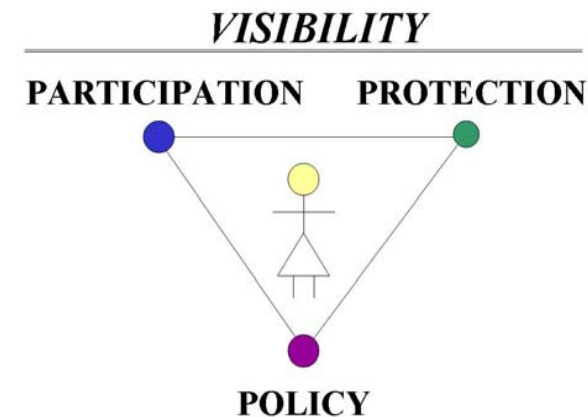


Establishing the visibility of the girl child is fundamental to ensuring the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against girls.

Raising awareness is not enough. Only action can realize the girl child's full potential as an individual and as a true member of society.

National and local governments, communities, and civil society need to cooperate to develop effective strategies and implement successful policies that integrate visibility and development.

The WGG has identified three key areas that provide an integrated approach to establishing girls' visibility:



Working Group on Girls  
NGO Committee on  
UNICEF

**THE WORKING GROUP ON GIRLS (WGG)** is dedicated to promoting the rights of girls worldwide, advancing the status of girls and assisting them to develop their full potential as women by:

**Ensuring** national governments implement, through clear policy statements, legislation, programme development, and resource allocation, the commitments to girls' rights they made through international declarations and conventions;

**Advocating** for the ongoing inclusion and development of girls' rights in the work of the United Nations systems and structures and in international agreements; and

**Promoting** the active participation of girls as agents of change in their own lives, families, communities and societies.



Afghanistan, Christian Children's Fund, T.Dolan 2002

Access the WGG Platform: [www.girlsrights.org](http://www.girlsrights.org)

**WORKING GROUP ON GIRLS**  
c/o H-1142 UNICEF House, 3 UN Plaza,  
New York, NY, 10017  
e-mail: [wggs@girlsrights.org](mailto:wggs@girlsrights.org)

# THE GIRL CHILD:



Afghanistan, Bahá'í International Community, Fulya Vekiloglu, 2005

# ESTABLISHING HER VISIBILITY

*“The skills, ideas and energy of the girl child are vital for full attainment of the goals of equality, development and peace.”*

*Fourth World Conference on Women,  
Beijing China, 4-15 September 1995 (39.)*

## PARTICIPATION

*“We the youth of today have very little say on the things that involve our lives... Let us then join to make ourselves be heard on what we believe is important and promote good virtues to avoid violation of our rights.”*

*Girl, 17, Kenya*

*(Voices Of Youth/Newsletter 12-03, UNICEF)*



Honduras, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Ann Scholz, 2005

- **Encourage** girls' participation in policy development, in local infrastructure building, as well as in global and community forums;
- **Guarantee** a girl's right to education, to self-expression, and to play. Develop incentives for parents to send their daughters to school; and
- **Ensure** the provision of viable life skills and technical training for girls to assure future livelihoods.

## PROTECTION

*“People feel that a girl is meant to be used - either as a doormat, a maid, a birth-giving machine or as a source of physical pleasure.”*

*Girl 16, India*

*(Voices Of Youth/Newsletter 2-06, UNICEF)*



Uganda, Christian Children's Fund, Virginia Woodward, date unknown

- **Empower** girls to address their health needs by increasing access and developing safe spaces for physical, psychological, and social care;
- **Protect** girls from labour exploitation, trafficking, slavery, and girls' recruitment into armed groups and forces. Ensure their right to self-development; and
- **Develop and reform** laws that protect girls, promote their rehabilitation and reintegration into society, and hold accountable perpetrators of all forms of gender-based violence including: rape, assault, harassment, sexual exploitation, fistula, female genital mutilation, early marriage, trafficking, and prostitution.

## POLICY

*“The world is starting to grasp that there is no policy more effective in promoting development, health and education than the empowerment of women and girls.”*

*Kofi Annan*

*International Women's Day 2006*



Cambodia, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Yvonne Rafferty, 2006

- **Reform** educational systems to create curricula, infrastructure, and pedagogy that are gender sensitive and promote the completion of school;
- **Establish** research institutions with joint CRC and CEDAW collaboration and mandate research on girls' issues; and
- **Promote** the collection of more highly disaggregated data relevant to the girl child.