



# GIRLS FOR THE WORLD

## “AFTER PROGRAMME, BEGIN MY LIFE”

by Noorsuba Shaikh



*“I so much happy work with girls, women and little girls, too. And I proud to myself.”*

### I am Noorsuba.

*Noorsuba wears many hats in her community in India. She is an activist and a strong advocate for women and girls. She is also a Girls for the World facilitator and translator. She began working with GFW four years ago with our first workshop. When I first met Noorsuba, she knew very little English. It is amazing to see how much she, and indeed all of us, have grown through this work. Together with the girls and mothers, we are all stronger, we are all more confident, and we are all using our voices in support of ourselves, each other, and girls and women around the world. I am grateful to Noorsuba for her commitment, passion, and deep friendship. I am proud to share this message, in her own words, with you. – Karen*

I have many years experience in my areas in city. I work with children, women, and youth. Our areas very poor and 2002 riots affected and many peoples are victims. Areas has large number of girls are dropped in school, most of girls working home cleaning.

I thinking so much how can I do work for girls and I meet Karen. She is very clean soft heart woman and she loves areas peoples girls, women, mothers, grandmothers, and small girls child too. We are talking and discussing Karen are start work with girls. I so much trust Karen and Karen so much trust me, our relation is transpires relations.

I can't not much understand and speaking English but I most of time with Karen we are understand each others. She understand what speaking me.

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*Samime (mentor), Karen, Noorsuba, Maherunisha (another GFW facilitator)*

# WHAT GIRLS HAVE TO SAY...

## **"Women and Girls Are Made to be Courageous. We Were Made to Lead the Way..."**

Girls for the World organization is very important all over the world, because of the work that Karen made. She help us to be more confident. And help us to know that we are valuable.

No matter our nationalities, our color of skin, if we are tall or short, fat or skinny, we are all the same. We are equal. God has made us to love ourselves. Someday I'll be your coworker."

Ornica, Age 19, Ouanaminthe, Haiti



## **I WISH YOU HAVE EVERYONE GOOD DAY.**

Hi!!! My name Salomi. I study in 11<sup>th</sup> standard.

I meet Karen aunty, Noorsuba aunty, Maherunisha aunty, and every girls in Girls for the World workshops first time two years ago.

Every circle girls be my friends in workshop. I learn every workshop, every time I learn different things like painting, meditation, exercise.

Before programme I didn't talk everybody and I fear talk with new peoples. I don't answer any people, not participate any programme. I have answer but not give in school. I give answer to teacher very scared and my body is vibrate.

But I thanks you Karen aunty and Noorsuba and the circle. Every girls you make confident and me confident. Every time my confidence get double. I feel all type changes in my nature. Now I don't feel fear. Now I talk.

Now I have many best friends. Now I participates every programme and competition. This is very good and big for me.



## LAUREL SCHOOL

We were happy to be invited back for the fourth time this fall to Laurel School in Shaker Heights, Ohio, for another program for the incoming fifth graders. The girls appreciated learning about girls from other countries and discussing such things as identity, wants and needs, intention and action. We made vision boards to remind us of our intentions and action steps for the coming year.



## THEA BOWMAN

We conducted a two-day retreat for girls at Thea Bowman Center in the city of Cleveland. The girls enjoyed making a healthy lunch. We learned that labels can be both helpful and hurtful and how to see ourselves beyond labels. We discussed our unique gifts and painted symbols of them. They said they learned

to “always be a leader, always speak up, be kind and smooth, and don’t look at the wrapping, look at the gift.”

## ‘TWEENS

After many requests, we conducted a pilot program for young girls, ages 7-11 in India. We expected 35 girls... 67 showed up! We used elements of nature to symbolize our growing into our full, authentic, powerful selves. We exercised and played games to learn about healthy bodies, boundaries, and communities. We also sang, danced, and practiced our speaking skills.

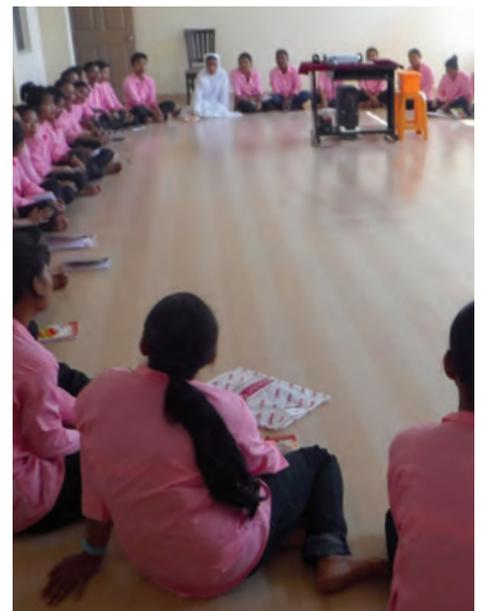


# GFW Visit to Tea Gardens of Assam

In collaboration with Homes of Hope India and the Salesian Sisters, Girls for the World visited their vocational center in the gardens of Solabasti, Assam, in India. We met with the young women receiving training in tailoring, design, and beauty and spa.

According to an Hindustan Times article on September 3, 2015,\* Assam’s tea gardens are a “hunting ground” for child traffickers. Between 2007 and June 2014, there were 9,500 Assamese children reported missing. The most vulnerable were those in tea garden areas.

In our time with the girls in Solabasti, we worked to increase their self awareness skills in order to better intuit and identify dangerous situations. We also brainstormed and practiced ways the girls could take care of and protect themselves. These young women most appreciated knowing they had the right to say and then practicing using a strong, simple “NO!”



\*The link can be found here: <http://bit.ly/ChildTraffickers>

## After Programme, Begin My Life (from p. 1)

Karen organised first training workshop with girls in four years ago. I see my dreams start.

Girls are first time first day very shy and feel fear for speak. Now all GFW girls are powerful speaking, dancing and participates all programmes. I happy to see this. Girls are very confident.

I do programme with Girls for the World and I change. I say truly I am so confident. Now I taking any high post officer, like high court advocate, without any fear. I have so many confidences.

I learn from Karen first health and safety and clean our home. So first our perfect after we are make others perfect.

I am little girl with little girls, young girl with young girls, and mother with mothers too. I feel and sharing every people problems and happiness.

I learning independent work and take care with problems. I learning stand for myself and others. To speak with my voice. This is long lasting work.

We are more and more programmes with girls and now mothers. After programme change to her life and family attitude also change.

I so much happy work with girls, women and little girls, too. And I proud to myself.

## MOTHERS' PROGRAMS

“After the program, I couldn't sleep. I was remembering everything I learned and experienced. My life at home was only one woman with husband and sons. I was happy to be with other women. Very nice and beautiful program. I cried.

I always cared for family, my children, cooking, cleaning. For the first time in my life, I cared about myself. I thought for myself and about myself, my body, and more enjoyed my body. I listen more and talk about life with women. I feel different to life. All life I will remember these days.”

– Hafija

*Mothers discuss and role play new strategies of handling difficult issues in their lives, such as gender and domestic violence.*



Girls for the World is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping adolescent girls envision themselves as powerful agents of change in their lives and communities.

### Help make a difference!

Your tax-deductible donation will help change a young woman's life with the remarkable transformation that comes as a result of knowing, loving and trusting oneself. Thank you for your generous support of our work!

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