



We See

What We See Changes Who We Are

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Who Inspires Me

By WITNESS Youth Staff

The person who inspires me is Miss Rosheni. She is not only the coordinator, but one of the editors for the Witness Project. Miss Rosheni is very hard working, helpful and a great “multi-tasker” because she helps me with my reading and grammar, while simultaneously helping others as well. She’s always considerate and friendly, especially when she takes me to the bus park so I can go home. She’s always polite when dealing with people and is there whenever you need a helping hand.

When I grow up I want to be an artist. This field requires a lot of patience and hard work because it’s usually hard for an upcoming artist. By looking up at Miss Rosheni I get the encouragement to follow my dreams and to work towards it no matter how hard it gets. She helps me to be more patient, friendly and a better person all around.



Rosheni Takechandra

Girl Whipped for Bad Grades

By WITNESS Youth Staff

The rain was pouring very hard on a Wednesday morning at about 9:35 a.m. I was at the shop early to buy some eggs for my parents. While returning home I heard a loud scream and then it was repeated about three to four times. It sounded like someone being beaten. I went to see what it was, and saw a crowd of people gathered at the corner of the road in front of a two story wooden house on the left, painted in white. When I got there I saw a man cursing and hitting a girl with a wild cane continuously, because she didn’t get good grades in her exams. As he cursed her he asked her questions like, “Why did you do so badly in the exams?” The poor girl was screaming very loudly and crying a lot. When I saw the girl I assumed that she was the man’s daughter, but that doesn’t mean he could treat her like an animal. Seeing this made me feel scared and I was shocked when no one from the crowd tried to prevent the man from hitting the girl. I wanted to help her, but at the same time I felt helpless. From what I saw I understood what this poor girl was going through. Eventually, the man went inside his house and everyone left to go their

way. The girl was left crying on the ground. A neighbor then picked the girl up from the ground and carried her to their home. This incident affects me because I wouldn’t like for my parents to whip me in front of a crowd of people or anywhere for that matter, for not getting good grades in my exams or for any other reason. Whipping is a form of abuse. There are other humane ways of disciplining a child. A child is not meant to be abused. Children should be loved and cared for. When adults abuse children they are doing them no good because they are bringing hopeless thoughts to them and making them scared. Sometimes the children also feel that no one cares about them. After what I saw I wondered if the man considered sitting with his daughter and asking her why she got such low grades in her exams. Most adults are guilty of whipping their child instead of talking things through with them. I would like to say to you that abusing children brings nothing to them but sorrow and pain. So adults if you are guilty of this, I would advise you to stop the violence against children.

Five Lashes

By WITNESS Youth Staff

I was in my class when a girl dropped a piece of paper. I told her to pick it up, but she didn’t; instead she slapped me. I did not hit her; however, the Head teacher called both of us to her office. The girl started to complain that I went in front of her face and the Head Teacher beat both of us with a ruler. We both got five lashes.

This made me very sad. I wish there was another way to deal with this instead of beating. No one likes to be beaten! It hurts a lot and it doesn’t explain how to become a better person. It’s just painful and scars you for life.

Bullying

By WITNESS Youth Staff

To bully means to engage in an aggressive way towards smaller or weaker persons. I have experienced bullying many times before, mostly in school. Things either happen willfully or accidentally. It was an accident when a friend of mine stabbed a bully in the hand with a piece of glass, but it was not an accident when the bully nearly choked him to death. The bully was a tall, strong, muscular boy who thought he could pick on any person he wanted to because of how big he was, and my friend was a short, skinny boy with glasses.

It all started in my classroom. There was a broken window in the corner and my friend decided to pick some pieces up, because of curiosity I’m guessing. He was holding a sharp piece in his hand when

my other friend unknowingly shoved him right into the bully standing in front of him. Immediately the bully turned around and shoved my friend right up against the wall. He choked him till he turned blue. My friend was fighting for breath while the rest of my classmates gathered around. I felt so helpless because I couldn’t stop him from hurting my friend. The bully was red with anger, breathing heavily.

My best friend quickly ran and alerted a teacher who finally ended the fight. She sent the boys to the headmistress’ office to be dealt with.

I was so scared. I thought my friend would die that day.

I wish bullying would stop. It hurts.

WITNESS Project Youth Reporters

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- Judith Cameron
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- Reanna Douglas
- Daisha Henry
- Verney Henry
- Shakera Hoosain
- Danita Jaundoo
- Kevon Jones
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- Teriq Mohammad
- Krissy Morgan
- Kimberly Morgan
- Kaesia Munroe
- Nakasi Noel
- Marcel Persaud
- Rajendra Ramesh
- Devi Sankar
- Anthony Vishnu

“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.