

Men Care

A GLOBAL FATHERHOOD CAMPAIGN



SEPTEMBER 2014

MenCare's September newsletter features events and updates from our partners in Armenia, India, Indonesia, Peru, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and the United States. Join us in working to prevent child marriage, learning how to advocate for positive parenting policies, engaging men and boys in gender equality, and more!

FEATURED EVENT

Join us TOMORROW for the launch of *A More Equal Future*



WEBINAR: *A More Equal Future*: A MenCare manual to engage fathers to prevent child marriage in India
Wednesday, September 10, 2014, 9:00 AM EDT

On September 10, [MenCare](#), [Promundo](#), and [World Vision](#) invite you to join the conversation about how fathers can help prevent child marriage in India - and around the world.

Join [the webinar launch](#) of *A More Equal Future*, a manual to help fathers, daughters and families critically examine and change norms that support child marriage in India. The event will highlight research results on the attitudes and behaviors around child marriage in the Agra region of India, including family roles and relationships, as well as how Promundo and World Vision are equipping group facilitators to address and change behaviors through gender transformative group education.

Download the manual [here](#), and learn more about MenCare India [here](#).

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GET INVOLVED

Attend the State of the World's Fathers Advocacy Day



2nd MenEngage Global Symposium 2014

10-13 November | India Habitat Centre | New Delhi

UPDATES AT A GLANCE

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FEATURED VIDEO

MenCare partners explain why men matter

We are pleased to announce *State of the World's Fathers*, a new [MenCare Global Campaign](#) report to be launched in June 2015. The *State of the World's Fathers* report will highlight research, data, policies and programs from around the world related to men's participation in caregiving and fatherhood, and it will define a global advocacy agenda for involving men and boys in care as part of the solution to achieve gender equality and positive outcomes for women, children and men themselves. We hope that the report will be a useful tool for MenCare partners and other organizations advocating for change.

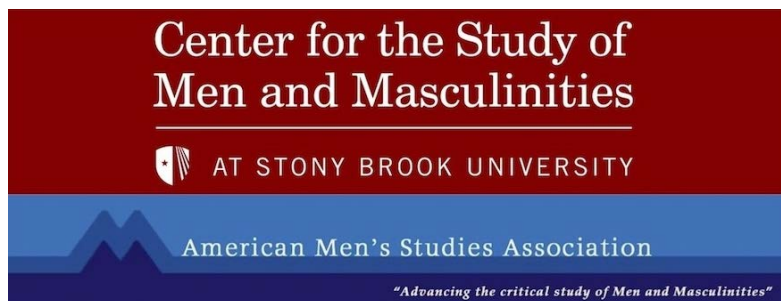
We would like to invite you to join a **training session on using *State of the World's Fathers* for advocacy on Monday, November 10, 2014** at the [MenEngage Global Symposium in Delhi](#) (as a satellite day). The training focuses on the *State of the World's Fathers* report, and uses it as an entry point for country-based advocacy on the MenCare global advocacy goals.

The training will introduce *State of the World's Fathers* and its policy goals and provide a step-by-step overview on how to successfully advocate for these goals, including how to identify key institutions and policies; how to tailor messages and data from the report to various audiences; and examples of successful strategies. An advocacy toolkit will be shared with all participants.

We invite all MenCare partners or interested organizations that work on these advocacy goals to join us for this exciting day. If you would like to join, **please follow [this link](#) to RSVP as soon as possible: <http://mencaresowfdelhi.eventbrite.com>**. We will accept RSVPs until the space has been filled.

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Submit your proposal for the International Conference on Masculinities



On March 6-8, 2015, the [Center for the Study of Men and Masculinities](#) (CSMM) will host the [International Conference on Masculinities: Engaging Men and Boys for Gender Equality](#) in New York City. The Conference is timed to immediately precede the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the United Nations. CSMM invites all those committed to engaging boys and men in a global effort to promote gender equality to share their ideas, programs, projects and research.

Proposals may be submitted online (http://www.jotform.us/AMSA/CSMM_2015) and any questions about the proposal process may be directed to csmmsb2015@gmail.com. The deadline for proposal submission is October 31, 2014.

For more information on proposal format and requirements, [click here](#).

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MENCARE SHARES



We're excited to present the second installment of "MenCare Shares," a new question-and-answer feature in our monthly newsletter! Last month, we asked partners and readers:

for maternal and newborn health



[\(Click to watch video\)](#)

On August 18, MenCare partners from around the world shared their expertise in a discussion about why men's involvement matters for maternal and newborn health. The Google+ Hangout was co-hosted with [Promundo](#), [MenEngage](#) and [Girls' Globe](#).

The conversation, featuring MenCare partners from [Indonesia](#) and [Rwanda](#), and one of MenCare's global co-coordinators in Washington, DC, highlights the important role that fathers can play in accelerating progress for women's and children's health.

Find out more and watch the full video [here](#).

FEATURED ARTICLE

An in-depth look at paternity leave



[Sonke Gender Justice's MenCare South Africa](#) Manager, Andre Lewaks, discusses South Africa's #10DaysPaternityLeave campaign on [iAfrica's parenting page](#).

"The current leave provision for fathers in terms of family responsibility leave does not address the historic gender imbalances and it does not allow men to play a more gender-equal role in parenting," Lewaks says.

Read the full article on [iAfrica.com](#).

When you're working with fathers, what's their favorite topic to discuss?

"Their favorite topics to discuss are different tactics used to stop babies crying and how to handle teenage children." – *Puva from MenEngage Alliance Sri Lanka*

"They like to discuss the education of their children, income and the husband and wife's relationship." – *Yoga Perera from MenCare Sri Lanka (Ambagamuwa Area Development Program)*

"The discussion with fathers in Rwanda is mainly about 15 topics that are included in the [MenCare+ Rwanda] manuals. Discussion with fathers revealed that their favorite topic to discuss is the topic entitled 'Gender Equality.' This topic features two activities: the activity entitled 'Gender Values', in which they explore values and attitudes about men and women, and the activity entitled 'What is this thing called gender?', which aims at igniting discussions about the differences between sex and gender and reflecting on how gender norms influence the lives and relationships of young women." – *The team from MenCare+ Rwanda ("Bandeberaho")*

Send in your answers to next month's question! October's MenCare Shares question is:

How do you encourage fathers to share the care work?

Please email your response to n.ford@promundo.org.br by September 30, 2014.

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WHAT'S NEW

MenCare Sri Lanka celebrates fatherhood through national television campaign

[World Vision Sri Lanka](#), [MenCare Sri Lanka](#)'s coordinator, launched [two MenCare TV spots](#) on national television to promote men's involvement as gender-equitable caregivers. Two video clips (30 seconds each) were telecast as advertisements on *Rupavahini*, Sri Lanka's national TV channel, in the Sinhala language, and on *Shakthi TV*, the national Tamil language channel. Telecasting at peak hours, the spots captured around 40 percent of Sri Lanka's regular TV viewers.

The two videos were created in the two official languages of Sri Lanka to ensure that every Sri Lankan can understand them. The videos show how the involvement of fathers as caregivers for their children brings benefits to women, children and men themselves. Click to watch the videos below!



Sinhala Video ([Click to watch](#))

FEATURED INTERVIEW



DIS DIE EEN

MenCare Global Co-Coordinator Wessel van den Berg (from [Sonke Gender Justice](#)) and Hendri Terblanche (the South African father who submitted a petition to Parliament in support of ten days of paternity leave) discuss paternity leave on RSG's Groiepyne.

The interview is available in Afrikaans [here](#).

UPDATES IN BRIEF

Washington, DC approves eight weeks of paid family leave for government employees

MenCare celebrates progress in paid paternity leave in Washington, DC, the home of global campaign co-coordinator [Promundo-US](#). In June, Washington, DC's city council passed the budget for Fiscal Year 2015, which includes eight weeks of paid family leave for city government employees and which can be used by both men and women in connection with the birth, adoption or fostering of a child. Councilmember David Grosso championed the initiative, which is the most expansive family leave provision in the country.

Countrywide social media campaign in Armenia protests prenatal sex selection

At the end of August, a single Facebook post by user Aramazd Ghalamkaryan in Armenia sparked a wave of social media action across the country against prenatal sex selection. Parents, politicians, celebrities, journalists, bloggers and activists joined the cause. Learn more [here](#).

Who's Who at



Tamil Video ([Click to watch](#))

Read more about MenCare Sri Lanka's TV spots [here](#), and learn more about MenCare Sri Lanka [here](#).

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MenCare+ Rwanda partners with over 100 health care providers to get men involved



RWANDA - Health providers are one of the key partners in engaging men in maternal and child health (MCH) and in sexual and reproductive health (SRH). Since [MenCare+ Rwanda](#) (or "Bandeberoho") began, health providers have shown significant interest in joining the initiative. In August, more than 105 health providers officially became MenCare+ Bandeberoho partners as they participated in a workshop organized by MenCare+ Bandeberoho and the Rwandan Ministry of Health.

In total, MenCare+ Rwanda has held four workshops with health care providers, each featuring discussions on gender, human rights and local policies on SRH, with a special focus on adolescent sexual and reproductive health and on MCH.

Learn more about MenCare+ Rwanda [here](#).

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MenCare Peru organizes course on masculinities, gender and nonviolence for community leaders

MenCare

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PERU – The [Red Peruana de Masculinidades](#), a [MenCare Peru](#) coordinator, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Municipality of Lima, has organized [a two-month course](#) on masculinities, gender and nonviolence for male community leaders. The course aims to engage male leaders in the promotion of gender equality and the prevention of violence, strengthen their ability to work with other men on the prevention of gender-based violence and promote public initiatives to end violence against women. The course will take place in September and October, and the Red Peruana de Masculinidades is accepting applicants for the class until Wednesday, September 10 at 12:00 PM PET.

Learn more about the course [here](#) and about MenCare Peru [here](#).

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MenCare Sri Lanka shares photos from its fatherhood graduation program

SRI LANKA – Over 100 fathers graduated from MenCare fathers' groups in the Ambagamuwa area of Sri Lanka in February. [MenCare Sri Lanka](#) partners shared photos of the event:



Caption: This father is wearing a MenCare T-shirt that reads "I am a loving father" in the Tamil language. He successfully completed the program's fatherhood classes and carried his child to the stage to receive his graduation certificate.



Caption: This group of men takes an oath to be good fathers in front of a group of family members, government officials, police officers, teachers and other visitors. Each father is given a printed oath to be displayed in a prominent place at home!

Learn more about MenCare Sri Lanka [here](#).

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MenCare is a global fatherhood campaign, coordinated by **Promundo** and **Sonke Gender Justice**. Our mission is to promote men's involvement as equitable, non-violent fathers and caregivers in order to achieve family well-being and gender equality.

