

WILL A NO EXCEPTION LAW

ON CHILD MARRIAGE HELP, WHEN...

Everyone below the age of 18 does not have the same capacities.



ARTICLE 5, CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



In India, underage marriages increasingly involve adolescents rather than children.

Just like marriages of adults, early marriages are of different types, with the number of love marriages steadily growing.



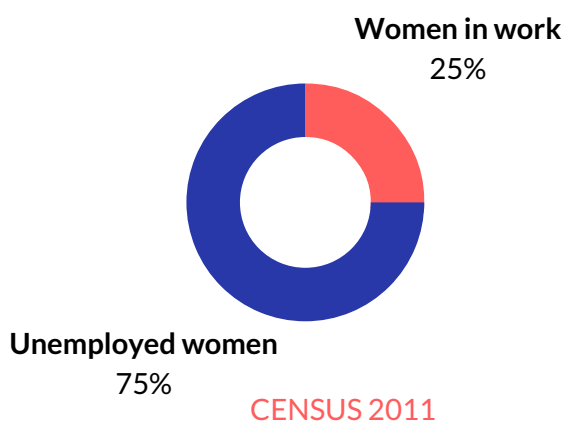
SELF
ARRANGED



ARRANGED
BY FAMILY



FORCED
MARRIAGE



And given the lack of employment opportunities, chronic economic dependence on male family members, and stigmatisation of non-marital sex, marriage is virtually a compulsory institution for women.

In a context where...

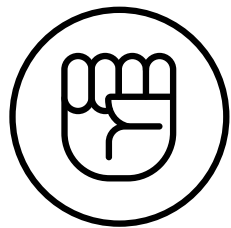
...social pressure compels women to marry,

...adolescent sexual consent is criminalised,

...mixed marriages invite honour based retaliation,

... and access to legal justice is limited,

WHICH STRATEGY SHOULD WE ADOPT?



**ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES
OF EARLY MARRIAGE**

or



**CRIMINALISE EARLY
MARRIAGE**



Partners for Law in Development (PLD) is a non-profit legal resource organization founded in 1998, working in the field of social justice and women's rights in India. We work towards advancing women's rights in contexts of sexuality, culture, caste, conflict, poverty, and development.