

## **Manifest for education**

A few weeks ago, I met Mahnaz Shirali, an Iranian political scientist who shared with the Women's Forum some of the schoolbooks used in Iran today. **These books illustrate to little girls of 7 years old that:**

- women are never equal to men
- that equality is not an ideal to be achieved
- that it is better to be born a boy than a girl
- that education can wait but not marriage
- and last but not least that extreme violence is ordinary and normalized

To combat prejudices in school textbooks today, we need all of you to take a look at what children are taught. Are textbooks promoting outdated stereotypes? Perpetuating sexism and inequality? Making violence look normal?

The Women's Forum promotes actions that ensure that all educational systems act as levers for equality and gender equality throughout the world. For each school textbook that does not educate for equality, one more child reaches adulthood deprived of the essential values that we defend.

**In solidarity with all of you present here today, we, the Women's Forum launch the globalmanifest**

**#ChangeEducationEducateForChange.**

Raise your voices and create change by using this hashtag to let us know if you are made aware of issues in school books and show that we stand with others worldwide in rejecting educational system inequalities.

**Be sure to tag the Women's Forum** to promote ever growing visibility.

Together we can create change.