



We See

What We See Changes Who We Are

WITNESS Project Youth Page is made possible by the Margaret Clemons Foundation and The Ministry of Education



The Suffering of a Helpless Child

By WITNESS Youth Staff

In my village there was a young girl whom everyone admired. She lived with her mother and little brother. She did well in school, was kind hearted and helpful, but endured lots of hardships. Her mom had a small business that opened early in the afternoon until late at night. She had to prepare things for the stall her mother had, and if it wasn't done right she would bear some harsh words from her mother the next morning when she awoke to prepare for school.

She came to school with a stressed look on her face and her hair was never well combed. She always seemed to be happy, but I know she wasn't. This made me feel sad because she worked hard to do well in school, and she had to do so much work at home. It is unfair for young children to take on such huge burdens when their days should be spent receiving a good education and just being happy and joyous.

Life as I Knew It

By WITNESS Youth Staff

Growing up, I was taught to always be kind to people and not want what another man has, by taking it, but by being inspired to attain it. I lived with my mom who is a single parent and she did everything with love. She helped my siblings and me through school and made us who we are today.

At present, I live with my father in another country so I'm thousands of miles away from my mother. Living without her is like being a fish out of water. My parents divorced when I was a baby, but in spite of this, they are still friends. So my older brother, my sister and I were able to maintain a good relationship with our father.

This country that I've recently moved to, the United States of America, is very different from my homeland Guyana, in some ways. For example, when I first landed I noticed the wide roads, tall buildings and how advanced the technology was. The weather was also different. In the spring, the sun was so bright yet the atmosphere felt cold.

I was told that the opportunity of coming to America is something I should be grateful for, and I'll admit that I am. While here I've been doing a lot of research on colleges to attend, and careers to contemplate. I find social work

very interesting. It is my choice of career because I really like helping people. So my aim is to attain a master's degree in social work to be a part of the Children's Village in New York, in Adoption and Foster care.

Another reason for choosing this career is that I feel I'll be able to relate to some of these children's situations because I know what I went through growing up. It is important to have patience with someone else while listening to him or her. Many of these children have witnessed domestic violence and my job will be to stop having their past repeated by giving them better families who can not only speak to them with love, but show them love as well.

We sometimes find it hard to describe what love is, but the Bible states, "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things."

Dreams

By WITNESS Youth Staff

I have dreams.

They fall down like whispering raindrops and then I try to catch them, and I hold them tight, because if I didn't have dreams, I'd be in a wooden box 6 feet below this wretched ground.

Dreams are little stories waiting to be written and they're like butterflies fluttering fast through the fields of buttercups and roses like clouds skirting across the blue emerald sky.

Dreams hover and glide
so make haste,
catch them closely,
For as you slowly close your eyes
the world will become perfect for a second.

The Person Who Inspires Me

By WITNESS Youth Staff

I am inspired by my friend Alicia. She is a very kind person who is always there for me when I need a helping hand. Alicia is very cool once you get to know her, and likes to dance. She is actually a very good dancer, and that is what I like most about her. She makes me want to become a dancer as well, and her ability to be calm in hectic situations is very admirable.

I just want to be a friendly and cool person who shows love to others, and a dancer who doesn't dance to inappropriate music. The music nowadays fills young people's heads with war and crimes, and can be disrespectful to females. My friend inspires me to be a godly person!



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"what we see changes who we are" - JR

Are you a witness or victim of violence? You are not alone. Make your anonymous call to Help & Shelter today and speak with a live counselor on 227-3454 or 225-4731.