

ZAMBEZI WRITERS CORNER

2018
OCTOBER

Volume 1

**WATER AND
ENVIRONMENT**

TECHNOLOGY

NARRATIVES

HIV/AIDS

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

IN YOU THERE IS A SEED

LET'S READ

M A G A Z I N E

DEVELOP A WRITER

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Develop a writer is a project initiated by Zambezi Writers Corner with a view to develop writers in the district, as well as the province at large. With time, the organisation intends to expand the project to all parts of the country. The whole incenses of the project are to help reduce the high illiteracy levels among the learners. Therefore, through this project, we believe that it will encourage learners to read and write as some topics selected will require learners to research widely. This process will help learners to develop their reading and writing skills.

For this to be achieved, it requires collective effort from all stakeholders and they should all participate fully in helping to develop the reading and the writing skills of our learners.

Therefore, we are asking the co-operate world, partners, friends and well-wishers to help in any way possible to make the project a success. Your donation and contribution will definitely help reduce the poor reading and writing in our learners and also develop writers in the country.

You can donate or contribute anything as the call is noble.

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Zambezi Writer's Corner: Making a Difference

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Articles

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Foreword

Welcome to Let's Read Magazine!

Let's Read is a magazine that features stories and articles by children. The magazine is a platform for young writers around the country. In this magazine, you will find fascinating stories and articles from young writers. Indeed, our children have demonstrated and displayed their talent which this magazine has tasted. What is so encouraging is that they are telling their own local stories using their own style.

The aim of this magazine is giving the pupils a voice to air their views. Not only that but also build creativity among them. The magazine will also help to develop writers and market them to the readers as part of the project to develop writers.

The magazine also aims to reduce the high illiteracy levels among pupils in rural and urban areas. Our schools today, have learners that cannot read and write, and that is a fact.

Hence, to help improve reading and writing skills among the learners, this publication will act as a motivating tool to them.

The magazine will also act as a source of material for both teachers and learners as it contains articles and narratives written in scholarly style. Therefore, we would like you our readers to enjoy each and every text published in this magazine.

Thank you

Daniel Phiri

ZWC - Director

"You can leave a bed better than you found it"

NARRATIVES

Books Saved My Life

By Sarah Chipilipili
Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

I never knew how to read or write, I have to admit, I was never an intelligent or good pupil. I was very lazy and stubborn, and whenever, I knocked off from school, I would just throw my books in my bedroom and watch television. This was my habit every day and I never used to study or go through my work. That is until one day, when I knocked off from school and found my mother waiting for me in the living room. She seemed upset, but I did not bother to ask why. My mother asked me to sit down with her, she told me that my teacher had dropped by and had brought my report form. She said she was not happy with my results because I had failed in all the subjects. And ever since day, whenever I would come back home from school, she would always force me to go through my work, but I would always refuse. Until one day, I still remember it was on a Saturday, I was watching

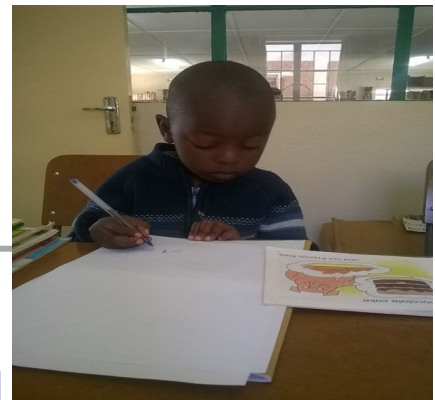
TV. All of a sudden, I just switched it off and visited the school library. It was actually my first time there. I kindly asked the librarian who was there if there were any books of my age. I needed books which had a lot of pictures and fortunately, the librarian took me to the children's section where I found a good number of them, and most of them with a lot of pictures.

I took a book which was entitled '**Little Big Life**', it was actually about insects and other things. I was really surprised that I enjoyed reading this book, because I actually learnt something that I never knew! I learnt that spiders are not insects, but they are arachnids and I have to admit this was really a fun fact. Thereafter, I read a few more books. That day I had a lot of fun, though I didn't know how to read the pictures in the books, it contained everything I needed to understand. I started sneaking out of home to go to the library and I even began to improve

in my reading abilities and pretty soon I was reading bigger books which were not of my age.

Its then I began to enjoy reading books. Whenever, I would come back home from school, I would go direct to my room and go through my work.

My mother was very surprised that I was not watching TV anymore as I used to, and that I would sometimes miss lunch and sometimes supper, because I was studying and reading books! I even started performing very well in some subjects at school. After we wrote the tests, I even got the highest marks in class. Ever since, up to now, I know that books are able to change someone and in my case, books saved my life!



And She Learns the Value of Respecting Elders

Nelly Kapondola.

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

Long time ago, in a village called Musunga, lived a girl named Kapui. Kapui was the only child of her parents. She also lived with her grandparents. At times, Kapui never used to respect elders, because she thought elders were very strict and didn't want the young people to enjoy their youth.

Every day after supper, the whole family would sit around a fire and Kapui's grandfather would tell them an interesting story. In the morning, Kapui would sweep the surrounding and afterwards she would go to the river with her mother to fetch water, then later into the forest to collect firewood. And some days, they would go to the farm, sometimes Kapui would be asked to remain home to cook for her grandparents. Sometimes, she accepted and at times she would refuse.

As usual after supper, everyone would sit around the fire and the grandfather would tell a story. Kapui's grandfather told them a story about a boy who died of a snake bite because he did not listen to elders when

they told him not to play in the grass. He told them this story because he thought he would teach Kapui to respect elders, but Kapui didn't learn anything from that.



One day, everyone went to the farm, but Kapui remained home to cook for her grandparents. After lunch, Kapui's friends Kakulu and Kamiji came to pick her up so that they can go to the river. Kapui's grandparents told her not to go because it was almost getting dark, but Kapui did not obey her grandparents. She went on with her friends. .

they decided to go to the river with her friends. They say, " He who does not listen, listened when the axe was in his head." So it was with Kapui.

On their way to the river, they were attacked by two ritual killers! Kamiji and Kakulu managed to escape, but Kapui was caught. One of the ritual killers stabbed Kapui in the stomach. Luckily, there were four young men who were coming from the forest and they saved Kapui by the bell, but the ritual killers managed to escape. The young men rushed home and called the witch doctor to come and treat Kapui. She was treated and she healed in two months.

From that day of the attack, Kapui learnt the value of respecting and listening to elders.

Read more

A Book Gets Me Out of Jail!

Dorcus Walyata

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

It was like a dream when I got myself out of trouble, because I was nearly jailed if it hadn't been for reading a book!

I was one that never liked to read books. I was someone else in my own world. Sometimes, I was acting like the whole world was mine which led me to being something uncontrollable. I never wanted boys and girls who read books to be friends with, only those who were not serious with school.

There came a time when I felt like the whole world was coming down on my head; I did something bad. I broke into someone's house! I broke in to steal a dress. I did this simply because my parents could not afford to give me money to buy one. That day, I was in need of a dress for a party. My friends and I wanted to wear matching dresses. My friends had already bought their dresses and I had no money to buy mine. So, I broke into a house of someone whom I knew had a similar dress.

Unfortunately, the owner of the dress involved the police. The police looked for me everywhere, including my home. When I realized that the issue was hot, I ran away to Kitwe to live with my elder brother for a while so that the situation could cool down. An adage says, "A case does not rot". So it was. Even when I left Zambezi, the police were still looking for me here and there.

Even when I was in Kitwe, I realized that the police were still searching for me. One morning, which was on a Tuesday, I was sitting in my brother's house alone and I was bored. It was really boring. My movements were limited for fear of what I did in Zambezi. Due to the boredom, I got a book from my brother's bookshelf. I got a book randomly and the book I got was entitled, '**How to Avoid Bad Manners**'. I read it for the whole day! I got touched by what I read. After I read that book, I realized that being a thief and on the run was not good for me. I had a change there and then.

I decided to go back to Zambezi. I told my brother that I had to go back for something important. I knew in my heart that I had to go back so that I return the dress to the owner and ask for forgiveness .

I went back to Zambezi and took myself to the police station and explained everything. The police were happy with me and they warned me not to do such a thing again. Even the owner of the dress forgave me and withdrew the case from the police. I knew in my heart that the book I read had really changed and saved me.

If it had not been for the book, I would have been jailed for years.

PROBLEMS AFFECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Dear Editor,

Allow me space in your magazine to lodge a complaint about the problems affecting our community (Zambezi).

Being a rural area, our community is facing so many challenges. Some of these challenges we as a community are facing are that we are lacking proper health services, good learning institutions, learning and teaching materials, to mention but a few.

We have a district council, whose function it is to make sure our community is secured and developed. But all they do is keep to themselves the funds meant to develop the community.

It being a rural area, very few people are willing to come and work here. Very few doctors are willing to come and work here and provide medical services to the community. There are very few health workers in our community. In the end, their work culture is bad. When they are supposed to be attending to the patients, they choose to stay away or become rude to them (the patients). The road network is bad. People are unable to move to other areas or transport their food safely. Agriculture, the main way in which people earn a living, is now

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This is because there are no proper roads to transport our animals and crops to and fro the market and the farm. We fear that our vehicles might get damaged. If we had at least one mobile clinic or more doctors in our community hospital, it would at least be of benefit to us.

In today's world, education is the most important service anybody could have access to. If we could get better learning institutions, there would be no reason for people to leave the community school for other schools in far way areas.

Teaching and learning materials are a big problem in our schools. There is shortage of everything! Desks, pieces of chalk, text books, good chalk boards (because we cannot afford white boards) and so on. Us lacking these materials, we do not acquire the proper education we deserve and yearn for.

It would be much appreciated if our cries would be considered by the powers that be.

Yours sincerely,
Disappointed Resident

UNEMPLOYMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY

Dear editor,

Allow me space in your magazine to air my displeasure on the high level of unemployment in our community.

In Zambezi where I reside, we have had a number of issues affecting our youths. One of these it's unemployment. This has brought about poverty in the district.

Due to this unemployment, some youths have engaged themselves in drug abuse hence promoting to unreasonable and bad future leaders who cannot lead the nation properly.

If this problem is not attended to on time by providing employment and better education to the youths, many youths will remain in poverty.

Yours sincerely,
Concerned Youth

CAREER PAGE

BANKING

Banking is an interesting career that comes with numerous lucrative benefits such as Competitive salaries and excellent benefits, Wide range of jobs and experiences in a thriving industry, Numerous opportunities for advancement for ambitious professionals, and Excellent working conditions and hours to mention but a few. Continuity in education and community service is highly encouraged.

Firstly it is important to mention that banks exist to allocate funds from savers to borrowers in an efficient manner. Banks take customer deposits in return for paying customers an annual interest payment. The bank then uses the majority of these deposits to lend to other customers for a variety of loans.

The difference between the two interest rates is effectively the profit margin for banks. After the end of barter system and the introduction of money, banks have played an important role in the economy, offering services to clients with different needs - mainly those who want to save or borrow for the purpose of investing an expansion. These financial services help to distribute funds and in turn make the overall economy more efficient.

The world has become a global village whose taste in terms of goods and services have become similar hence growth in international trade, Banks have therefore been engaged to play an important intermediary role to ensure these transactions are executed. These services have in turn enabled economic growth. In order to execute all these services, trained officers are employed.

The banking professional being in the service industry demands that you engage good public relations with customers who come with different complaints and of different literacy levels.

While you may be most familiar with the tellers and customer service representatives at your own financial institution, there are many other employees who work in key areas of a bank. Whatever your talents, interests and educational background, there is a career in banking for you. For example: Bank Administration/Accounting — handles

walks of life and in all kinds of financial shape.

Applicants interested in going into banking should have at least a G12 certificate for most as an entry-level positions. A college or university degree in accounting, finance, business, communications, economics, and marketing or computer science will assist the job applicant not only when initially hired, but also when seeking promotions within the banking industry.

Banks offer many job duties and career path options. Most banking firms offer excellent benefits, including medical insurance and disability insurance, sick leave and vacation, and retirement options. Banking firms are highly regulated and supervised financial operations, making them safe, pleasant and rewarding places to work. These careers offer integrity and stability.

There are many opportunities to broaden your knowledge and

the bank's internal operations, sets policies and provides oversight whilst Consumer Banking and Commercial Banking—delivers financial services to individual customers as well as businesses, schools, churches and other organizations.

Furthermore, Human Resources manages employee placement, salaries, benefits and training while Compliance and Operations/Accounting provides strategic direction, ensures bank abides by industry laws and regulations, record keeping, bookkeeping and financial analysis. Others are Technology/Information Systems/Security ensure availability of information, maintains computer systems and software, and protects data. Public Relations/Marketing promotes the bank's products and services, coordinates advertising, and improves relationships with the community and media. Trust and Investment Banking — manages money or property for others.

skills at a bank. Most banks offer on-the-job training and encourage you to further your education through a variety of courses, seminars and training programs. Banks often set up tuition assistance and reimbursement programs for job-related coursework to help employees increase their capabilities for current and future positions. Many large banks have training departments dedicated to helping employees maximize their skills and talents through in-bank educational programs. Every bank's success is due in large part to the dedication and skill of its people. Working in any aspect of banking can be very rewarding and fulfilling. It can also provide interesting new challenges every single day. There will always be a need for banks to hire and train talented, motivated, resourceful and customer-oriented people. Your success will depend on your commitment to the bank, your aptitude for developing knowledge and skills, your

Success in Banking

A career in banking is open to everyone, regardless of race, gender, national origin, age or physical capabilities. Banks hire and train people who are interested in learning and working. Aptitude and attitude are essential to your success. If you are an individual seeking growth and challenges and are willing to accept responsibility, banks will be interested in you.

Bank employees are typically very well organized and have strong computer skills. They also have good communication skills, are excellent at dealing with people, and are service-oriented.

Financial institutions hire candidates who are honest and trustworthy. They also look for people who are able to calculate and balance numbers correctly. As the federal government regulates many aspects of the banking industry, their employees are required to adhere to all the rules and regulations that banks must follow.

Banking is a service industry. To succeed, you should enjoy working with people. Bank employees enjoy dealing with people from all

As e-commerce and online banking technology continue to expand, tech-savvy individuals will always be in demand.

Banking is a profession that offers a huge variety of opportunities as well as the possibility of early responsibility, rapid career progression, and good pay and benefits. For those willing to accept the challenge, the rewards can be great.

By Agness Nyirenda; a banker from NATSAVE BANK

ARTICLES

IMPORTANCE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Good over Bad

Glady Mungwinji

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School.

From January to February, 2018, Zambia experienced a severe outbreak of cholera which caused death to hundreds of people. This left many families in deep shock and also with regrets. The fatalities were recorded on the Copper belt, Central and Lusaka provinces of Zambia. The outbreak of the disease was due to the high human population in these provinces and lack of good hygiene practicing methods. It is a well-known fact that, the dirty environment in our communities, districts, provinces and the nation at large triggered this epidemic. It was a clear indication of the consequences of keeping our environment unclean.

When the environment is dirty, it becomes unhealthy for human habitation. Hence, it is cardinal to keep our environment clean as an adage says, 'cleanliness is next to godliness'. It should also be understood that, a clean environment is a disease free environment. Diseases such as cholera, typhoid and dysentery are a result of dirty environments.

A clean environment promotes trade among the nations. Usually, a clean and safe environment enables foreign investment. This includes good hotels, shopping places and complexes that provide both entertainment and social needs. At the same time, tourists are attracted because of a good and clean environment.

Apart from a clean environment being disease free, happy and good vicinity for trade and investment, it also reduces a financial burden on the government. Such that it does not have to cater for much needed attention of purchasing medicines, waste bins, labor and advertisement on precautions on the dangers of the outbreak.

Therefore, we should keep our environment clean. It is not only cheap but also good for our on health. They say, 'once bitten, twice shy'. So, let us learn from the previous catastrophe which left many families in sorrow but also a strain on part of government to fight the scourge.

Finally, let us all learn to keep ourselves, our homes and communities clean. It is for our on good and it is a responsibility for everyone. They say, 'charity begins at home.'

By Glad Mungwinji

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

Community development is a complex endeavor as local public officials strive to respond to change in economic activities and the needs of an increasingly diverse population. While the specific issues differ, successful community development is important in both urban and rural areas. Also, worth noting is a recognition that the approaches and opportunities for local development have changed markedly during the past several decades. Therefore, to spark economic development by starting new businesses, creating jobs and achieving various key goals such as GDP, exports, standards of living, skills development and community development, entrepreneurship becomes an essential catalyst.

Entrepreneurship is the art or

This results in an improved quality of life and greater economic freedom. For example, clean and safe water supply in a water deficient region will prevent people from walking long distances to fetch water. This will positively impact their businesses, productivity and income. Imagine an innovative, automatic, low-cost and flow based modern technology pump that can fill people's water containers automatically. Such an innovation ensures people to focus on their jobs without worrying about a basic necessity like water. Furthermore, this allows more time to devote to work which translates to economic growth.

Entrepreneurship helps in wealth creation and sharing by establishing business entities. They invest their own resources and attract capacity from investors, leaders and the public. This mobilizes public wealth and allows people to benefit from the success of entrepreneurs and growing businesses. Entrepreneurship creates employment opportunities. Entrepreneurs are by nature and definition job creators, as opposed to job seekers. This kind of job creation by new and existing businesses is one of the basic goals of community

science of innovation and risk taking in business. Entrepreneurs are frequently thought of as national assets to be cultivated, motivated and remunerated to the greatest possible extent. Entrepreneurs can change the way we live and work. If successful, their innovations may improve our standard of living. In addition, create wealth with their entrepreneurial ventures, and also create jobs and conditions for a prosperous society. Entrepreneurs regularly nature ventures by other like - minded individuals. They also invest in community projects and provide financial support to local charities. This enables further development beyond their ventures. Entrepreneurship creates social change through unique offering of new goods and services such as Trade Kings as a leading example of great innovation in Zambia. Entrepreneurs usually break away from tradition and indirectly support freedom by reducing dependence on obsolete systems and technologies



development.

Business growth and sustaining the health of exciting businesses is an important model of development. Under this model, business survival means maintaining a competitive edge regardless of size. The goal is sustaining a viable enterprise by constantly seeking one's competitive advantage. Therefore, cheap land and labor are no longer what is being sought after. Rather it is knowledge, hard work and a culture of innovation and creativity. This model acknowledges that few places possess enough assets on their own to compete, break even and grow. It's about regions, networks, clusters and innovation. It's about entrepreneurship.

By Loloji Martin

Mapachi Secondary School

Entrepreneurship is Important for Personal and Community Development

Entrepreneurship is the dynamic process of creating incremental wealth; this wealth is created by individuals who assume the major risk in terms of equity, time and career commitment of providing value for some product or service. However, the product may or may not be new or unique but value must be infused by the entrepreneur securing and allocating the necessary skills and resources.

The first step to entrepreneurship is to have a marketable product or service. Hence, think through your ideas and concepts to determine what consumers will want and at what price. Furthermore, writing a business plan is required, if you seek outside funding. The business plan will help shape your ideas and it should include sections about your business tools which are funding, profit, ability and marketing.

The role of an entrepreneur on both personal and community development is to take a creative concept and launch an idea into a business operation. Not only that, he/she is the initial organizer responsible for the business. Moreover, a successful entrepreneur turns his or her ideas into a business and a developed vision. In addition, he/she is the owner of the business. In this role, the entrepreneur is responsible for obtaining funds, business management, running the daily operations and marketing the business and services.

Furthermore, another role is that of an economic booster. As innovators and risk takers, entrepreneurs generate new industries, changes, enhancements and improvements that stimulate the overall economic picture. However, entrepreneurship creates new jobs, new products and services that individuals will purchase and also always seek to grow and communities will prosper with the additional job opportunities and wealth.

Entrepreneurship is the aspect of creating wealth or money based on exploiting new ideas to create new value or money in the market as opposed to the concept of accumulating wealth or money that involves the exploiting of old ideas repetitively. Therefore, this can only be done through scanning of the environment for opportunity identification, pursuing knowledge and education while gaining a competitive advantage and self-sustainability.

By **Patience Muhata**

Mpidi Day Secondary School

SPECIAL THANKS FROM THE ZAMBEZI WRITERS TEAM

Gonzaga University students team2018

Special thanks to Gonzaga University students team that come to Zambezi in 2018 led by Prof. Jeff Dodd, for their support to make this possible. Zambezi Writers Corner would like to thank you for the support you rendered for the production of this magazine. We hope this is not the end, but the beginning of the many times you are going to support this initiative. ZWC is hopeful that your support will yield results in helping improve reading and writing skills among the learners. Thanks ZAG UP –Team 2018

Zambezi Town Council

ZWC would like to also thank Zambezi Town Council (DACAs Office) for their support for providing the AWARDS in the category of 'HIV/AIDS'. Your participation has added flavor and provided motivation to the young writers and authors. Thank you so much for your support now and in the future

DEBS Office-Zambezi

Further thanks to the Zambezi DEBS office which has been very supportive from the beginning of the project. Therefore, as ZWC we would like to thank the office for their support. We trust that our relationship and common goal to help a pupil attain high level of reading and writing skills, will last forever. Thank you.

Each of You

To Each One of You and the Zambezi Business Community: We know that without you we are nothing. Hence, we would like to thank you all who have supported us through and through. We may not have what to give you but, our hearts are really thankful and we shall always cherish your support. Thank you!

The Benefits of Keeping a Clean Environment



A clean environment

Firstly, I would like to give a short definition of the term environment. Environment is the composition of everything that is around man or human beings. There are also many things that make up environment. For example, water, plants and many other things. It is highly advised to maintain our environment clean so as to live a healthier life on the planet earth. And the most important aspect of a clean environment is prevention of infestations like cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery and malaria.

One way of preventing cholera is to frequently make use of boiled water for drinking and by so doing, the health status of humans will be protected from water borne diseases .

Also, we have to slash our surroundings which will enable us to have a malaria free environment because it is in tall grass, it is where malaria caus-

ing mosquitoes hide. In addition, in our surroundings, we ought to make sure that places that hold stagnant water around our houses are buried as such are the breeding sites for mosquitoes.

Rural areas especially and compounds in the cities, do not have pit latrines. Hence, people resort to open defecation which promotes the spread of diarrhoea and other related diseases. It is therefore, recommended that each and every household must have their own pit latrine. That will help to maintain hygiene and keep our environment clean and healthy.

The call to keep our environment clean is the right call to all meaningful Zambians. Hence, it must be taken seriously, in all cities, towns, and villages in order to promote healthy living standards of people.

Actually, cleanliness and good hygiene practices in our schools, hospitals, homes and the community at large bring more benefits than harm.

For instance, a clean school with proper ablution blocks allows learners to learn good hygiene practices and helps to keep them healthy. That too, has a positive effect on their learning process. It also encourages learners to develop tidy habits.

Therefore, if we keep our environment clean, our environment will be disease free and we will have a productive nation.

***Kapepa Adrian.-
Mpidi Secondary School.***

Drug Abuse

A drug is any chemical substance that can cause negative or positive effects when taken. Abuse is the use of anything in an unregulated manner. Therefore, Drug Abuse is the use of chemical substances in an unregulated measure.

Generally, drugs are in two categories namely: hard drugs and soft drugs. Hard drugs are harmful chemicals that have a negative impact both on a human body and the community at large while soft drugs are useful chemical substances that are used by the community with the help of health care givers in boosting and protecting the human body from diseases and these have a positive impact when they are rightly taken according to the authorized standards.



In Zambia, over 35% of the youth are victims of hard drugs abuse. There are so many drugs in the world but the most common drug being abused in Zambia is marijuana.

Marijuana, tobacco and other drugs cause harm to the human body by damaging the lungs, brain, kidney and other important organs of the human body. Many people take hard drugs in order to make themselves feel excited and pleasant while others take them due to peer pressure (group influence) and others take them because of anger and stress.

Soft drugs are medical drugs that people have been using for so many years and they have helped us to heal and prevent

diseases through immunization. Soft drugs are useful but can be harmful if they are abused. These drugs can be abused through the misapplication of knowledge due to poor medical personnel, alienation, ignorance and many more. A person who is a victim of this may have many complications because he or she may take them for a wrong reason or even take more than prescribed, which is not good for the human body.

Abuse of drugs is very harmful. For the sake of the well being of the people, the government should put strict measures for drug stores in order to curb the vice of drug abuse.

The Drug Enforcement Commission (DEC) should also be supported by government in making sure that the accumulation of illegal drugs on the street is reduced. Individual citizens of the country should resist peer pressure and be responsible people.

Mulenda Mukenga

Zambezi Day Secondary School

LEGACY WIDE TRADE
STOCKISTS OF ALL
STATIONARY AND
ELECTRONICS
SOLWEZI KAPITI MALL

Broken Covenant

Why am I so obedient to destruction? I ask.

I work up every morning and think of my next high
I again ask myself, what a task?

As I grow up it gets a lot of worse,

I wish I could beat this teenager curse.

Instead of books and any other staff,

The things I spend money on are a little rough,
Although I am sure that life will be tough.

My parents are in need,

But I spend their money on alcohol and weed.

I start to skip too much school,

Just because of weed though I look so cool,

But that's what I don't do.

School is the opposite of what I do,

Going to school is my job,

But attending classes is a taboo.

All I do at school is get high and fight,

And call teacher dumb and fat,

My parents will no longer give me their cash,

So the walls in my room I bash.

Like the route to heaven is to repent,

Now the weed and alcohol got rid of it,

Because getting high is not right.

I cry and realize I am losing people who love me most,

I feel am being haunted by an evil ghost.

I hear something say in my spirit,

Don't pop that pill,

It will make you ill,

Don't smoke that joint,

It will disappoint.

Don't pour that drink,

It will stop you think.

I have broken the covenant

How about you?

By Mungwinji Gladys

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

AFRICAN PROVERBS

'One finger can not pick lice'

'One ant can not build an anthill'

Let's be united!

POEMS

Take it or Leave it

Take it or leave it!

Nothing lasts forever

Take it or ignore it, wherever we go,

Darkness and light will always follow,

It's up to us to choose what to follow,

Still water runs deep

Make hay while the sun rises

Write the letter before the ink finishes

Once slapped, twice shy,

Never take a chance for granted.

Take it or leave it!

Realize and release!

What you hold inside you.

You can fail a million times,

But you can stand up a many times.

When you stand up and fight failure,

You will never know when you win;

In the clouds of failure, I learn to be alone.

But I will never worst time, time flies

The wind blows, and the river flows.

Take it or leave it!

You should make ends meet,

Even in the fire see yourself through,

Split the ocean if you have to,

Fly without wings if required,

Bring down the mountain if possible,

And strike the rock if needed,

Don't wait for a grave to dig you a grave,

But dig a grave for it before it is too late.

Don't wait for failure to blind you,

Get education, it will open your mind up.

By Patricia Konga

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

MOTIVATION CORNER



“IN YOU THERE IS A GREAT SEED”

- **You are a seed**
- **Lessons from the seed**
- **Discover your seed**

Each one of us has a great seed of success. There is something unique that we can do that can change the world. There is something in you that has stayed for a number of years unused. If you sit down and think about it, you can still realise that there is something that is untapped.

Before I go any further, I would like to define a 'seed'. Let's look at what the dictionary says about a seed.

'The unit of production of a flowering plant, capable of developing into another such a plant.' It can further be defined as, *'an embryonic plant enclosed in a protective outer covering. The formation of the seed is part of the process of reproduction in the seed plants.'*

From the above definition, a seed is something meant for reproduction. The word reproduction means, growth, continuity and expansion.

You are a Seed

Each one of us is a seed. God wants us to reproduce. The reproduction may not alone mean to have many children that we cannot even afford to feed, but build our future to an extent that it becomes productive.

Each one of us is a branded seed. God has branded our lives into a great family of farmers, teachers, and nurses' businessmen to mention but a few in order to contribute positively. The question is why? He wants us to grow and change the world around us. It is God's plan and desire that we may expand our territory. Each day that comes, we must always remind ourselves that we have a duty and that is to expand our lives and build a better future.

Lessons from a seed

For us to expand we can learn some lessons from the seed.

The first lesson is that a seed itself is not the outer part. It is kept inside the shell. The reason is that a seed is so precious that it needs to be protected. In the same way, there is something in you that needs to be protected, it is found inside us. No one can see it except us. In a similar way, we have to protect what is inside us. There are so many great ideas and dreams that we can't afford to lose. We have to protect and keep them alive. Like a pregnant mother, for nine months, she protects a baby she has not yet seen.

That is fascinating. Indeed, likewise, an idea is a seed in which greater things are born. It has to be protected by us.

There are always circumstances in this world that would always want us derail our dreams like a derailed train. But like a seed, we have to protect them.

A seed has to be sown on the fertile ground. Then there must be water and all other essential nutrients for it to germinate. In short there must be a 'conducive environment' for the seed to germinate. In a same way, you have to create propitious environment for yourself in order to allow your dream to germinate and grow. Your dream is your seed. Without a favourable environment, it will never grow.

Therefore, take out the negative attitude, friends that do not keep you going including family members, and all those that are not ready to walk with you, do away with them. Make sure that your environment is conducive and safe for your dream to grow. Sometimes, it could be our job, make it better to let your dream grow. In addition, a seed takes time to grow into something. Ask a farmer, he is patient enough to wait till the seeds he planted have reproduced. Sometimes, we have not failed because we were not able, but because we lacked patience. Take your time. Continue being focused and never feel it has taken too long. As long as it is in you and you are working towards it, one day it shall come to pass. Life is just like that. It wants us to follow it.

Last but not the least, when the seed reproduces, it increases. For instance, a groundnut seed, when you plant it, it will not produce a single seed, under good circumstances, it will reproduce more than one. God has called us to expand our territory. Let your seed grow and bear many fruits and others will benefit from it.

Discover your seed?

Discover your seed, plant it, care for it, it shall surely bear fruits. Try to discover what is in you. There is something God has put in you that you have to develop. For instance, is it singing, writing, farming, or baking to mention but a few? Find one. When you discover one, grow it, you can shape the world. Those magnificent ideas develop them, they shall surely grow and multiply and your life will never be the same again.

You are a precious seed everyone would treasure to plant



Author: Daniel Phiri - Life coach

Imagine Life Without Technology



Technology has made the world into what it is today. Without technology, the world would move at a very slow pace in terms of development and apparently our everyday lives. Travel is now much faster and comfortable, all because of technology. Without it, we would ride animals and walk to places day and night.

Walking would be so stressing that in the process it would sore the feet too. Animals would be too difficult to control especially on a long journey. They could run off to anywhere during resting time and sometimes even drop you off their backs.

In addition, television, Smart phones, computers to mention but a few, have greatly improved the communication sector. Without these, we would not know what other parts of the world looked like and what was happening in other parts of the world. Without phones, we would have to send letters using the birds or message lorry drums. For the message to reach, it would take days and sometimes it would not.

Modern food production is also through technology. Better methods of farming and food production have evolved in the past recent years because of technology. Now, people can produce high quality standard of food and at low cost because of technology. This includes processing to packaging. For example, we had to roast our meat on fire (smoking method) or even eat it raw because of traditional methods of preserving food. But today, you can keep meat in whatever form you like. Canned, baked and bottled foods are made possible because of modern technology.

In the health and medical care sector, technology has played a major role in the improvement of service delivery. Cancer, kidney failure and other related diseases require technology to detect in the human body. Without these machines, treatment of these diseases would be a nightmare. Since witchcraft is at the centre of African culture, all these diseases would point to witchcraft. Therefore, what is important is to embrace technology and try by all means to use it for the betterment of our lives.

*By; Makondo Kasweka
Zambezi Boarding Secondary School*

NARRATIVES

RITA

Chaushi Albert.

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

Rita lived in a village with her grandparents. She was tall, skinny and very beautiful with big eyes, dimples and long thick dark hair. She was also very intelligent.

One day, Rita had a science project which she presented so well that the school gave her a scholarship. This meant that the following year if she passed and made it to her tenth (10) grade, she would have to go to Kalale town where she would be at a boarding school and her fees would be paid for by the school (her current school).

Fortunate enough, she qualified and moved to Kalale town. She started learning at Gogo Boarding School. She was very happy to be in town and at a boarding school. But one thing that almost destroyed her life was pride. Since everyone praised her for her beauty and intelligence, she became full of herself. She never regarded anyone as important.

One evening, her roommate, Clara, asked Rita to help her solve her homework. Rita made Clara wash her uniform, polish her school shoes and call her 'Miss Beauty' before she could help her. Rita would say, "call me Miss Beauty, Queen of Intelligence and Blessed with Great Looks." She did this each time anyone asked for her help.

A change of character happened when one day Rita fell ill. She could hardly walk to her class! But she could manage to sit and write her end of term tests for her eleventh (11) grade. If she would miss the tests or fail, she wouldn't proceed to the final grade, but would have to repeat her eleventh grade! Repeating meant she would lose her scholarship. She asked her hostel mates to help her study and walk to the class to write the tests. But because she used to boss them around, they all refused to help her.

Clara, her roommate, finally agreed to help her after Rita promised that she would change for the better. Clara helped her to study and walk to class. Rita managed to write her tests, and only then did she learn the value of respecting others.

THE NOTORIOUS CHILD LEARNS THE VALUE OF RESPECTING ELDERS

FUMBELO MORGAN

ZAMBEZI BOARDING SECONDARY SCHOOL

There was a child among the children of Kabwibwi who was very notorious. Her name was Mbolola. Mbolola made fun of everyone including her parents. Her actions were impulsive and ridiculous. Kabwibwi tried hard to teach his child the value of respecting elders, but it was like he was telling and teaching a branch. No matter how much kabwibwi taught his child, she couldn't understand the teachings.

Everybody in the community was not happy with Mbolola. All the people in that village were praying to God that He must teach her a lesson. The respect other children showed to elders, to her it was "I don't care." Laughing at vulnerable and disabled people was her every day tune. Answering elders with vulgar language was her every day memory verse. Laughing was her every day chorus and she became addicted to it such that she could not even enjoy a meal without laughing!

One day, her mouth answered the prayers of the people and taught Mbolola a lesson. This happened when the king of the land, king Malasha, visited the village where Mbolola was living. The king organised a meeting and it was conducted. All the people were ready, waiting for their king to address them. The king started to address his people and everybody listened.

Now after the king had finished his last remarks, he decided to depart and go back to his palace. As the king stood up and lifted his legs to go, he slid and fell down! The king's legs flew and were in the air, his head lost its crown and the crown got planted in the soil. Although the falling of the king was laughable, no one in the crowd laughed. They were all astonished, their mouths opened so much that flies were getting in and out. Suddenly, a voice was heard from the crowd laughing like a roaring lion or like the happiest hyena. Everyone was shocked! The king stood up, feeling a little embarrassment and asked,

"Who the hell is that? Who does she think she is? "

People looked around by turning their necks almost to three-sixty degree rotation. The king ordered the people to find the one who was laughing. They searched and searched. At last, they saw Mbolola laughing in silence again. She was caught and people shouted,

"She does not respect elders, please teach her a lesson! "

The king ordered people to have Mbolola locked up in a jail for a minimum of two years. She was made to do hard labour of working in one hectare garden. Mbolola regretted her notoriety and for this, she learnt the value of respecting elders.

ARTICLES

HIV/AIDS Transmission, Prevention and Impact in Our Society

By Wilson Nkuwa
Zambezi Day Secondary School

HIV stands for Human Immune-deficiency Virus and AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. This viral disease has robbed our society of able men and women. Many parents have died and left young children who have eventually become street kids because they have no one to take care of them. The disease has also claimed man power from the government, organizations and companies that contribute to the growth of the economy. You might also discover that some of the people who die because of this disease are bread winners, this causes poverty levels to increase in our society. The economy too is affected in one way or the other as its growth becomes retarded if able people happen to die.

HIV/AIDS is transmitted when the virus enters the body, usually by infected immune cells in the blood, vaginal fluids or semen. Having the following risk factors increases the chances of a person becoming infected with the disease;

Having sex with an infected partner without using a condom or other barrier protection can transmit HIV. The virus can enter the body through the lining of the vaginal, vulva, penis, rectum or mouth during sex. Anal intercourse followed by vaginal intercourse is the primary risk factors. Oral sex is less likely to transmit HIV but studies have shown that this can transmit both HIV and other sexual transmitted diseases.

Most sexual transmissions occur between males and females or from male to male. Injection-drug uses with shared needles or syringes that are contaminated with blood from an infected person are other ways the virus is spread. There is also mother to baby transmission during pregnancy or birth when infected maternal cells enter the baby's circulation or through breast feeding.

The most effective way to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission is by avoiding activities that allow the exchange of bodily fluids with others. Anyone suspecting an infection should be tested for HIV/AIDS.

Safe sex, using a new uncompromised condom during sex prevents the transmission of the virus through open sores or open skin. Occupational safety, medical care providers and scientists who frequently treat patients or handle patient samples must use personal protection equipment and follow safety guidelines set by their respective institutions.

Needle exchange programs are programs that provide sterile needles to those who inject drugs. There is also some evidence suggesting that male circumcision lowers the risk of acquiring HIV/AIDS.

To crown it all, the measures that can be put to prevent HIV/AIDS are as follows: safe sex, needle exchange, programs and male circumcision. This disease is real and it kills so let's fight it.



THE ROLE OF PUPILS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS

By Kayenda Phebian Masumba
Mpidi Secondary School

HIV/AIDS is a killer disease that has claimed a lot of lives in our country of Zambia, Africa and the world at large. The government of Zambia and well wishers are working hard to control and protect people from the spread of the killer disease called HIV/AIDS.

We as pupils, we have a big role to play in the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS. To begin with, abstinence. To abstain from sex, is the safest form in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Indeed, abstinence is the best way of preventing the spread of the disease.

Secondly, as pupils we can do some plays at school which teaches our fellow pupils and the community at large about the negative effects of the deadly disease. In that way we can demonstrate and teach about negative effects of the disease. In that way, our fellow pupils will be able to learn how to say no to sex before marriage and that it is for adults who are married. Through performing drama, we can encourage those that fail to abstain from sex to use condoms every time they have sex.

The use of condoms is one of the best ways of preventing the HIV virus from getting to the other person. By using condoms, one is also prevented from contracting sexually transmitted diseases like gonorrhoea, syphilis, herpes and warts. As pupils, we should also encourage our male counterparts to go for male circumcision for it is another way of reducing the rate at which HIV/AIDS is being transmitted.

Moreover, us the young people should advise one another to go for HIV counseling and testing often. It is also encouraged that pupils should form Anti-Aids clubs in our respective schools so that we can be inviting the health personnel to educate us on issues to do with HIV/AIDS.

Finally, it is our role as pupils to voice out through dramas, poems and other campaigns about the killer disease. HIV/AIDS is real! Take your stand against it!

Water Is Life



By Tommy Loloji
Mapachi Secondary School

Water is what makes people have life. In order for both animals and plants to survive, water is needed.

To begin with, water is a best friend of humans in a sense that it is used for washing, bathing and cooking. In normal circumstances, nobody would enjoy walking around with dirty clothes; we all need clean clothes, hence, the need for water. Bathing is another important aspect of life in that no normal person would enjoy staying with a smelly body all year round therefore, hygiene is very important. Besides that, without water no person would eat since cooking and preparation of food requires water and nobody can live without food. Water can also be used for drinking either before, during or after meals.

In addition, water is used for irrigation of plants. Lack of water would mean no plants and that would also mean starvation of people to death since most foods come from plants. All plants need to be watered if they are to grow well and produce.

Furthermore, water is used as a means of transport. Ships, boats and canoes can only move on water and without it this means that water transport would not exist at all. Some places that depend on water transport only might become unreachable.

Some industries too depend so much on water. For instance, in mines there are some machines that operate well only when water is available. Vehicles which ferry materials in and out of industries need water at some point.

It is without any doubt that water is also used to generate electricity. Without water electricity cannot be available especially in countries like Zambia whose major source of industrial energy is water. The other important aspect of water is that it makes the availability of fish possible. Fish is a very important source of protein and nutrients.

In conclusion, the list for the uses of water is endless. In a short, 'water is life' and no one can live without it.

Issues

We would like to inform you that 'Aunt Sue' will be responding to issues that affect you. Therefore, send your concerns to:

Email: zambeziwriters@yahoo.com

Facebook: Inbox - Zambezi Writers Corner

The Importance of Organizations such as ZICTA and CCPC

By Hildah Miyombo
Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

Consumer rights are being violated in our country today. The reason is that many people do not know organizations that look after their rights. Such organizations include CCPC and ZICTA.

Organizations such as Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) and Zambia Information Technology Agency (ZICTA) are important because they sensitize consumers to know their rights. CCPC is a cooperate body that was established in 1994 by an act of Parliament. It's main function is to safe guard and promote competition and protect the interests of the consumers. A consumer is defined as a person who buys or hires a good or service including a beneficiary of that good or service. CCPC is important because consumers are protected from hazards to their health and safety, promote and protect economic interests of consumers. Consumers have access to adequate information to enable them make informed choices according to an individual's wants and needs. It is important because consumers know their rights such as, the right to choose, to be heard, to address, consumer education and the right to a healthy environment.

ZICTA is an autonomous statutory body mandated under the Information and Communication Technologies ICT act number 15 of 2009 and the Postal Services act number 22 of 2009 to regulate the provision of information and communication technologies (ICT) and postal and courier services, facilitate access to ICT and protect the rights of consumers and service providers. ZICTA is important because it regulates the provision of electronic communication services and products; ZICTA also monitors the performance of the sector including levels of investment and availability, quality, costs and standards of electronic communication. Not only that, ZICTA also ensures quality, secure and affordable ICT products for all through effective regulation.

Therefore, CCPC and ZICTA are important because one is able to know his or her consumer rights.

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