

# Impact of Child Marriage: Rights, Wellbeing

543 words (3 min read) | 1 pages

Categories: Child Marriage, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

---

Child marriage, defined as the marriage of a person under the age of 18, is a widespread practice that affects millions of girls worldwide. It is a violation of human rights and has far-reaching implications for the wellbeing and development of young girls. This essay critically analyzes the impact of child marriage on the rights and wellbeing of young girls, highlighting its detrimental effects on their education, health, and overall life prospects.

## Deprivation of Education

First and foremost, child marriage deprives young girls of their right to education. When a girl is married off at a young age, she is often forced to drop out of school, thus truncating her opportunities for personal and intellectual growth. Education is not only a fundamental human right but also a powerful tool for empowering girls and enabling them to make informed choices about their lives. Without access to education, girls are more likely to remain trapped in the cycle of poverty and dependency, perpetuating the cycle of inequality and disempowerment.

## Implications for Health and Wellbeing

Furthermore, child marriage has severe implications for the health and wellbeing of young girls. Girls who are married off at a young age are at a higher risk of experiencing complications during pregnancy and childbirth, as their bodies are not fully developed to bear children. They also face a greater risk of domestic violence and sexual abuse, as they are often married to much older men who exert control and dominance over them. This not only jeopardizes their physical health but also takes

a toll on their mental and emotional wellbeing, leading to higher rates of depression, anxiety, and trauma.

## **Long-Term Impact on Life Prospects**

In addition to its immediate consequences, child marriage also has long-term implications for the life prospects of young girls. Being married off at a young age often means that girls are denied the opportunity to pursue their own aspirations and goals. They are thrust into the role of a wife and mother, assuming responsibilities that they are not ready for. This perpetuates the cycle of gender inequality and limits the potential of young girls to contribute to their communities and societies in meaningful ways.

## **Perpetuation of Poverty and Economic Dependency**

Moreover, child marriage perpetuates the cycle of poverty and economic dependency. When girls are married off at a young age, they are often unable to access economic opportunities or gain financial independence. This not only limits their ability to support themselves but also perpetuates the cycle of poverty within their families and communities. As a result, child marriage becomes a barrier to economic development and perpetuates the cycle of poverty and inequality.

The impact of child marriage on the rights and wellbeing of young girls is profound and far-reaching. It deprives girls of their right to education, jeopardizes their health and wellbeing, and limits their life prospects. It perpetuates the cycle of poverty and economic dependency, perpetuating the cycle of inequality and disempowerment. Addressing the issue of child marriage requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses the root causes of the practice and empowers girls to make informed choices about their lives. It is only through concerted efforts to end child marriage that we can create a world where every girl has the opportunity to fulfill her potential and live a life of dignity and equality.