

The majority of Maasai women in Kenya are destined to live a life of poverty and cultural oppression. Even with free primary school education in Kenya, only 20% of Maasai girls enrol in school and only 4% of girls make it to secondary school.

Typically, a Maasai girl is circumcised between the ages of 11 and 13 and soon afterwards married to a man chosen by her father in exchanged for cattle and cash. A Maasai women will never be allowed to divorce, except in the most extreme cases of physical abuse, and will never be allowed to marry again. Instead, she becomes the property of one of her husband's brothers. She will be one of multiple wives and will have many children, regardless of her health or ability to provide for them. She will rise early every day to milk cows and spend her day walking miles to water holes to launder clothes and get water and collect firewood to carry home. Her life expectancy is 45 years.

If you educate a young Maasai girl, she will know her rights and have the confidence to stand up for them. She will choose whom to marry and when to marry. She will have fewer children and they will be healthier and better educated than previous generations. She will not circumcise her daughters. She will spend 90% of her income on her family, compared to 35% that an educated man would spend. She will help support her parents. She will not forget where she came from.

Maasai Evangelistic Association is committed to each young Maasai girl's success. Girls are enrolled in boarding schools, where they will receive better nutrition, structured study time and health care and they will also be away from family and peer pressure to marry when they reach puberty.

Some girls are sponsored individually but most (70) are supported through the General Scholarship Fund. This is a pool of donations designated for education costs, but not for a specific girl. It supports over half of the girls from primary school through University. Every sponsorship continues until a girl has the knowledge and skills to enter the workforce in Kenya.