

ABSTRACT.

UNVEILING THE TRUE LIFESTYLE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTHS IN HOME CARES AND WITHOUT HOME CARES.

It's worth noting that there is a great number of children and youths with needs of which some reside in home cares and others that's to say a greater percentage of them don't live in home cares but reside on streets of Kampala simply because they are orphans without parents and homes, some find their way that side because they were mistreated by step parents and others reside in slum areas, some with single mothers /parents, grandparents or even others forging a way forward alone as children or youths all leaving in absolute poverty and miserable lives.

Some of the children and youths under home cares are adopted by well-wishers whom in the long run change their lives completely but those out or without home cares face mainly absolute poverty and live miserably to the extent that life turns out to be "survival for the fittest".

These children from the fact that they don't have/stay with close relatives in residential homes, so they lack the parental care and sometimes they tend to get so attached to the people who take care or who get close to them for example, I did counselling and guidance to some pupils in primary level and one child disclosed to me that she was told by her mum that she is HIV positive (Human Immune Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). So they need people to talk to, spend some time with them so that they feel loved and comforted.

Trauma affects these children /youths even until adulthood, that's to say they tend to remember so much something that affected them negatively when they were young for example one tends to fear so much fire simply because the parents died in a fire outbreak that left the home to ashes. So such a child/ youth can hate and fear fire for the rest of his/her life.

Its worth noting that since some of the children in home cares or without home cares are collected from or resided or even still reside on streets as their previous homes, they tend to have different behaviors/ characters and habits for example pickpocketing, use of drugs like cocaine, marijuana and robbery to the point of murdering someone simply because he/she needs a phone, money or car. He/she can do what it takes to have such a thing.

It's unfortunate that the Ugandan government has not respected the international conventions and human rights although she is a member state to the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights like the right to food, descent accommodation, right to vote, right to political opinion and also the Convention on the Rights of a Child. Therefore "we" as individuals, Non-governmental organizations and International Federation of Educative Communities (FICE) through its' International Care Leaver's Convention 2020 and UNICEF ought to render an upper hand for the betterment of children and youths.

Complied by **Namuyanja Ritah.**

Uganda. Kampala.

Below are illustrations of the miserable life of youths and children who deserve an upper hand.



