

# Educate a Girl to Save the World

In some places in India there are people who go door to door trying to convince parents to send their children to school. For example, in the small village of Jaisalmer, India, a man named Vijay Kumar Ballani, nicknamed Mr. Desert, and his friends once a year go to each house telling parents that everything is free at the government school. They also say an education will give them a better life and will set them up for success, according to a [2017 article in The Atlantic](#).

In many families the children they recruit are boys. This is not just true in India; this is true all over the world. In the entire world there are [130 million girls](#) who do not go to school. Two main reasons in this part of India are that the girls are needed to work in fields so that their family has food or to watch and take care of the younger siblings when the parents are gone or are working.

This may be surprising to some people but not educating girls is a big problem for climate change. In many places such as India one of the biggest climate polluters is humans. In India and many other places, they have very large populations. Large populations mean that large amounts of people use power to light their homes, lots of people use energy to heat their homes and lots of cars are being driven. All these things are bad for our earth and human health because they all release carbon dioxide into the air which then gets trapped in our atmosphere. This causes extreme weather events to occur such as heat waves, floods, droughts and much more.

The reason not educating girls is bad for climate change is that if a girl is not educated, she is more likely to get married at a young age or against her will. Also, according to the

[Brookings Institution](#) “The difference between a woman with no years of education and a woman with 12 years of schooling is almost four to five children per woman.” The woman with more years of schooling will have fewer but healthier children and is healthier herself. And if a woman can control how many children she has, then she could help lower the population and it would give her freedom over the number of her children.

If you could go anywhere in the world to work on climate change where would you go? I know I would go to India because India is the third worst climate air pollution emitter in the entire world. And I would choose air pollution because air pollution affects human health in two ways, globally and individually. Air pollution is bad globally because it can cause climate change and that can create extreme weather events such as heat waves, floods, droughts, enormous amounts of rainfall and so much more. Air pollution is bad for human health individually because the air pollution that is emitted from cars, burning wood, and factories can make you sick. For example, if you breathe in this air pollution it will go into your lungs and then into your blood and maybe even your heart and if it goes into your heart this can cause you to die early from [heart disease](#), lung cancer or stroke.

Did you know that out of the top 100 most powerful solutions for climate change educating girls is [number six](#)? Some might think that rooftop solar panels would be before educating girls, but it is number ten. Electric cars, number twenty-six. What I would do to participate in this is start a fund raiser for an all-girls school or donate to one that someone has already started such as [Educate Girls](#), a nonprofit focused on getting more rural girls into classrooms. For example, if I went to India, I would make a sign that says if you educate your girl and you help save the world. Also, I would go door to door with this sign and try and convince the parents of girls to send them to school. Or I might volunteer at Educate Girls.

I am very passionate about this solution because I believe that boys are given more privileges than girls and being educated is just one of those privileges. Another thing I believe is that every person deserves a right to an education no matter what gender they are. Also, educating girls solves more than just climate change. A girl can use her knowledge to get a well-paying job and make sure that her family has food on their table. When a girl has control over her life, she can help change the world in many positive ways. In other words, if you educate a girl you help save the world.

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