



2 million women around the world are suffering from obstetric fistula.

## WHAT IS OBSTETRIC FISTULA?

- **Fistula is a preventable injury**, not a disease.
- During prolonged, obstructed labor, the baby's head may push against the mother's pelvis, causing the soft tissue to die and leave a hole (or fistula) between the mother's vagina and her bladder and/or rectum.
- Adolescent girls are at highest risk.



**90%** of women who develop obstetric fistula deliver stillborn babies

**100%** of cases result in incontinence and foul odors

## WHY DOES IT HAPPEN?



**No access to the health workers & care that can prevent it:** prenatal care, skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care, and family planning

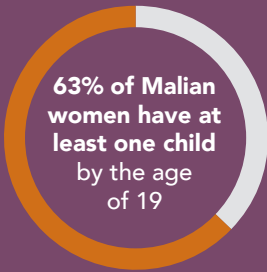


**Gender inequality:** early marriage and lack of decision-making authority for girls and women

# END SHAME: RESTORE DIGNITY

## WHY INTRAHEALTH? WHY MALI?

No one knows the exact number of women living with obstetric fistula in Mali, but there are tens of thousands. Each year, 2,400 more develop the condition. Early marriage and high fertility rates make Malian women particularly vulnerable.



Malian women have a lifetime average of **6.1 children per woman**

IntraHealth International is the leading NGO working in Mali to prevent and treat fistula. Since 2008, we have **trained 18 surgeons** and **provided more than 700 women with fistula repair surgeries**.

## OUR GOAL:

**Raise \$500,000 to fight obstetric fistula in Mali** by providing a 360° approach to prevent and treat the condition, and empower women economically and socially.

## HOW WE WILL HELP:

- **Fistula Repair Surgeries.** It only costs \$500 to cure a woman with fistula.
- **Care Centers.** We develop havens within health facilities specifically for women undergoing care and treatment for fistula.
- **Entrepreneurial Opportunities.** Women with fistula need opportunities to generate income that will benefit not only them, but also their communities.
- **Mental Health.** The physical and emotional trauma that accompany fistula are enormous. Many women need psycho-social support to get back on their feet and re-enter their communities.

You can help make obstetric fistula a thing of the past and change a woman's life today.

Visit [www.EndShameRestoreDignity.org](http://www.EndShameRestoreDignity.org)

