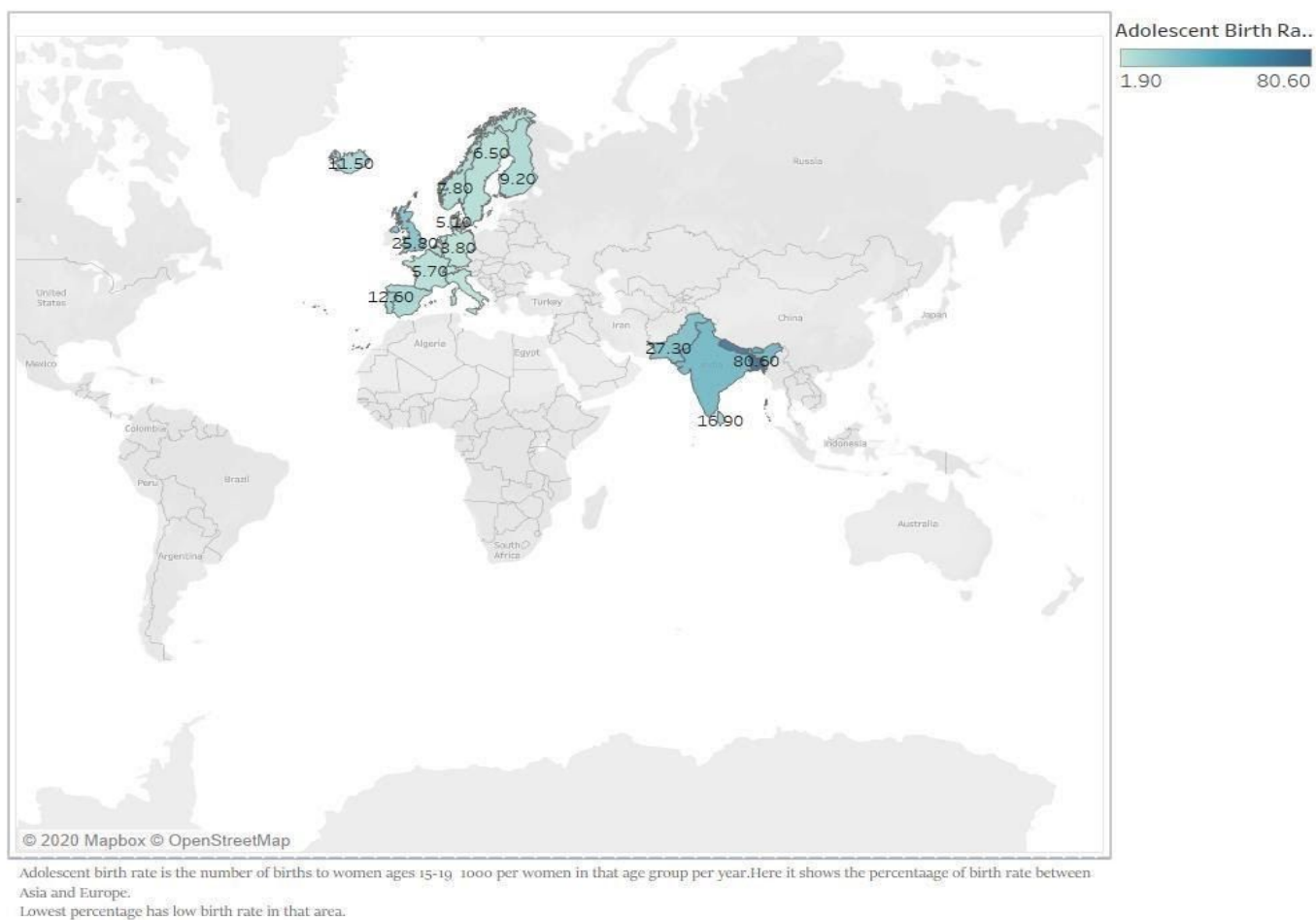
Higher Percent of Adolescent Birth rate can be a good reason to stop the education early of female.

In South Asia, girls tend to face more limitations on their ability to move freely and to make decisions affecting their work, education, early marriage and social relationships. Almost 1 in 2 girls in the region are married before the age of 18 and 1 in 5 give birth before they reach 18. Gender discrimination and social norms in the region expose girls to higher risk of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, child domestic work, poor education and health, sexual abuse, exploitation and violence. Adolescent is both a time of great opportunities and vulnerabilities. With adequate investments, adolescents have the potential to reach their full potential and become change makers. Currently more than 20 million adolescents 10-14 years old are out of school and an overwhelming 45 percent

believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife for burning the meal she cooks for him. Without proper support, adolescents will not develop the required skills to become active citizens. On the other hand, Western

Europe provides free access to education and makes it equal to both children to ensure that all children understand about the risk of giving birth in teenage ages.

Adolescent Birth rate between South Asia and Western Europe

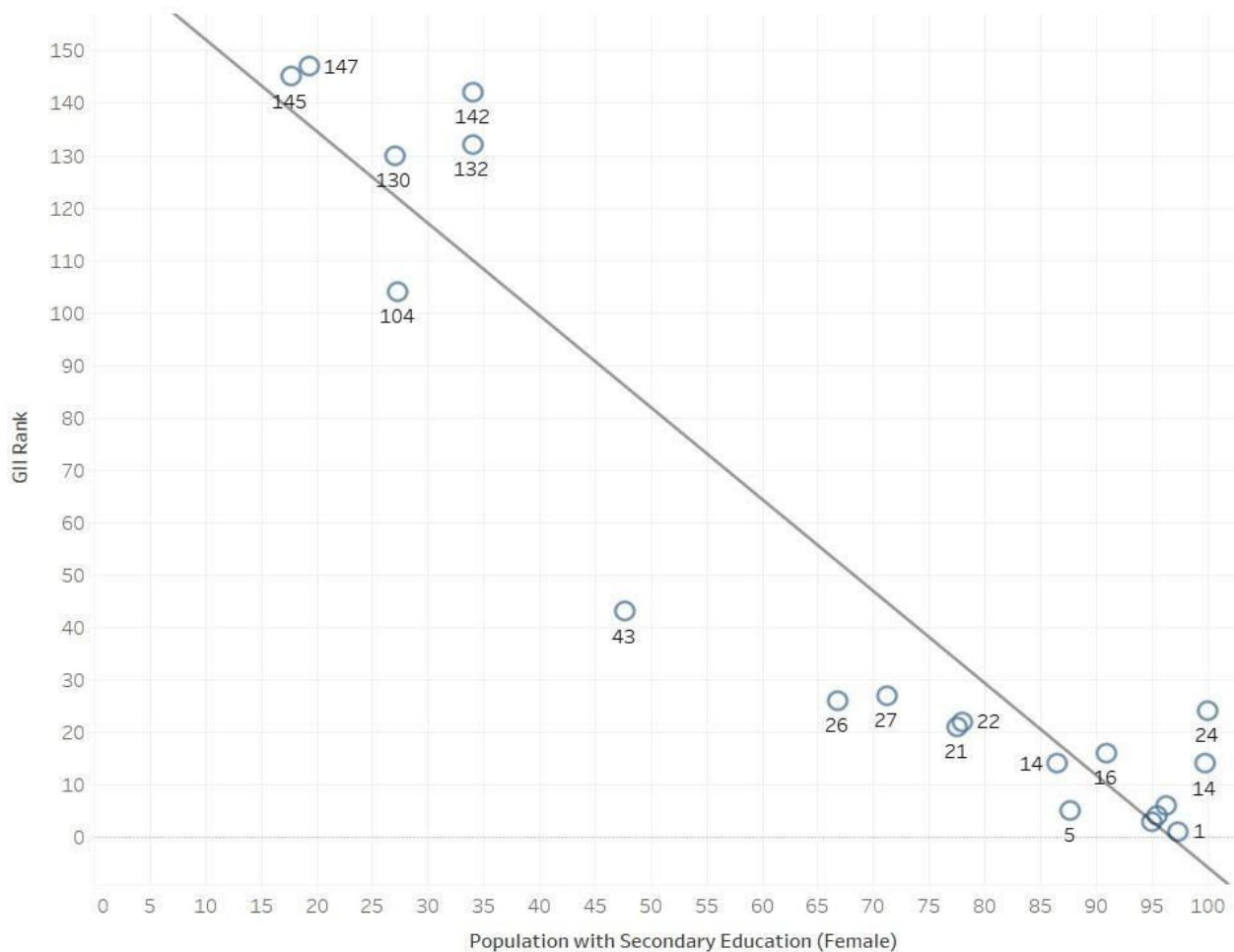


Above map shows that the highest percent of adolescent birth rate in Bangladesh is 80% which totally shows frustration and can be the reason why female education is more behind than other countries. India, Nepal and Pakistan show three times lower adolescent rate than Bangladesh which seems a really interesting point of this matter. However, Sri Lanka has a lower rate than its neighboring countries. On the other hand, the percentage of

birth rate is much lower in Europe, except only the United Kingdom (25%) and the lowest percentage holds in Iceland (1.50%).

Lower education to female is lead to higher gender inequality in Female

The total population of secondary education of female correlate with gender inequal index



However, there is a correlation between gender inequality index rank and female education. The country which has the lowest education of females leads to higher inequality of gender rank. As gender inequality index measures with three dimensions such as health, empowerment and labor force. One of the important points is education which ensures that both sexes can access education equally. If girls can not access to the education, it will be affect to other two dimensions unequal with boys (health and labor force).That's why it is much important that girl should be allowed to get same opportunity with boys

Recommendation

One third of all children in the world live in South Asia with unequal opportunities. Girls, in particular face gender specific barriers, biases and vulnerable to multiple levels of discrimination due to pervasive norms and harmful practices. These in turn determine the value of girl children in society.

There are some recommendation can be done to improve the enrolment of female education of south Asia is that:

1. We should first stop the early marriage of females and allow the child to go to school which will help to lower the inequality of gender.
2. To stop teenage marriage we have to improve the barriers for girl.
 - Family earning----opportunity costs of education (opportunities for girls to have a voice and be acknowledged as active agents rather than passive consumers of education and development.
 - Issues of safety and security around school affecting girls (consideration of the historical, social and cultural context -gender, plurality and education)
 - Relevance of school to the lives of children (Gender-aware and sensitive institutions.
3. Provide free education both primary and secondary school for girls especially (if necessary then boys).
4. Reduce any level of corruption and social violence.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is clear that the illiterate of teenage parents and their children tends to be poorer in their education and the cycle rounds forever until they stop the mentality of being child marriage and get for better education. Eventually it will help to lower gender inequality in South Asia and other parts related. There are so many areas will be improved if we stop the early marriage and provides better education: child marriage will lead to more children, more children will be the more population and more population will be the problem for government to make balanced financially for the education system free for girls. Eventually an educated mother can have the knowledge of risk of more children, proper family planning and provide a better education for their children.

Data sources

Data used for this challenge was obtained from the Kaggle and UNICEF website. The Source can be verified

using the following URL: <https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development>

1. https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development#gender_development.csv

*The dataset includes six data sources. First Data source is about Gender development consists with several 13 variables. **GDI**(general development index)measure gender gaps in human development achievements by accounting for disparities between women and men in three basic dimensions of human development-health ,knowledge and living standards using the same component indicators as in the **HDI**(Human Development Index).*

2. https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development#gender_inequality.csv

*The second data source is about gender inequality consisting of ten variables. **GII** is an inequality index. It measure gender inequalities in three important aspects of human development reproductive health, measured by maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rates ; empowerment , measured by proportion of parliamentary seats occupied by females and proportion of adult females and males aged 25 years and older with at least same secondary education ; and economic status ,expressed as labor market participation and measured by labor participation rate of female and male population aged 15 years and older.*

3. https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development#historical_index.csv

*The third data source is about the historical index where the Human development Index (**HDI**) has been changed since 1990 till 2014 over 195 different countries.*

4. https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development#human_development.csv

*The fourth data source is about Human development Index (**HDI**). Human development Index(**HDI**) is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development : a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and having a decent standard of living.*

5. https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development#inequality_adjusted.csv

Inequality adjustment data source shows that inequality in education, income and life expectancy.

6. https://www.kaggle.com/undp/human-development#multidimensional_poverty.csv
7. <https://data.unicef.org/topic/education/secondary-education/>