

“Hear my Voice”

A P P E A L

I will
change my
world



Hear my Voice...

...I will resist child marriage



Maheshwari saved her sister from becoming a child bride. She says SLA's Indian partner VOICE 4 Girls helped her speak up. "I learnt from VOICE 4 Girls that child marriage is illegal. I also learnt about the problems of teenage pregnancy and didn't want my sister to face them. I convinced my father to cancel my sister's wedding. I also motivated my sister to continue her education."

Hear this: *More than one in three girls in rural Telangana (Maheshwari's home) become child brides (National Family Health Survey-4). UNICEF reports that 1 in 3 of the world's child brides are in India.*

...I will get an education



Kalpana never felt the need for education. She worked as a domestic servant with her mother. VOICE 4 Girls helped to change her mind: "VOICE made me realise the importance of staying in school and getting a degree. I know if I study hard now, I can earn for my family later." After returning to school, Kalpana learned leadership skills from VOICE 4 Girls, supported younger girls and now plans to speak to her village about the importance of education.

Hear this: *Women with secondary school education earn almost twice as much as those with no education (World Bank). An Indian girl with 10 years of education is six times less likely to be forced into an illegal early marriage than a girl with no education (UNICEF India).*

...I will resist abuse



When **Laxmi's** neighbour started sexually harassing her she knew it was wrong but was too scared to speak up. She told a VOICE 4 Girls counsellor who encouraged her to tell her parents. They did not believe her but VOICE helped Laxmi find the words to convince her parents she was being abused. "Without VOICE 4 Girls I wouldn't have known what was happening to me," she says. "I am going to talk about sexual abuse and other violence to girls like me so that they understand how to protect themselves".

Hear this: *In rural Telangana, almost half of women aged 15-49 who have been married have suffered spousal violence. (National Family Health Survey-4). One in five adolescent girls in India fear physical assault when in public (Save the Children).*

Help Girls Break the Silence

Help Us Raise £50,000

Too many girls in India are not as fortunate as Maheshwari, Kalpana and Laxmi. Too many suffer in silence because they have little or no control over their bodies or their futures.

They are forced to...

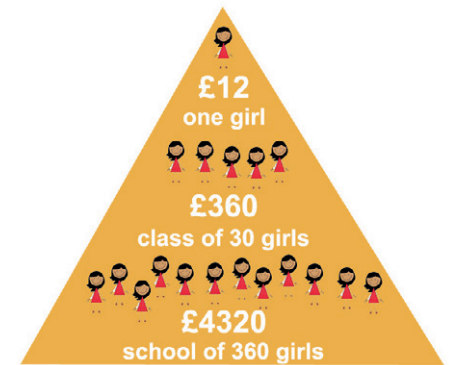
- ...marry before they want to
- ...have sex before they want to
- ...have children before they want to
- ...leave school before they want to
- ...work before they want to

VOICE 4 Girls helps girls resist being forced to do things against their will and helps them take control of their futures by:

- teaching them about reproductive and sexual health, their rights, how to recognise, prevent and report abuse
- giving them negotiation skills, enabling them to resist becoming child brides, child workers or victims of abuse

- teaching them life skills such as future planning and building their confidence
- encouraging them to become Sakhis – peer leaders – and to share what they have learnt with their schools, families and communities
- VOICE also educates boys, teaching them the empathy and respect for girls and women that is critical to bring lasting change.

Since 2016, SLA has partnered with VOICE 4 Girls to help 6,600 girls find their voices. **We were delighted that we secured a BBC Radio 4 Charity Appeal on International Women's Day 2020 to promote the work of us and our partner VOICE 4 Girls.**



£12 pays for one girl to take part in the VOICE 4 Girls Programme



TEXT HEARME

**on 70085
to donate £12**

“We realise the importance of our voices only when we are silenced. When the whole world is silent even one voice becomes powerful”

(Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize winner)

“For more than 20 years SLA has been speaking up for vulnerable Indian children. We know that educated, empowered girls and women make better life choices, are healthier and safer, earn more money and prioritise their children’s health and education. This is why we are asking you to help these girls change their world.”

Gillie Davidson (SLA Founder and MBE)

About SLA

SLA’s purpose is to help transform the lives of vulnerable children in India. We do this by partnering with and supporting grassroots Indian NGOs that care for and educate children.

SLA supports:

ASRITHA Rainbow Homes, which provides residential care, rehabilitation and education for girls who used to live on the streets of Hyderabad.

VOICE 4 Girls, which provides education, empowerment and mentorship training for adolescent girls.

The Pipal Foundation, which is establishing a dairy farm in India to generate funds to support Indian NGOs helping vulnerable children.

Visit www.sla-india.org to learn more



I wish to help the HEAR MY VOICE Appeal

Please tick the stars below as appropriate.

☆ I wish to donate to the HEAR MY VOICE Appeal and make a donation of

- Cheques can be made payable to 'SLA'.
- To donate using online banking our details are:
Account number: 00164481 Sort Code 80-02-77.
Please ensure you state your Reference as: **HMV (your full name)**
- To donate by phone please call the SLA Office on **0131 629 9112**
or donate online at **www.sla-india.org**

☆ I wish to make a monthly donation to the HEAR MY VOICE Appeal:

£5 £12 £20 £30 Other
Starting on 1st 15th 25th of month/year

For all monthly donations please complete the Direct Debit form overleaf.

For all single and monthly donations please complete your details below:

Title & Name

Address

Telephone

Email

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

☆ I would like to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future to SLA. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

giftaid it

Signature

Date

SLA would like to send you further information about our activities.

I would like to receive this ☆ By email

By post ☆

SLA will not pass your details on to any 3rd parties.

Please return this form with your donation to:

**Scottish Love in Action, Greyfriars Charteris Centre,
140 The Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9RR.**



Originator's Identification Number

3 8 8 5 4 4



Instructions to your Bank or Building Society to pay Direct Debit

Scottish Love in Action, Greyfriars Charteris Centre, 140 The Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9RR
DO NOT RETURN TO YOUR BANK

Name and full postal address of your Bank/Building Society

To The Manager	Bank/Building Society
Address	
Postcode	

Name(s) of Account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

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Bank and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instruction for some types of account. We will send you a copy of the Direct Debit Guarantee for your reference and confirm details as soon as we receive your complete Direct Debit Form.

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Scottish Love in Action of the United Kingdom Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Scottish Love in Action and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society

Signature	X
	X
	Date <input type="text"/>

SCOTTISH LOVE IN ACTION ☆ HELPING VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN INDIA

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