

Integrated Rural Health Development Training Center Nepal
IRHDTC/Nepal
'I am a Child, Not a Bride- Phase II' Campaign
Monthly Report

January 2023

In the previous month, IRHDTC accomplished two significant activities. First, a successful friend-raiser event brought the adolescent girls, community and elected leaders together. Following that, IRHDTC also conducted a valuable Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Orientation session, aiming to empower adolescent girls with essential knowledge. Moreover, an impactful initiative involved creating wall paintings. These paintings highlighted the consequences of Early and Forced Marriage (EFM) through rhymes, prominently displayed on school walls. The aim is to encourage adolescent girls to prioritize higher education over accepting early marriage proposals. This powerful message is now showcased on the walls of various community schools in Parsagadhi Municipality.

The choices of schools, situated in the center of the market, ensures maximum visibility and impact. Our hope is that this visual message will contribute to a positive shift in the mindset of the people and inspire girls to speak out against Early and Forced Marriage in Parsagadhi Municipality. These initiatives reflect our ongoing commitment to fostering positive change and creating awareness within the community. We have witnessed that small steps, such as these, can collectively lead to significant improvements in societal attitudes and behaviors. These kinds of initiatives are essential for the long-term success of the campaign which can inspire the government and local policymakers to take responsibility for these efforts in the future, ensuring their sustainability.

The objective of this activity is to raise awareness about the negative impacts of Early and Forced Marriage within the community, spark conversations to change societal attitudes, and contribute to preventing it. Placing the message strategically on the walls of community schools in the market ensures that many people in Parsagadhi Municipality will see it, making a small impact and hopefully influencing their mindset about the negative impact of Early and Forced Marriage.

In conclusion, we hope that these messages will make people in Parsagadhi Municipality think differently and help adolescent girls say no to getting married too early. By doing small

initiatives like this, we think we can make a big difference in the community and give adolescent girls a better future. The daily visibility of the wall paintings in schools, linked with the training provided, also aims to serve as a constant reminder for adolescent girls to recall and never forget the crucial messages conveyed about the consequences of Early and Forced Marriage, fostering lasting impact and change.

Upcoming event: We are planning to conduct monitoring and refresher training in the upcoming days.

Annex



A wall painting spreading awareness on child marriage in the school of Bagwana. (Rhyme in English: I don't want life inside the veil, I won't wear vermillion by throwing away books) I AM A CHILD, NOT A BRIDE.



A wall painting spreading awareness on child marriage in the school of Manwa Market



A man painting the wall of community school in Manwa