



Child marriage is especially common in parts of West, East, and Central Africa; the Middle East; and South Asia. In some countries, as many as 1 out of every 10 girls is married by the time she is 15 years old, some as young as 10, and nearly half are married by age 18. An Indian groom in this photo puts vermilion, the holy mark of Hindu marriage, on the forehead of his underage bride.