
Advocacy toolkit case studies

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM ABUSE IN BOLIVIA

THEMES:

- Children and education
- Human rights
- Sexual abuse and pornography

ADVOCACY APPROACHES:

- Direct action
- Educating community members
- Using human rights

Mosoj Yan is a Tearfund partner in Bolivia, dedicated to helping working girls and street girls. Part of the work involves developing awareness of the rights of children. For instance, every day, some of the girls travel by bus to the market in the nearby city. It used to be common for the girls to be touched inappropriately by men on the bus, but they were often too afraid to protest. That changed as the staff team at Mosoj Yan told the girls about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and explained to them that they had a right not to be abused. They taught them to take responsibility for upholding each other's rights. Now, when a man on the bus touches a girl from Mosoj Yan inappropriately, she shrieks. Not only is the man publicly shamed but also everyone on the bus makes sure the girl is protected. This is a demonstration of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child being implemented at the grassroots.