

# Action Packet

Fast Facts, Action Tips, and Featured Organizations

A quick guide to help you learn, share, and take action on behalf of women worldwide.



## half the sky movement

Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide



# Fast Facts

## Maternal Mortality

- One woman dies every two minutes from pregnancy-related causes.
- 99 percent of all maternal deaths occur in the developing world.
- The U.S. ratio of maternal deaths is higher than 40 other countries, despite spending more per capita on maternal care than any other country.
- More than 1 million children a year are left motherless due to maternal mortality.
- 135 million girls living today have undergone female genital mutilation, greatly increasing their risk of maternal mortality.

## Gender-Based Violence

- One in five women will be a victim of rape or attempted rape in her lifetime.
- In the U.S., a woman is abused every 15 seconds and is raped every 90 seconds.
- 102 countries have no specific legal provisions against domestic violence, and in at least 53 countries, marital rape is not a prosecutable offense.
- 60 million girls are "missing" due to selective abortion of female fetuses and the mistreatment and neglect of female children.

## Sex Trafficking and Forced Prostitution

- Estimates for children in sexual slavery range from 300,000 to as high as 1.2 million.
- The typical age of entry into the sex trade is 13 or 14 years old.
- 51 million girls have been married before the age of consent.
- Trafficking yields \$9 billion in the U.S. and generates \$27.8 billion in profits worldwide each year.
- Some studies suggest that there are as many as 27 million modern slaves — more than at any point in history — and 56 percent are women.

## Educating Women and Girls

- Two-thirds of the 781 million illiterate adults in the developing world are women.
- Nearly one out of every five girls who enrolls in primary school does not complete her primary education in the developing world.
- 75 percent of un-enrolled girls are from ethnic minorities or very poor families, despite being only 20 percent of the population.
- A child born to a literate woman is 50 percent more likely to survive past the age of 5.
- Young women's earnings will be 10 to 20 percent higher for each additional year in school.

## Economic Empowerment:

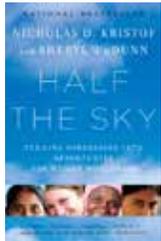
- 70 percent of the world's poor are women and girls.
- Women earn less than 10 percent of the world's wages but work more than two-thirds of the world's working hours.
- Women reinvest approximately 90 percent of their income in their families.
- In sub-Saharan Africa, women own less than 2 percent of the land, but produce 90 percent of the food.
- If women's paid employment rates increased to the level of men's, U.S. GDP would rise 9 percent.

# TAKE ACTION

Five things you can do in the next 10 minutes



Follow Half the Sky Movement on Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, Pinterest, Google+ and YouTube. Sign up on [www.halftheskymovement.org](http://www.halftheskymovement.org) get updates on the movement. Some other great email lists to join for important updates on these issues are [www.womensenews.org](http://www.womensenews.org), [www.worldpulse.com](http://www.worldpulse.com) and [www.thewip.net](http://www.thewip.net).



**Start reading** Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn if you haven't already. The book includes many additional stories, insights and suggestions for action. It should be available in your local library and bookstore, and at [www.halftheskymovement.org](http://www.halftheskymovement.org).



Lend through Kiva ([kiva.org/team/empowering\\_women](http://kiva.org/team/empowering_women)) or check out other microfinance organizations like Women's World Banking, Change.org, Global Giving or Catapult.



**Sign up** with the CARE Action Network at [www.can.care.org](http://www.can.care.org) or the ONE Campaign at [www.one.org](http://www.one.org). This will assist you in speaking out, educating policy makers, and underscoring that the public wants action against poverty and injustice. This kind of citizen advocacy is essential to create change.



**Donate.** Go to [crowdrise.com/halftheskymovement](http://crowdrise.com/halftheskymovement) to learn about and donate to one of 32 great organizations that Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn have vetted and believe are doing good work.

# Have more than 10 minutes? Here are some more ways to take action

**Host a screening:** Inspire your friends, co-workers, and community. Sign up at [www.halftheskymovement.org/host-a-screening](http://www.halftheskymovement.org/host-a-screening) and we'll send you a discussion guide and screening poster.



**Volunteer globally or locally.** Half the Sky Movement will be featuring volunteer opportunities at organizations doing great work in the field. Visit our website at [www.halftheskymovement.org/act](http://www.halftheskymovement.org/act) to learn more.

**Be a journalist.** Use the Fast Facts and our Facebook and Twitter feeds to learn more and follow the news on women's rights. Then, write an op-ed, blog, or social media post and share with your friends and online community.



**Help pay for a girl's education** for one year. Through organizations like Camfed, Room to Read, and Blink Now you can fund a girl's year in school and other education projects.

**Find a local organization** that combats human trafficking or sex trafficking and volunteer your time. Check out this state-by-state directory by Polaris Project: [www.polarisproject.org/state-map](http://www.polarisproject.org/state-map)



**Join or create a Dining for Women chapter** to engage your local community of women on international women's rights issues.

Find out more here: [www.diningforwomen.org](http://www.diningforwomen.org)

**Play the Facebook game** and encourage your friends to do the same. Half the Sky Movement: The Game will launch on November 13, 2012. By playing the game, you'll help send funds to featured charities in need of your support.



# Get Creative



**Donate** your old cell phone through Hope Phones, an organization that helps health workers save lives in developing countries. Better yet, organize a drive for old cellphones in your local community and donate many phones to Hope Phones.

Find out more here: [www.hopephones.org](http://www.hopephones.org).



**Travel** to learn about international women's rights. Go on a study tour with American Jewish World Service (AJWS), an organization dedicated to alleviating poverty and hunger, and meet women activists demanding a voice in their countries' development. Upcoming trips are scheduled for Cambodia and Nicaragua. Or, travel with Opportunity International to see how microfinance loans and financial training can transform communities. Upcoming trips in Rwanda, Uganda and Dominican Republic.



**Support people and projects** inspired by the Half the Sky Movement featured on our blog ([www.halftheskymovement.org/blog](http://www.halftheskymovement.org/blog)). Read about people like Belle Staurowsky who started teaching karate to at-risk girls in India and the high school seniors Anna Cate and Caroline who are trying to raise \$300,000 for a safe house for vulnerable girls in Adama, Ethiopia.



**Do what you do best**, for women around the world. Are you a runner, a policy wonk, a performer, a teacher? Channel your skills and passions into helping women around the world, in whatever way you think you can!

Read our blog and get inspired ([www.halftheskymovement.org/blog](http://www.halftheskymovement.org/blog)).



**Tell us** what you're up to and how you've been inspired by the Half the Sky Movement to support women and girls around the world. We'll share your story across our social media platforms and bring you supporters.

[www.halftheskymovement.org/share-your-story](http://www.halftheskymovement.org/share-your-story)

# Buy for Good



**The Brave Collection** sells beautiful jewelry that helps support survivors of the sex trade in Cambodia. Plus, it was founded by a 23-year-old!

[www.thebravecollection.com](http://www.thebravecollection.com)

**Dot-to-Dot** sells children's books that feature strong girls from a variety of struggling communities. The publishers aim to educate children early on about issues of international development and the power of young girls to make a difference.

[www.dot-to-dot-books.org](http://www.dot-to-dot-books.org)



**Buy the Change USA** sells goods created by women in the developing world who are victims of sex trafficking, gender-based violence and deep poverty. Their mission is to encourage consumers to buy goods that support undervalued women.

[www.buythechangeusa.org](http://www.buythechangeusa.org)

**Umoja Women's Shop** sells traditional, glass-beaded jewelry made by women from Umoja, Kenya who have escaped abusive lives in favor of a violence-free community in Umoja. All the color combinations are preserved from their ceremonial jewelry.

[www.umojawomen.net](http://www.umojawomen.net)



Also check out:

[punjammies.com](http://punjammies.com), [globalgoodspartners.org](http://globalgoodspartners.org), [beadsforlifestore.org](http://beadsforlifestore.org), [warinternational.com](http://warinternational.com), [sistadu.com](http://sistadu.com), [everylittlegirl.com](http://everylittlegirl.com), [feedprojects.com](http://feedprojects.com), [empowermentstore.org](http://empowermentstore.org), and [store.madebysurvivors.com](http://store.madebysurvivors.com).

# Some organizations doing wonderful work for women and girls worldwide

The 32 organizations listed here are *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression to Opportunity for Women Worldwide* partners. Find these and many other great organizations that Nicholas and Sheryl have found at: [www.halftheskymovement.org/partners](http://www.halftheskymovement.org/partners).



## • Acumen Fund

[www.acumenfund.org](http://www.acumenfund.org)

Acumen Fund's mission is to create a world beyond poverty by investing in social enterprises, emerging leaders, and breakthrough ideas.



## • Afghan Institute of Learning

[www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org](http://www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org)

AIL plays a major role by creating or reconstructing education and health systems capable of reaching the women and children of Afghanistan, whether in refugee camps or in their homeland.



## • American Jewish World Service

[www.ajws.org](http://www.ajws.org)

Inspired by Judaism's commitment to justice, American Jewish World Service works to realize human rights and end poverty in the developing world.



## • Apne Aap

[www.apneaap.org](http://www.apneaap.org)

Apne Aap organizes small groups of women and girls at risk or affected by trafficking into self-empowerment groups across India to access three fundamental rights – education, dignified livelihood and legal empowerment.



## • BRAC

[www.brac.org](http://www.brac.org)

BRAC, a global development organization based in Bangladesh, is a worldwide leader in creating opportunities for the poor to lift themselves out of poverty.



## • Camfed

[www.camfed.org](http://www.camfed.org)

Camfed educates girls in some of the poorest areas of rural Africa and invests in economic and leadership opportunities for them.



## • CARE

[www.care.org](http://www.care.org)

CARE is a leader humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. Women are at the heart of CARE's community-based efforts to improve basic education, health and economic opportunity.



### •Edna Adan Maternity Hospital

[www.ednahospital.org](http://www.ednahospital.org)

The maternity hospital was built by Edna Adan Ismail in order to address the grave health problems that endanger the lives of women and children of Somaliland.



### •Every Mother Counts

[www.everymothercounts.org](http://www.everymothercounts.org)

Every Mother Counts is an advocacy and mobilization campaign to increase education and support for maternal mortality reduction globally.



### •Fistula Foundation

[www.fistulafoundation.org](http://www.fistulafoundation.org)

Fistula Foundation fights to end the suffering caused by childbirth injury, obstetric fistula. They believe no woman should suffer a life of pain and isolation simply for trying to bring a child into the world.



### •Fonkoze

[www.fonkoze.org](http://www.fonkoze.org)

Fonkoze is Haiti's largest microfinance institution and, indeed, one of the best known MFIs worldwide for its innovative approaches to reaching the most disadvantaged women and helping them take the first steps out of poverty.



### •Futures Without Violence

[www.futureswithoutviolence.org](http://www.futureswithoutviolence.org)

FWV has developed ground-breaking education programs, policy reform, leadership training and public actions designed to end violence against women and children around the world.



### •GEMS

[www.gems-girls.org](http://www.gems-girls.org)

GEMS is the only organization in New York State specifically designed to serve girls and young women who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking.



### •Grameen Foundation

[www.grameenfoundation.org](http://www.grameenfoundation.org)

Grameen Foundation helps empower the world's poorest, especially women, by providing them with access to financial services such as microsavings and loans, life-changing information about agriculture and health, and unique small-business opportunities.



### •Heifer International

[www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)

With gifts of livestock and training, Heifer International works with communities to end hunger and poverty and care for the earth.



### •International Justice Mission

[www.ijm.org](http://www.ijm.org)

IJM is a human rights agency that brings rescue to victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America.



### •International Rescue Committee

[www.irc.org](http://www.irc.org)

The International Rescue committee responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises, offering lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to help vulnerable families survive and rebuild their lives.



### •Jamii Bora

[www.jamiibora.org](http://www.jamiibora.org)

Jamii Bora Trust was established in 1999 at the initiative of 50 poor families in Nairobi. Its mission is to assist its members to get out of poverty and build a better life for their families.



### •Kashf

[www.kashf.org](http://www.kashf.org)

Kashf works to holistically transform the lives of low income households, especially women, by providing quality and cost effective micro-finance services accompanied by a suite of ancillary services.



### •New Light Foundation

[www.newlightindia.org](http://www.newlightindia.org)

Since 2000, New Light has been providing safe shelter, education, and recreational facilities for the children of local sex workers, particularly the daughters.



### •Opportunity International

[www.opportunity.org](http://www.opportunity.org)

Opportunity International provides more than four million people – mostly women – with the financial services they need to unlock their potential and create better lives for themselves, their families and their communities.



### •Pathfinder International

[www.pathfind.org](http://www.pathfind.org)

For more than 55 years, Pathfinder International has delivered vital sexual and reproductive health services that ensure choice and expand opportunities for women, men, and young people in developing countries.



### •Population Council

[www.popcouncil.org](http://www.popcouncil.org)

Population Council conducts biomedical, social science, and public health research and disseminate evidence to create policies, programs, and technologies that improve lives around the world.



### •Room to Read

[www.roomtoread.org](http://www.roomtoread.org)

Room to Read seeks to transform the lives of millions of children in developing countries by focusing on literacy and gender equality in education.



### •Save the Children

[www.savethechildren.org](http://www.savethechildren.org)

Save the Children is an independent organization creating lasting change in the lives of children in need in the United States and around the world.



### •Shining Hope for Communities

[www.shininghopeforcommunities.org](http://www.shininghopeforcommunities.org)

Shining Hope for Communities links free schools for girls to holistic community centers that provide residents with the most essential services in Nairobi's Kibera slum.



### •Somaly Mam Foundation

[www.somaly.org](http://www.somaly.org)

Co-founded by Somaly Mam, a Cambodian survivor of sexual slavery, SMF works to eradicate slavery and empower its survivors, with a special focus on Southeast Asia.



### •Tostan

[www.tostan.org](http://www.tostan.org)

Tostan empowers African communities to bring about sustainable development and positive social transformation based on respect for human rights.



### •Umoja Women's Village

[www.umojawomen.org](http://www.umojawomen.org)

Umoja is a women-only village, founded with the mission to improve the livelihood of its members and the Samburu community through education and poverty alleviation.



### •Women for Women International

[www.womenforwomen.org](http://www.womenforwomen.org)

Women for Women International supports women in war-torn regions with financial and emotional aid, job-skills training, rights education and small business assistance so they can rebuild their lives.



### •Women's World Banking

[www.swwb.org](http://www.swwb.org)

Women's World Banking expands the economic assets, participation and power of low-income women and their households by helping them access financial services, knowledge and markets.



### •World Vision

[www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org)

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.

#### Half the Sky Movement Funders:

The Ikea Foundation, USAID, The Ford Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Coca-Cola Company, Vagisil, The MacArthur Foundation, The Nduna Foundation, Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women, The Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Seedlings Foundation, The Nike Foundation, The NoVo Foundation, FHI360, The Hanami Fund, National Endowment for the Arts, The Sutherland Foundation, Applegate Farms, Ina Brown Bond and Fran Hauser.