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SWISSAID

निर्धार समानतेचा

Addressing Gender-based Violence and Discrimination, particularly Domestic Violence and Child Marriage in the Marathwada region of the State of Maharashtra, India.

Project by ILS Law College in Partnership with SWISSAID, Co-Funded by European Union

Story Writing Competition

Child marriage remains a harsh reality for millions of children across India, robbing them of their education, health, and childhood. Behind every statistic is a story waiting to be told- one of struggle, silence, courage, or hope.

This **Story Writing Competition** invites young minds to shed light on the issue of **Child Marriage** through the power of storytelling. By stepping into the shoes of those affected, participants can explore the emotional depth, societal pressures, and transformative journeys tied to this critical issue. Through your words, help break the silence and imagine a world where every child has the right to grow up free, educated, and empowered.

Let your story be a voice for those who are often unheard.

RULES FOR THE COMPETITION:

1. Theme: Ending Child Marriage: A Voice for Every Child

2. Eligibility:

- Open to all students belonging to any one of the colleges participating in the project (including ILS Law College) pursuing either the Five Year (BA.LL.B/BSL.LL.B) or Three Year (LL.B) Law Program
- Only individual entries are allowed
- Only one entry per student

3. Language:

- Language of the story must be Marathi and should be original, unpublished work.
- Derogatory, vulgar or obscene language to be strictly avoided and will lead to direct disqualification.

4. Length:

- Entries should be between 1000-1500 words.

5. Submission

- All entries must be mailed in the .doc, .docx or PDF format to violencenomore@ilslaw.in

6. Story Starter Sentence:

- “I was only thirteen when they told me I would no longer be going to school, my wedding was being planned instead.”*
- “She held my hand tightly and whispered, 'This is not the life I dreamed of for you’”*
- “The morning sun rose as usual, but nothing about that day felt normal.”*

Participants must begin their story using any ONE of the above sentences and then build an original narrative around it, exploring the emotional, social, and legal implications of child marriage

7. Deadline:

- All entries must be submitted by August 5, 2025, 11.59 pm .

8. Judging Criteria:

Particulars	Marks
Relevance to the Theme	15
Originality and Creativity	15
Language and Expression	10
Structure and Flow	10
Total	50

9. Miscellaneous:

- By submitting an entry, participants agree to allow the organizers to use the stories in campaigns or publications with due credit.
- On submission, the stories will become open source and no copyright can be claimed by the participant on it.
- The stories can be used by the organizers in any advocacy or legal aid activities including print or electronic format.
- The story must be an original work of the participant. Plagiarism will lead to disqualification.

10. Prizes

- The Best Three Stories will be awarded a Certificate, trophy and other suitable prize as decided by the organizers.
- Certificate of Participation will be given to all participants

For any queries, contact:

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