

CHILD-WIVES AND CHILD-WIDOWS.*



ONLY A GIRL

From "*Wrongs of India Womanhood.*"

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One of the saddest things in the world to-day is the condition of the child-wives and child-widows of India. The number of widows in that country is twenty-three millions, and many millions of these are

mere children. The writer speaks of one who was married at nine months to a boy of six. Girls are often married in their cradle, and if the husband for whom they are destined dies, they are doomed to the disgrace and shame and drudgery of widowhood, for they are deemed to be under the curse of heaven, and are doomed to the curse of earth, especially of the cruel mother-in-law. This custom has existed for twenty-five hundred years,

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