



Vignesh @Vignesh50880630 Tue Mar 15 09:32:40 +0000 2022

My mum as a gov. School teacher in TN went way beyond to literally "grab" the Nari kurvar(indiginous tribe) children to attend school or else they would go hunting/work with their family all day. My mum was linient with everything including the "uniforms"

Mostly they join school temporarily becuz, they're predominantly from a tribal community that migrates often. Mum convinces the parents that they'll provide mid day meals to the children for free. Uniforms usually will be out of stock when they join.

My mum broke every rule possible to KEEP the children in school, including the uniform rules, allowing students to join mid term.. sometimes only for week. Even if it meant that these children will only just be at the school for name sake for a week.

Nothing mattered more to my mum than getting education to this children. She did not once ask why the children had braided hair, it's sometimes custom for the male children to have braided hair like girls.

She Broke the uniform rules, she broke the hairstyle rules etc. Just so that these children will get to see the brighter side of education. No one EVER questioned my mum, for breaking these rules. Not the senior education officers, not the village leaders

No one ever asked why she was "partial" to these children, why rules are "mend" according to "THEIR CULTURE". She did it, and we knew why. Today I see muslim girls turn their back on schools. And it aches beyond words to see them go away. <https://t.co/8a3a66SuxA>

WORRYING REPORT

- Literacy rate for Muslim women **lower than for women of any other religious group**
- At primary level, **gross attendance ratio** of Muslims lower than "others", SC/STs, OBCs, Sikhs, Christians, Hindus
- Muslims also have **highest proportion of youth** (age 3-35 yrs) who've **never enrolled in formal educational programs**

TOI FOR MORE INFOGRAPHICS DOWNLOAD TIMES OF INDIA APP

<https://t.co/1cQtKU9kgy>

Is this how Education institutions are going to work? Our education spaces exists as "secular" spaces in the sense they allow us to show the beautiful diversity in our society in these spaces.

An adivasi boy with braided hair, a Sikh child with turban, a Muslim girl with hijab, a hindu child with kungumam forehead showed up to school. This is how "uniformity" existed in my school... in my mum's schools.

We had "uniformity" in showing how different we were coming from different socio-cultural backgrounds. We had "uniformity" in bringing different lunch to school, "uniformity" in having different cultural traditions.

