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23 million men married before they were 15 – 10th June, 2019

Level 0

A UNICEF report says 115 million boys and men were married as children. About 23 million married before they were 15. News usually looks at young girls as child brides. UNICEF's report looks at forced marriages for boys. It looked at 82 countries. The Central African Republic had the highest rate of child grooms.

UNICEF said child marriage damages children's lives. It said: "Marriage steals childhood." Child grooms are too young to be fathers. Early fatherhood pressures boys to look after families. They lose education and job opportunities. UNICEF said forced marriage affected boys and girls and was unfair.

Level 1

A new UNICEF report says 115 million boys and men were married as children. About 23 million of these married before they were 15. A lot of news focuses on young girls being forced into marriage as child brides. UNICEF's in-depth report looks at forced marriages for boys. It looked at 82 countries. It found that boys getting married was common in countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific. The Central African Republic has the highest rate.

UNICEF said child marriage damaged the lives of boys. It said: "Marriage steals childhood. Child grooms are forced to take on adult responsibilities for which they may not be ready." It said early marriage and early fatherhood pressured boys to look after families and cut short their education and job opportunities. UNICEF said child marriage affected boys and girls. It said it was unfair children had to look after a family at such a young age.

Level 2

There is a new UNICEF report on boys who get married. It says that 115 million boys and men were married as children. About 23 million of these were married before they were 15. It is UNICEF's first in-depth study of child grooms. A lot of news focuses on young girls being forced into marriage as child brides. The UNICEF report looks at forced marriages for boys. UNICEF looked at data from 82 countries. It found that child marriage among boys is common in countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific. The Central African Republic has the highest rate of child grooms.

UNICEF commented on how child marriage damages boys. It said: "Marriage steals childhood. Child grooms are forced to take on adult responsibilities for which they may not be ready. Early marriage brings early fatherhood, and with it added pressure to provide for a family, cutting short education and job opportunities." UNICEF added: "When we think about child marriage we often think about girls, and rightly so because girls are most affected, but boys do marry in childhood." It said the boys are still children and it is unfair they have to look after a family.

Level 3

UNICEF has issued a report on the number of boys who get married around the world. It estimates that 115 million boys and men were married as children. Of these, one in five, or 23 million, were married before the age of 15. The report is UNICEF's first ever in-depth study of child grooms. UNICEF said a lot of news focuses on young girls being forced into marriage as child brides. The new report looks at the same problem of forced marriage but with boys. The UN agency looked at data from 82 countries. It found that child marriage among boys is common in countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and nations in the Pacific. The Central African Republic has the highest rate of child grooms.

UNICEF commented on the damage child marriage does to boys. It said: "Marriage steals childhood. Child grooms are forced to take on adult responsibilities for which they may not be ready. Early marriage brings early fatherhood, and with it added pressure to provide for a family, cutting short education and job opportunities." UNICEF spoke about the harm child marriage does to boys and girls. It said: "When we think about child marriage we often think about girls, and rightly so because girls are most affected, but boys do marry in childhood." It added: "[Child marriage] creates a burden for boys to take on adult responsibilities and roles when they are still children themselves, like providing for a family."