

ADOLESCENTS HELPING REPORT VIOLENCE, AND ADDRESSING CHILD MARRIAGE

Children engaging and supporting their peers,
including reaching the most vulnerable

Asia and the Pacific: India

During the pandemic, many countries, including India, experienced an increase on violence against girls and women. School closures also led to the drop-out of young girls, ultimately leading to early marriages. Through Breakthrough, young adults and adolescents raised awareness on the issue of violence against women and girls, and encourage bystander actions. Consequently, more girls (15-18 yrs) were empowered to recognize and report verbal violence happening in the families, challenging the normalization of violence. Also, in Uttar Pradesh, two cases of early marriages were stopped and brought to the attention of the village authorities during the lockdown in 2020 through the intervention of young adolescents who raised their voices against such practice.

'Due to campaigns, and awareness generation efforts taken by adolescents, peers have been able to identify and recognize cases of violence around them. Sometimes, due to age and family pressure, it may not always be possible to take action. Nevertheless, adolescents have created sharing and listening spaces amongst themselves. They also reach out to elderly members in the community when cases of violence happen around them'.

Here is a poetry written by Priyanka , was married off at the age of 11, which illustrates how she aspires to be a teacher and follow her dreams.

Breakthrough India

[Click here for support website](#)

