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Girls and women worst hit by recession

22nd January, 2013

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

It is hardly surprising news, but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit hardest by the global recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working to reduce child poverty, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's leading independent think tank on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "The world is failing girls and women." The report's author Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem lies with 'entrenched gender inequality'." Chapman found that a worsening economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more domestic abuse.

Mr Chapman's report highlights a tragic increase in mortality rates for female infants. He told the BBC: "The proportion of baby girls who died when the economy shrank rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died....Hence, a 1% fall in economic output increases infant mortality by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys." He paints an equally bleak picture for girls not being able to complete their education. He reports that the global recession saw a fall in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls get sucked into domestic chores," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm of things."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-21088042>
<http://plan-international.org/girls/>

WARM-UPS

1. WOMEN AND POVERTY: Walk around the class and talk to other students about women and poverty. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

surprising news / hit hardest / recession / humanitarian / marginalised / gender inequality / mortality rates / proportion / economic output / bleak picture / rhythm

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. GIRLS: What are they up against? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Inequalities	How to prevent inequalities
Birth		
Education		
Marriage		
Career		
Violence		
Business		

4. EQUALITY: Students A **strongly** believe women will achieve total inequality one day; Students B **strongly** believe that will never happen. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. GENDER: Who is best at doing these things – men or women? Share your answers with your partners. Change partners often.

- running a business
- cooking
- apologising
- being romantic
- reading a map
- passing exams
- making decisions
- designing things

6. RECESSION: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'recession'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The article opened with some very surprising news. T / F
- b. Three different organisations compiled the report mentioned. T / F
- c. The author said women and girls are being let down by the world. T / F
- d. A deteriorating economy leads to more violence against women. T / F
- e. Five times more baby girls die than baby boys during a recession. T / F
- f. A 1% fall in economic output sees a 7.4% rise in female infant deaths. T / F
- g. Only 29% of girls worldwide finish their education in times of recession. T / F
- h. It's difficult for girls to return to school if they start doing housework. T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. hardly | a. socially-concerned |
| 2. hit | b. death |
| 3. humanitarian | c. ratio |
| 4. failing | d. mistreatment |
| 5. abuse | e. affected |
| 6. mortality | f. depressing |
| 7. proportion | g. jobs |
| 8. infant | h. barely |
| 9. bleak | i. baby |
| 10. chores | j. letting down |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. It is hardly | a. poverty |
| 2. those hit | b. shrank |
| 3. working to reduce child | c. group in the world |
| 4. humanitarian | d. hardest |
| 5. Girls are the largest marginalised | e. rhythm of things |
| 6. a tragic increase in mortality | f. chores |
| 7. when the economy | g. mortality |
| 8. infant | h. surprising news |
| 9. sucked into domestic | i. rates |
| 10. get back into the | j. issues |

GAP FILL

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

It is (1) _____ surprising news, but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit (2) _____ by the global recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working to reduce child (3) _____, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's leading independent think (4) _____ on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "The world is (5) _____ girls and women." The report's author Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem (6) _____ with 'entrenched gender inequality'." Chapman found that a (7) _____ economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more (8) _____ abuse.

lies
failing
poverty
domestic
hardly
tank
worsening
hardest

Mr Chapman's report highlights a (9) _____ increase in mortality rates for female (10) _____. He told the BBC: "The proportion of baby girls who died when the economy (11) _____ rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died....Hence, a 1% fall in economic (12) _____ increases infant mortality by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys." He paints an (13) _____ bleak picture for girls not being able to complete their education. He reports that the global recession (14) _____ a fall in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls get sucked into domestic (15) _____," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm of (16) _____."

shrank
saw
infants
equally
tragic
things
output
chores

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

- 1) It is _____ surprising news
 - a. hardly
 - b. hardest
 - c. hard
 - d. harden
- 2) the UK's leading independent _____ international development
 - a. think tack on
 - b. thing tank on
 - c. thinking tank on
 - d. think tank on
- 3) Girls are the _____ group in the world.
 - a. largest margin a lies
 - b. largest mar generalised
 - c. largest marginalised
 - d. largest marginalisation
- 4) Much of the problem lies with ' _____ '
 - a. entranced gender inequality
 - b. entrenched gender inequality
 - c. entreated gender inequality
 - d. entrenched gender equality
- 5) females of all ages having to work _____ more domestic abuse
 - a. harder and suffer
 - b. harder and suffered
 - c. hard and suffering
 - d. harder and suffering
- 6) a tragic increase _____ rates
 - a. inner mortality
 - b. in more totality
 - c. in more talented
 - d. in mortality
- 7) The proportion of baby girls who died when the economy _____ five times faster
 - a. shrank rose
 - b. shrinks rose
 - c. shrunk rose
 - d. shrinking rose
- 8) a 1% fall in economic output _____ by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys
 - a. increases infant mortality
 - b. in creases in fought mortality
 - c. increases infant mortal
 - d. increases infants more totally
- 9) the global recession _____ school completion for girls of 29%
 - a. saw a falling primary
 - b. sorer falling primary
 - c. saw a fall in pry Mary
 - d. saw a fall in primary
- 10) Once they stop going to school it's very hard to _____ of things
 - a. get backing to the rhythm
 - b. get back onto a rhythm
 - c. get back into the rhythm
 - d. get back into the rhythms

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

It (1) _____, but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit (2) _____ recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working to reduce child poverty, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's leading (3) _____ on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "(4) _____ and women." The report's author Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem lies with '(5) _____'." Chapman found that a worsening economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and (6) _____.

Mr Chapman's report highlights (7) _____ mortality rates for female infants. He told the BBC: "The proportion of baby girls who died when (8) _____ five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died....Hence, a 1% fall in economic output increases (9) _____ deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys." He paints (10) _____ for girls not being able to complete their education. He reports that the global recession saw a fall in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls (11) _____ chores," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to (12) _____ of things."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

1. What is hardly surprising?

2. What are the names of the organisations behind the report?

3. What kind of issues does the Overseas Development Institute deal with?

4. What, according to the report, is the world doing to girls?

5. What do women suffer more because of a recession?

6. What is there a tragic increase in?

7. What is the ratio of baby girls to boys dying during economic decline?

8. What kind of picture is painted by Nigel Chapman?

9. What does the figure of 29% refer to?

10. What is it hard for girls to do if they stop going to school?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

1. What does Plan International do?
 - a) give girls a plan for their life
 - b) reduce global recession
 - c) reduce child poverty
 - d) help women travel
2. What is the Overseas Development Institute
 - a) a think tank
 - b) a thinking tank
 - c) a tank think
 - d) a tank thing
3. What issues does the Overseas Development Institute deal with?
 - a) humanitarian
 - b) gender inequality
 - c) girls' education
 - d) global recession
4. What kind of gender inequality is described?
 - a) tranches
 - b) entrenched
 - c) retrenched
 - d) trenches
5. What do women have to suffer more in a poor economy?
 - a) learning difficulties
 - b) taunting by males
 - c) discrimination
 - d) violence in the home
6. How does the article describe the increase in the mortality rate?
 - a) as traps
 - b) as tragic
 - c) as traumatic
 - d) as traditional
7. What causes infant mortality in girls to rise by 7.4 deaths per 1,000?
 - a) a 1% fall in economic output
 - b) a 2% fall in economic output
 - c) a 5% fall in economic output
 - d) a 10% fall in economic output
8. What kind of picture does Nigel Chapman paint?
 - a) an ever-changing one
 - b) an economic one
 - c) a bleak one
 - d) a rosy one
9. What is the percentage increase for boys do not finish primary school?
 - a) 29
 - b) 1,000
 - c) 7.4
 - d) 22
10. What is it difficult for girls to get back into??
 - a) the rhythm of things
 - b) the rhythm of the world
 - c) the rhythm of swings
 - d) the rhythm of life

ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

Role A – Girl

You are fed up with the way the world treats girls. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell your country's leader 3 things you want him (her) to change. You want girls and women to get the good schools, positions and jobs for the next ten years. Tell the boy he has a responsibility to help girls.

Role B – Boy

You think girls don't get too bad a deal in life. Tell the others three reasons why. Explain why being a boy is also tough. You think society is changing and soon girls and women will be equal. You think it would be very unfair for your country's leader to treat girls better.

Role C – Global expert

You are shocked by the inequality between men and women. Tell the others three reasons why. You think the fact that so many more baby girls than boys die is similar to state murder. Tell the country leader to change this situation immediately. He must listen to the girl and do what she says.

Role D – Country leader

You know your country is very backward and treats women very badly. You cannot change anything because that is how society is. You don't think men will be happy if women are more equal. Tell the girl she has to work harder. Tell the expert he (she) is wrong. Get the boy to support you.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'girl' and 'woman'.

girl	woman

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hit• reduce• tank• failing• lies• ages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• tragic• rose• 1• 1.5• 29• things
---	---

WOMEN AND POVERTY SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

Write five GOOD questions about women and poverty in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WOMEN AND POVERTY DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'poverty'?
- c) What do you think about what you read?
- d) How surprised are you about this news?
- e) In what ways are women and girls hit by recession?
- f) Have you been hit by the recession?
- g) Why do women and girls suffer more than men and boys?
- h) Do women have and get equal opportunities in your country?
- i) Is it better to be a man or a woman in this world?
- j) How can we change the world to be better for women and girls?

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WOMEN AND POVERTY DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What does it say about the world when more baby girls die than baby boys?
- c) Why do you think countries allow this to happen?
- d) What countries do you know of that need to work harder on equality?
- e) Do you think women should be allowed to do anything a man does?
- f) There are very few women in positions of power in the European Union. Why?
- g) How much is a country held back economically if it does not provide girls with an education?
- h) Should there be sanctions on countries that treat girls so badly?
- i) Where do you think we'll be with this issue in 50 years?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the head of Plan International?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

It is (1) ____ surprising news, but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit hardest by the global recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working to (2) ____ child poverty, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's leading independent think (3) ____ on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "The world is (4) ____ girls and women." The report's author Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem lies with '(5) ____ gender inequality'." Chapman found that a worsening economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more domestic (6) ____.

Mr Chapman's report highlights a (7) ____ increase in mortality rates for female infants. He told the BBC: "The proportion of baby girls who died when the economy (8) ____ rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died....Hence, a 1% fall in economic (9) ____ increases infant mortality by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys." He paints an (10) ____ bleak picture for girls not being able to complete their education. He reports that the global recession saw a fall in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls get (11) ____ into domestic chores," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm (12) ____ things."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) hardly | (b) hardest | (c) harden | (d) hardened |
| 2. | (a) cull | (b) obliterate | (c) reduce | (d) drop |
| 3. | (a) jeep | (b) train | (c) car | (d) tank |
| 4. | (a) faltering | (b) falling | (c) felling | (d) failing |
| 5. | (a) retrenched | (b) enchanted | (c) entrenched | (d) chanting |
| 6. | (a) refuse | (b) abuse | (c) fused | (d) abase |
| 7. | (a) tragedies | (b) tragic | (c) tragically | (d) tragedy |
| 8. | (a) shrunk | (b) shrank | (c) shrinks | (d) shrinking |
| 9. | (a) input | (b) redoubt | (c) output | (d) bout |
| 10. | (a) entrancing | (b) ethereal | (c) ephemeral | (d) equally |
| 11. | (a) lucked | (b) tucked | (c) ducked | (d) sucked |
| 12. | (a) on | (b) via | (c) from | (d) of |

SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

Paragraph 1

1. It is hardly psgniruisr
2. edtpndnnee think tank
3. the largest mrengisidala (UK) / mdainelrigza (US) group
4. entrenched gender tyeiulaniq
5. a rgwnseoin economy
6. suffering more domestic sbuea

Paragraph 2

7. otmyatlri rates
8. the opropointr of baby boys
9. neceh, a 1% fall
10. an aluyelq bleak picture
11. domestic rsecho
12. into the rthmyh of things

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () to reduce child poverty, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's leading independent think
- () a worsening economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more domestic abuse.
- (**1**) It is hardly surprising news, but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit
- () 1% fall in economic output increases infant mortality by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls
- () education. He reports that the global recession saw a fall in primary school
- () in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem lies with 'entrenched gender inequality'." Chapman found that
- () tank on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "The world is failing
- () girls and women." The report's author Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group
- () of baby girls who died when the economy shrank rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died...Hence, a
- () Mr Chapman's report highlights a tragic increase in mortality rates for female infants. He told the BBC: "The proportion
- () against 1.5 for boys." He paints an equally bleak picture for girls not being able to complete their
- () hardest by the global recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working
- () chores," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm of things."
- () completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls get sucked into domestic

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

1. the those by recession are hardest global Women hit.

2. Independent tank international think on development.

3. are marginalised the Girls largest in the group world.

4. gender entrenched with lies problem The inequality.

5. to and domestic Having harder more work suffering abuse.

6. A in for increase rates infants tragic mortality female.

7. died when Baby the girls economy who shrank.

8. infant . economic increases mortality A output 1% fall in

9. equally bleak He picture paints for an girls.

10. things of rhythm the into back get to hard very It's.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

It is *hardly* / *hardest* surprising news, but a new report shows that girls and women are those *hit* / *hitting* hardest by the global recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working to *reducing* / *reduce* child poverty, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's *leading* / *leaded* independent think *tanker* / *tank* on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "The world is *failing* / *faulting* girls and women." The report's *authoring* / *author* Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem *lays* / *lies* with 'entrenched gender inequality'." Chapman found that a *worsening* / *worst* economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more domestic *abusive* / *abuse*.

Mr Chapman's report highlights a *tragic* / *tragedy* increase in mortality rates for female *infants* / *infanticide*. He told the BBC: "The proportion of baby girls who died when the economy *shrunk* / *shrank* rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died....*Hence* / *Fence*, a 1% fall in economic *output* / *input* increases infant mortality by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys." He paints an *equality* / *equally* bleak picture for girls not being able to *complete* / *compete* their education. He reports that the global recession saw a *fall* / *fell* in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls get *soaked* / *sucked* into domestic chores," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm of *thinks* / *things*."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

_t _s h_rdly s_rpr_s_ng n_ws, b_t _ n_w r_p_rt sh_ws
th_t g_rls _nd w_m_n r_th_s h_t h_rdst by th_
gl_b_l r_c_ss_n. Th_st_dy _s fr_m th_ _rg_n_z_t__ns
Pl_n _nt_rn_t__n_l, wh_ch _s w_rk_ng t_r_d_c_ ch_ld
p_v_rty, _nd th_ _v_rs__s D_v_l_pm_nt _nst_t_t_ - th_
_K's l__d_ng _nd p_nd_nt th_nk t_nk _n _nt_rn_t__n_l
d_v_l_pm_nt _nd h_m_n_t_r__n __ss__s. Th_y st_t_
th_t: "Th_ w_rld _s f__l_ng g_rls _nd w_m_n." Th_
r_p_rt's __th_r N_g_l Ch_pm_n s__d: "G_rls _r th_
l_rg_st m_rg_n_l_s_d gr__p _n th_ w_rld." Mr Ch_pm_n
_dd_d: "M_ch _f th_ pr_b_l_m l__s w_th `ntr_nch_d
g_nd_r _n_q__l_ty'." Ch_pm_n f__nd th_t _ w_rs_n_ng
_c_n_my r_s_lts _n f_m_l_s _f _ll_g_s h_v_ng t_w_rk
h_rd_r _nd s_ff_r_ng m_r_d_m_st_c _b_s_.

Mr Ch_pm_n's r_p_rt h_ghl_gh_t_s _tr_g_c _ncr__s__ _n
m_rt_l_ty r_t_s f_r f_m_l__nf_nts. H_t_ld th_ BBC:
"Th_ pr_p_rt__n _f b_by g_rls wh_ d__d wh_n th_
_c_n_my shrnk r_s_ f_v_ t_m_s f_st_r th_n th_
pr_p_rt__n _f b_by b_ys wh_ d__d...H_nc_, _ 1% f_ll
_n _c_n_m_c __tp_t _ncr__s_s _nf_nt m_rt_l_ty by 7.4
d__ths p_r 1,000 g_rls _g__nst 1.5 f_r b_ys." H_p__nts
_n _q__lly bl__k p_ct_r_ f_r g_rls n_t b__ng _bl_ t_
c_mpl_t_ th_ r_d_c_t__n. H_r_p_rts th_t th_ gl_b_l
r_c_ss__n s_w _f_ll _n pr_m_ry sch__l c_mpl_t__n f_r
g_rls _f 29% c_mpr_d t_ 22% f_r b_ys. "G_rls g_t
s_ck_d _nt_ d_m_st_c ch_r_s," h_s__d. "_nc_ th_y
st_p_g__ng t_ sch__l_t's v_ry h_rd t_g_t b_ck _nt_
th_ rhythm _f th_ngs."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

it is hardly surprising news but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit hardest by the global recession the study is from the organizations plan international which is working to reduce child poverty and the overseas development institute - the uk's leading independent think tank on international development and humanitarian issues they state that "the world is failing girls and women" the report's author nigel chapman said "girls are the largest marginalised group in the world" mr chapman added "much of the problem lies with 'entrenched gender inequality'" chapman found that a worsening economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more domestic abuse

mr chapman's report highlights a tragic increase in mortality rates for female infants he told the bbc "the proportion of baby girls who died when the economy shrank rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died...hence a 1% fall in economic output increases infant mortality by 74 deaths per 1000 girls against 15 for boys" he paints an equally bleak picture for girls not being able to complete their education he reports that the global recession saw a fall in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys "girls get sucked into domestic chores" he said "once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm of things"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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It is hardly surprising news, but a new report shows that girls and women are those hit hardest by the global recession. The study is from the organizations Plan International, which is working to reduce child poverty, and the Overseas Development Institute - the UK's leading independent think tank on international development and humanitarian issues. They state that: "The world is failing girls and women." The report's author Nigel Chapman said: "Girls are the largest marginalised group in the world." Mr Chapman added: "Much of the problem lies with 'entrenched gender inequality'." Chapman found that a worsening economy results in females of all ages having to work harder and suffering more domestic abuse. Mr Chapman's report highlights a tragic increase in mortality rates for female infants. He told the BBC: "The proportion of baby girls who died when the economy shrank rose five times faster than the proportion of baby boys who died.... Hence, a 1% fall in economic output increases infant mortality by 7.4 deaths per 1,000 girls against 1.5 for boys." He paints an equally bleak picture for girls not being able to complete their education. He reports that the global recession saw a fall in primary school completion for girls of 29% compared to 22% for boys. "Girls get sucked into domestic chores," he said. "Once they stop going to school it's very hard to get back into the rhythm of things."

ACADEMIC WRITING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130122-girls_women.html

Girls and women will never achieve equality with boys and men. Discuss.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about women and poverty. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. WOMEN AND POVERTY: Make a poster about women and poverty. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. RECESSION: Write a magazine article about the global recession is affecting women and girls. Include imaginary interviews with some women affected by the global downturn.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to your country's leader. Ask him/her three questions about the inequality women face in your country. Give him/her three ideas on how to change things. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b F c T d T e T f F g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. hardly | a. barely |
| 2. hit | b. affected |
| 3. humanitarian | c. socially-concerned |
| 4. failing | d. letting down |
| 5. abuse | e. mistreatment |
| 6. mortality | f. death |
| 7. proportion | g. ratio |
| 8. infant | h. baby |
| 9. bleak | i. depressing |
| 10. chores | j. jobs |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. News that girls and women are those hit hardest by the global recession
2. Plan International and the Overseas Development Institute
3. Humanitarian ones
4. Failing them
5. Domestic abuse
6. Mortality rates
7. About 5:1
8. A bleak one
9. A fall in primary school completion for girls during a recession
10. Get back into the rhythm of things

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)