

GENDERCIDE

Prayer Guide

THE ISSUE:

In many cultures, girls are not valued as much as boys. A daughter may be considered a burden to the family. She may be considered a liability. In cultures where women are not valued equally to men, daughters come as a disappointment. They are considered a waste—not worth having at all.

“It’s a girl!” can be deadly words for some. Gender-selective abortions are chosen by those who can afford it. When the doctor, confirms that the baby in the womb is a girl, an abortion is scheduled as soon as possible, so that the woman can get back to the main goal—bearing a son. Gender-selective abortions are illegal in most countries, but are still regularly practiced in India, China, the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and much of southeast Asia. For those who cannot afford an ultrasound or abortion, infanticide is all too common. Baby girls are simply killed at birth— smothered by a midwife or family member.

The root of this tragedy is a worldview that values men above women. In some societies, women are considered a lower life form of the human being. Often in a Hindu worldview, the woman is considered to be lower than a man in her “karma.” A woman’s duty is to serve her husband. If she does that well, in the next life she may be born as a man. In a Muslim worldview, the woman is commonly seen as a cause of evil. In many animistic worldviews, the men often view the women as their servants to do all the chores. Even in a Christian context, women may not be seen as being made in the image of God and are often considered responsible for all sin, evil and temptation in the world.

Daughters are considered a burden to their families. The ancient dowry system means that daughters are expensive. And once a daughter is married, she “belongs” to her husband’s family, whereas sons will be there to care for parents in old age and carry on the family lineage. Daughters are simply a bad investment. All of this leads to eliminating daughters and giving sons preference on everything from education to food to medical care. Those daughters who reach womanhood face a culture where domestic violence is widely accepted.

GENDER-SKEWED POPULATIONS:

Males per female under age 15:

USA: 1.04

India: 1.13

China: 1.17

Most Skewed nations are:

China, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia, Macau, India, Cook Islands, Wallis and Futuna, Vietnam, Northern Mariana Islands, South Korea.

An Estimated
117
MILLION

Women are missing from the world population.

In India...

71% of young females suffer malnutrition compared to 28% of males of the same age.

28%

71%

HOW TO PRAY:

- Pray for God to bring justice to this issue by revealing His truth concerning girls. Pray for a restoration of the value of girls. Pray for a change in worldview throughout societies, beginning in the Church—that women and girls are made in the image of God. Pray for the revelation and understanding of the truth that God chose to create both women and men and loves both equally.
- For believers, pray for conviction and repentance for those who have believed that girls are less valuable than boys. Pray for boldness to live out a life that is countercultural to this injustice. Pray that God would reveal His purposes for creating both women and men.
- Pray for pastors and churches to see clearly God's purposes in creating both women and men. Pray that they speak out the truth that God values and loves girls as much as boys. Pray for wisdom and favor as they teach what God says about it. Pray for the churches to have grace to be a refuge for women and daughters escaping violence; that they would have a spirit of adoption and a heart for widows and orphans.
- Pray that, even societies that do not recognize God would be confronted with the truth that girls have value and worth for who they are. Pray that families and communities would find infanticide offensive and intolerable. that families would provide nutrition, care and love for all their children.
- Pray that governments would enforce their laws against gender-selective abortions. Pray that law enforcement would see infanticide as murder and prosecute it as such.
- Pray that God would turn the hearts of fathers to their children—that the fathers would have so much love for their daughters that they would be bold in living counter to their culture. Pray for the pregnant women; pray for them to have an overwhelming love for the child growing inside of them. Pray for them to have boldness in their love to protect the child no matter what; that they would be jealous for the lives of their daughters.
- Pray for hope to be restored to women who are in abusive situations. Pray for their protection and for a way out of the abusive situation. Pray for those doing the abuse to be led to repentance with a change in their actions and hearts.
- Pray for the mothers, midwives, fathers, relatives and leaders who have been involved in violence against girls or women. Pray for them to know Jesus' love and forgiveness and to recognize the redemption that Christ offers to them. Pray for the Church to have a heart of compassion and mercy that brings them closer to God.
- Pray for advocates addressing the issues directly, especially in India and China, in churches, at universities and throughout the nation, especially during the celebrations of the International Day of the Girl Child (October 11) and International Day of the Woman (March 10). Pray that they have wisdom in the words they speak, and that they may speak truth with boldness and humility. Pray for favor with leaders and government officials. Pray for doors to be opened for more people to hear the truth about girls.

SCRIPTURES:

Deuteronomy 30:11-20

Choose Life

Malachi 4

Turn hearts of fathers to the children

Genesis 1-2

Creation of man and woman

Psalms 139

Isaiah 49:15

DECLARATIONS:

*You Lord are sovereign;
You have all authority over us.*

*You Lord are the
creator of all life.*

You are the protector of the weak.

*You Lord choose whether we are male or
female. You love the way You made us.
You formed us in our mother's womb.*

SPECIAL DAYS TO PRAY:

March 8

International
Women's Day

October 11

International Day
of the Girl Child

November 25

International Day
for the Elimination
of Violence
Against Women

RESOURCES:

<http://reconciledworld.org/how-truth-impacts-male-female-relations-in-communities/>

Itsagirlmovie.com

allgirlsallowed.org (China focused – Christian)

<https://50millionmissing.wordpress.com/> (India focused - not Christian) (<https://genderbytes.wordpress.com/about/news-reports-on-the-blog-roll>)

<http://www.un.org/en/events/girlchild/> (Day of the Girl Child)

To learn more, or about other ways you can get involved in the fight against Gendercide please visit reconciledworld.org/eg or email info@reconciledworld.org.

