

Church of South India –SEVA Girl Child Campaign: Focus 9/99 Phase II



Resources for Observance of National Girl Child Day 24 January 2018

OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL GIRL CHILD DAY*

- This day is celebrated as a national observance to increase the awareness of people regarding the girl child and offer new opportunities to the girl child in society.
- To commit to removing all inequalities faced by the girl children in Indian society.
- To ensure that girl children get access to human rights in the country.
- To work against the diminishing child sex ratio in India and change the mind of people about the value of the girl child.
- To address issues associated to girl children in terms of their health, respect, education and nutrition.
- To propagate gender equality among people in India

(*Source: www.indiacelebrating.com/events/national-girl-child-day/)

WHAT CAN CONGREGATIONS DO?

- a. Reflections on Biblical passages those are both affirmative and difficult in terms of women/girl child.
- b. Supplementary Education for girl children
- c. Economically support education of girl child to prevent girl children dropping out from schools
- d. Organise special programs such as cultural evening, games and rallies for Girl Children
- e. Awards of excellence (in any field) to Girls in congregations
- f. Uphold Diocesan and Church ministries / NGOs working with issues related to girl children in your neighbourhood.
- g. Promote Child helpline 1098
- h. Regular counseling and health check-up for girl children and adolescent girls
- i. Counselling for families to address attitudinal changes in their view of girl children

INAUGURATE 2018 CAMPAIGN OF FOCUS 9/99 (from January 24 to October 11)

Focus 9/99 under the CSI Girl Child Campaign is a program of Church and Community Mobilization where representatives of the Church and rest of the Community work together to affirm the rights of Children, address violations and report through existing legal frameworks, particularly the JJ Act and the POCSO Act and state mechanisms including National and State Commissions on Protection of Child Rights. Simultaneously these representatives will also promote compliance to the respective laws that enable and empower children and promote Child Helpline 1098.

CHILD RIGHTS

Right to Survival: Right to born, to live with dignity and right to stay healthy

Right to Protection: Right to be protected from all sorts of violence & neglect, physical and sexual abuse and dangerous drugs

Right to Participation: Right to freedom of opinion, expression and association, to participate in any decision making and right to information

Right to Development: Right to learn and education, relax and play and Right to all forms of development

ABUSIVE CONTEXTS

Physical Abuse: a parent/care giver causes any non-accidental physical injury to a child

Sexual Abuse: an adult uses a child for sexual purpose/involves a child in sexual acts

Emotional Abuse: a parent/care giver harms a child's mental & social development / causes severe emotional harm

Child Neglect: a parent/care giver does not give the care, affection & support needed for the child's health / safety & well-being in terms of Physical, Emotional, Medical and Educational needs

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AVAILABLE

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

<http://www.indiacode.nic.in/acts-in-pdf/2016/201602.pdf>

The Protection Of Children From Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012

<http://indiacode.nic.in/amendmentacts2012/The%20Protection%20of%20Children%20From%20Sexual%20Offences%20Act.pdf>

Dedicated Helpline for Children:

To Protect, Prohibit and Redress, Children from abuse and violence: **Childline 1098**

<http://www.childlineindia.org.in/1098/b1a-telehelpline.htm>

Helpful Links and Resources

<http://www.csisynod.com/girl-child.php>

<http://www.csisynod.com/resources.php>

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/what-we-do/wcc-child-rights-engagement>

http://www.childrensdefense.org/library/2015-sabbath-manual/Sabbath-2015_CHRISTIAN-RESOURCE-final.pdf

<http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

<http://www.childlineindia.org.in/child-protection-child-rights-india.htm>