

My say

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World Vision is an International Christian humanitarian organisation that is dedicated to working with children, families and communities worldwide. It enables them to reach their full potential by addressing causes of poverty and injustice in the society. Through its advocacy work, World Vision enables the voices of children and their communities to reach decision-makers who have power to change unjust policies and practices.

World Vision

This is what bothers me as a child...



Fridah Nanjala, 14 years : St. Mary's Mutenyo Primary School (Matete, Kakamega County)

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). This practice harms girls. It can cause them to over-bleed and contract diseases that affect their health. The government should punish people who still perform FGM and build more boarding schools to protect girls in highly affected communities.



Brally Mulongo, 12 years : St. Mary's Mutenyo Primary School (Matete, Kakamega County)

Drug abuse in schools. It affects children. Many have become addicted to heroin, cocaine and bhang. I urge my fellow pupils to stop this habit since drugs make them hallucinate all the time and engage in unbecoming behavior that interferes with their education.



Seth Lumumba, 14 years: St. Mary's Mutenyo Primary School (Matete, Kakamega County)

Sexual abuse. Cases of sexual abuse, especially rape, have become common. This results in unwanted pregnancies in girls and increased school dropouts. To prevent such cases, girls should never walk alone in darkness or pass near bushy areas. The government should arrest offenders and bring them to book.



Cynthia Juma, 12 years : Friends School Kivaywa Primary School (Matete, Kakamega County)

Poverty. It impacts negatively on the lives of children. Needy children should be supported so they can go to school, eat well and have good health.



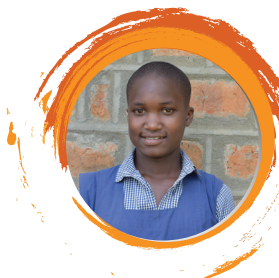
Rhoda Sitawa, 14 years : Friends School Kivaywa Primary School (Matete, Kakamega County)

Bullying. Many children have gone through bullying in the hands of their schoolmates who mistreat them by taking advantage of their weakness. As children, we should overcome fear so as to come out of bullying. Parents and teachers should be quick in helping those affected and punishing bullies.



Marshall Mburu, 14 years: Friends School Kivaywa Primary School (Matete, Kakamega County)

Early marriages. I urge the government, churches and parents to protect the girl child from early marriages. Girls should be sensitised on the importance of education and be encouraged to study hard so that Kenya can have more female leaders in future.



Bridgit Robert, 13 years: Nyaututu SDA Primary School (Nyamusi, Nyamira County)

Insecurity. Education is one of the children's rights. But where there is insecurity, it becomes difficult for children to go to school.



Alfred Guto, 13 years : Nyaututu SDA Primary School (Nyamusi, Nyamira County)

Parental neglect and absentee parents. Parents should not neglect their children. They should give them food, a place to sleep and support their education and be available for their children to guide them.



Damaris Mamboleo, 13 years : Nyaututu SDA Primary School (Nyamusi, Nyamira County)

Child labour. Children should be protected from child labour, trafficking and drug abuse so as to safeguard their future and enable them excel in their studies.

my school

My father shaped me into the person I am today



JANET MUTHONI OUKO
Nairobi County Education and Sports Executive

I was born in 1980 in Lower Subukia, Nakuru County and I went to Gatagati Primary School before joining Gitundaga Primary School where I completed my primary school.

My favourite subject in primary school was English language where I ended up scoring a plain A. I also loved the subject as I had a very good teacher who was always on my case and kept pushing me to do well in the subject, just like my brother whom he had taught before.

At Gitundaga Primary School, Mr Maingi, who was teaching us Geogra-

phy, History and Civics (GHC), was my favourite teacher.

I later joined Naivasha Girls Secondary School between 1995 and 1998. Here, History became my favourite subject while my favourite teacher was Mrs Stella Mulubi who was teaching us Christian Religious Education (CRE). In fact, I named my daughter after her because she was very good to me.

I can describe myself as a sharp student but also a very rough one as I had activism in me while in school. I was the teachers' favourite only because of my sharpness.

After scoring a B+ at Naivasha Girls, I joined Moi University School of Business for a degree in management.

I got myself into activism at Moi where I was unanimously elected as the student union's secretary general while in third year as the first ever lady-secretary general. Because of my activism, I was suspended for five years in my fourth year, resuming in 2007 to clear my university education. During the suspension, we began an NGO dealing with education advocacy with the other students I was suspended with.

When I graduated, I got a job with Elimu Yetu Coalition where I rose to become its chief executive, before joining politics.

While growing up, my dad — who was in Knut and a teachers' rights activist — wanted me to be a lawyer and he mentored me into politics. Because we talked a lot of politics.

My advice for young learners is that it is very important to concentrate on education as it is a game changer.

There is time for everything and while you are young, education should be your main focus.