

## Appendix 1

### **FACT SHEET: Is This Fair?**

#### **The Facts:**

##### ***What Happens When Girls Don't Get a Chance?***

- Approximately 25 % of girls in developing countries are not in school.
- In 2009 around 35 million girls were out of school compared to 31 million boys.
- Almost 50 % of the world's out of school girls are in Sub-Saharan Africa. Around 25 % are in South Asia.
- One girl in 7 in developing countries marries before age fifteen. 38 % marry before age 18.
- 25 to 50 % of girls in developing countries become mothers before age 18.
- Pregnancy is the leading cause of death among girls aged 15 to 19 worldwide.
- 75% of HIV-infected youth in Africa are girls.

##### ***What Happens When We Invest in Girls' Education?***

- An extra year of primary school boosts a girl's eventual wage by 10-20 %.
- An extra year of secondary school boosts a girl's wages by 15-25 %.
- When you educate a girl you educate her family and a nation as well.
- When women and girls earn income they re-invest 90 % back into their families, as compared to only 30-40 % for men.
- When a girl in the developing world receives 7+ years of education, she marries 4 years later, and has 2.2 fewer children.

##### ***Five Main Benefits of Secondary Education for Girls:***

1. Increased primary school enrollment and completion.
2. Social benefits such as improved economic growth, health care and education.
3. Adult women have healthier children.
4. Prevention strategy against HIV and AIDS.
5. A tool for poverty alleviation.

\* Sources:

The Mother and Child Health and Education Trust website: <http://educationforgirls.org/>

World Bank: Girl's Education website: [www.worldbank.org/education/girls](http://www.worldbank.org/education/girls)

Center for Gender Equity: "Keeping The Promise Presentation: Five Benefits of Girls" Secondary Education (2006)  
<http://cge.aed.org/Publications/CGE.cfm>.