



## Screening and Conversation Guide

*Suggested program for the event based on a 1 hour window:*

**5 minutes:** Provide an overview of statistics on adolescent girls and young women around the world (provided below)

**5 minutes:** Girls Thinking Global overview and mission (Fact Sheet)

**5 minutes:** Introduction of Documentary

**20 minutes:** Show *The Heart of Everything: Jungle Mamas – Changemakers in the Amazon*

**30 minutes:** Facilitate a spirited discussion amongst your guests! Guided conversation prompts around the documentary and on issues affecting adolescent girls are included below.

### **Background Information on Adolescent Girls and Young Women Around the Globe**

- 250 million adolescent girls currently live in poverty
- 33 million adolescent girls do not attend any kind of school
- 12 million girls in Sub-Saharan Africa never get the chance to enroll in school
- 1 in 7 girls in developing countries marries before her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday (excluding China)
- 50% of all sexual assaults worldwide are against girls 15 years of age or younger
- 75% of HIV-infected youth between the ages of 15-24 are girls

As women living in the developed world, this information is tough to wrap our heads around. However, we do have good news as we know that good things happen when girls and young women are educated and empowered:

A child born to a literate mother is 50% more likely to live past the age of 5

Children with educated mothers are twice as likely to go to school

A woman's earnings will be 10-20% higher for every year of school completed

Girls who complete secondary school are six times less likely to become child brides

With these statistics in mind – you may be asking – Why Girls Thinking Global?

Currently, there are a great number of non-profit organizations, corporate initiatives, and global organizations serving adolescent girls and young women around the world. However, many of these entities are unaware of each other and are, therefore, unable to leverage one another's work and share resources for a greater impact. This leads to misalignment in work, and redundancy of effort and services that frequently translate into wasted resources. Girls Thinking Global seeks to connect associations, initiatives and non-profit organizations aimed at adolescent girls and young women worldwide to support growth by leveraging the combined resources and best practices of each.

***The Heart of Everything: Jungle Mamas – Changemakers in the Amazon*** is the first of a series of documentaries around the key areas of health, education and well being specific to adolescent girls and young women. The documentaries will be aligned with the organizations and agencies committed to supporting adolescent girls and young women. GTG will also be conducting webinars and discussion forums around our documentaries at key events with thought leaders from around world.

Jungle Mamas is an exemplary organization showing how women are using community driven practice to make an impact. Through a collective vision, both women and men of the Achuar (Achuar is pronounced with a short "a" – A-Chew-R) nation dreamt into existence, Jungle Mamas, whose goal is to combine the best traditions and practices of midwifery and obstetrics from the western world while simultaneously valuing the best practices of Achuar motherhood in effort to save the lives at birth of mothers and newborns. It is through the collaboration of men and women that the Achuar have been able to help one another and therefore ensure the health and well-being of their people and therefore the Amazon Rainforest. Girls Thinking Global has chosen Jungle Mamas as their first documentary as they are an exemplar in the field of using sustainable, culturally relevant practice to empower women and girls. The documentary is also available in Spanish and the indigenous Achuar language.

Girls Thinking Global hopes that their documentaries will serve as a catalyst to provoke thought and discussion and to encourage viewers to more deeply explore key issues affecting adolescent girls and young women around the world.

With that introduction in mind, we are happy to present ***The Heart of Everything: Jungle Mamas – Changemakers in the Amazon.***

### **Guided Conversation Questions:**

*These are meant to spur discussion, feel free to encourage your guests to discuss whatever inspires them.*

1. Culturally, the Achuar held childbirth as a sacred act that was to be left alone to the mother to perform. And, not just childbirth but the entire pregnancy process. Through perseverance and tenacity, Narcissa, has empowered Achuar women to create a new tradition where the family and larger community are part of that process. Do you think this would have been possible without the support of the Achuar men? Why was it important to get their approval for the program?
2. With such a vast territory – 2,344 square miles shrouded in the thick rainforests of the Amazon – how hard do you think it will be for Jungle Mamas to meet their goal of 100% penetration by the end of 2015?
3. How important is it that Achuar women are the caregivers and trainers?
4. What was the most impactful moment in the film for you?
5. Can you think of programs in your community or even in another part of the world where this kind of train the trainer program could be impactful?
6. Do you know of other organizations doing this kind of work?
7. Are there ways that you can support Jungle Mamas?

Other General Questions about girls/women around the world:

8. Only 13% of government officials and 15% of business leaders worldwide are women. What do you think needs to be done to change this?
9. Adolescent girls are an important demographic when considering worldwide health, education, and poverty. Why do you think it is so important to focus on adolescent girls?
10. Do you think it is important to include adolescent boys in this discussion? Why or why not?
11. Research suggests that when girls earn a wage their money goes back into their communities. Does this resonate with you?
12. Talk about an adolescent girl that is close to your heart. What challenges and opportunities does she face? What sort of world do you want her to grow up and thrive in?