

News Letter Issue No. 2 March 2008

"Man balu me aryo i dwe me Adekl 2008"



Dear Children! Here is our second edition of Dwon Otino Magazine. You can read about;
"Bang otino, man en aye buk me aryo me "Dwon Otino". itwero kwano jami apol acalo;"

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN
"GERO IKOM OTINO"

CHILD LABOR
"MIYO OTINO TIYO TIC ATEK"

YOUR LETTERS
"WARAGA NI"

GAMES
"TUKU"

STORIES
"CEKO"

POEMS
"LEMO"

Edward (Not real name) breaks stones to pay his sisters school fees. See story on page 15

READ YOUR RIGHTS AT THE BOTTOM OF EVERY PAGE
"KWAN TWERO NI ITE POT PAPARA ACEL ACEL"

You have the right to protection from work that harms you, bad for your health and affects your education.
"Itye kede twero me nwongo gwok opore ikom tic atek ame wano kwo n, yot komi kede kwani acalo atin"



Letter From ACU

Dear Readers,
Greetings from
ART FOR CHILDREN
UGANDA

For this second
edition of Dwon
Otino Magazine, we

have focused on **Child Labor**. We consider Dwon Otino as an educational, recreational and informational tool written for and by the Children. In this this second issue, we have many positive responses from going and out of school Children in Lira about how Children get themselves in Child labour work. The contributions are in form of letters, poems, stories and drawings etc. We have Raising Voices with Violence Against Children. I would like to thank all those who contributed articles to this magazine.

I hope you will enjoy reading the magazine and that you will find it useful in your work and in promoting change in the lives of children engaged in child labor.

Adicho Bernard
Chief Executive Officer



What is child labour?

Child Labour Means work which children do when they are not enjoying, work that is forcefully given to them or working beyond normal time. This work affects the mental, physical and psychological growth and development of

a child. **Child Work** Refers to work that children do when they are interested in doing e.g. household chores like cooking, washing plates etc and should be done in consideration of the age and with close supervision of an adult

From Lira District Labour Officer

Mr. Okello Tom Richard

Turo twero atin, iyore ame miye tiyo tic atek,

NGO OBEDO TURO TWERO OTINO IYORE ME TIC ATEK?

tere ni miyo atino tiyo tic ame onuo /
akato gupi mere oko onyo pi cawa
alac ame

kato kodi cawa amyero en ti kede
ticoro nono. Kodi tic magi kelo
adwogi arac ikom dongo adam, kom
kede itam atin.

Tic otino:- tere ni tic ame otino timo
ka tye amito timo, aporere obedo tic
ame otiyo

pacu acalo; tede, lwoko cani kede en
ocele apol amyero omi atin alobere
kede mwaka mere kun ongo dano
adit tye acegi kede icawa me tiyo.

Man dwon Adwong

Okello Tom Richard.

Lira District Labor Officer



WORK OF JOURNALIST FROM THE FIELD

Dwon Otino journalist from Oloro High Primary School interviewed the Lira District Labour Officer Mr. Okello Tom Richard and some children about Child Labour.

Journalist: Sir, you as a Labor Officer, what is your office doing about children whose rights are being abused?

Richard: My office and IRC are working together in Lira District on child labour. Children are the future so we need to advocate against child labor. Child abuses should stop to make us build a better future. 70% of child abuses are caused by parents. Look at street children, how do they come to the streets? Everybody should work to support the nation against this bad act.

Journalist: Which policy does your office have against this act to children especially by parents?



Richard: We have what is called Child Labor Policy which the government published on the 12th June 2007. This policy stops parents from giving children much work. We are advocating by advising parents and local leaders not to teach children how to make money when young, stop child battery and giving children too much work.

Journalist: What difficulties does your office get in handling cases on child labor?

Richard: The biggest problem is poverty which is throughout Lira District, but especially in disadvantaged homes. You find that parents encourage children to get directly involved in economic activities in order to survive. The second difficulty is communication, the way to reach the local people to create awareness on Child Labour. Businessmen use children illegally because of cheap labour.

Journalist: What message does your office have for parents, children and the community like NGO's against child labour?

"Most of the child abuses are caused by parents. Parents, let's make every child our child".

Richard: For parents, let's invest in our children when we are still able. Let's make every child our child by prioritizing children's education. To children, respect and listen to what your elders tell you since "woro en ryeko" meaning knowledge is respect know your responsibility as a child and learn to resist negative peer pressure. However, the government should ensure the implementation and enforcement of child protection laws and policies. Employers should discourage child labor and promote adult work.

Teachers should also ensure that children withdrawn from child labor and enrolled in schools do not return to child labor. NGOs should focus on a shared vision that is removing children from child labor and how children can be developed especially in their homes. Take the interest of a child as a priority.



The journalists also interviewed some children at Akia quarrying site.

Journalist: Why are you doing this kind of work yet your friends are in school?

Atim Lucy: Young as I am, my father does not support my going to school. He says that going to school will take me long to get rich. Every morning he wants me to go to the garden first before going to school. In the evening he tells me to help him at the quarrying site breaking stones.

Journalist: I am seeing the sizes of stones you are carrying. Are they not too big for you? Are you not getting tired?

Atim Lucy: I always go back home late, tired with lot of pain all over my body.

You have the right to be protected from kidnapping

"Itye kede twero me nwongo gwok oromo ikom amako me didic"

STORIES AND POEMS

MY FUTURE WAS BLOCKED

I love my being in school.
What a bright future I will
I live if I completed my
studies!

I love my school, my
teachers and my friends at
school. We have been in
camps for four years and
I was forced out of school
selling bread along the
street. I thought my future
was blocked but I went
back to school. And now
War Child Holland and ACU
made me to be with lots of
interest in my education. I
have started realizing the
importance of education.

*By Akidi Gloria
P7 Agweng P/S*

ANYIMA ONWONGO OCEGRE OKO

Amaro bedo na icukul. Kit
kwo ango amwonya meicel
ame abedo kede ka atyeko
kwana?

Amaro cukula, opwonye na
kede owote na ame akwano
ked-gi. Wan obedo I kema pi
mwaka angwen, man te miya
weko kwan oko eka ate cako
cato ogati idog gudo. Atamo
ni anyima dong onwongo
ocegere oko, ento igum aber
ate dok ikwan. Adong ber
akato wok, aman War Child
Holl and kede ACU omia atye
kede miti adwong I kwan.
Acako dong ngeyo ber a
pwonyere.

*Oya ibot: Akidi Gloria
P7 Agweng P/S*

MOTHER A MOMENT PLEASE!

Mother, you send me every day
after class to sell muchomo and
groundnuts.

I walk everywhere looking for
scraps of metals

You made me work in the army
when I was a child.

Mother, do not make us carry
heavy loads.

You need my service, I have not
denied But a moment please!

I know I must help you,
But not too much work

Mother, you laugh when I bring
you money out of scraps, but I
go back yawning and hungry.
You sit and give orders, while I
toil and obey your commands
all day.

Child labour yesterday, today
and tomorrow Child Labour,
Child Labour, Child Labour

God have mercy on us and we
stop Child Labor

*By Alepo Joseph Ogwang (16)
P7 Fatima Aloï Dem Primary
School*

AYA, MIYA KONG KARE

Aya, iora nino lung iyonge
dwogo kwan me wot cato ringo
obulo kede amaido.

Arimo ping kanoro ducu pi
yenyo ngido ngido nyony.
Imia atio mony kun onwongo
pwod atidi

Aya, pe imia aye yec apek,
Imito ni ati piri, pe akwero ta
ento miya kong kare!

Angeo aber ni myero akonyi tic,
ento pe tic adwong akato onyo
anuo gupo na oko.

Aya, yii yom ka akeli cente oya
icato ngido ngido yony, ento
olungtuke mere tye ni an adok
ame atye aamo kun kec ocira.
Yin ibedo oko eka ite golo ka
oda, kun an atye acane me
winyo kop dogi nino ducu.

Turu twero otino iyore me
miyo gi tic atek aworo, tin,
kede diki
Turu tewro otino iyore me miyi
gi tic atek *3

Obanga mi kica maki ikom wa
ba, me wek ojuk turo twero
otino.

*Man lemo Alepo Joseph
ogwang (16)
me Fatima Aloï Dem P/S*



CEKO KEDE LEMO

WHY I LOVE MY LIFE

Hello children! What makes me happy?

My days are good, full of love from my parents
My parent gives me simple work to do like cooking, looking after our young baby, collecting, water and keeping our home clean.

My teachers advise me always about the dangers of early marriage, HIV/Aids and having good respect for everybody

So fellow children let's obey our parents and follow what our teachers tells us.
By doing all these, your life will be better.

Akello Janet (14) P7 Abolet Primary School.

TYEN KOP OMIA AMARO KWONA

Ojo wa Otino! Ngo ame mio yia yom?

Nino na ducu beco dok dang opong kede mar aya ibot onywala.

Onywala mia tic ayot me atia calo tede, gwoko otino-wa atino, omo pii kede gwoko pacu wa bed acil.

Opwonye na ikare ducu mia tam ikom rac anyomere con, two jonyo kede woro jo ducu.

Dong ba otino wadi wa, owiny wunu kop onywal wa; dang olub wunu ngo opwonge wa kobiwa Ka otimo man ducu, kwo wa bino be aber.

Oya ibot Akello Janet (14) P7 Abolet primary school.

GOD BLESS ALL TEACHERS

May God bless all teachers who are working day and night for the Nation.

Many times without appreciation

Oh God, bless all teachers for producing future leaders, doctors, pilots for the Nation.

Oh God, bless all teachers.

May the whole Nation learn to appreciate your effort.

All men, women and children, say thanks to the teachers.

Every Nation needs a teacher

Oh God bless all teachers.
What a challenge to be a teacher!
One mistake made by a teacher is greater than a million made by other people.

Oh God bless all Teachers.

*By Otim Abila Benson
Ogengo P/S*

OBANGA GWOK OPWONYE DUCU

Obanga, ony gum adwong ikom opwonye ducu ame tio idye ceng kede dye wor ducu pi lobo wa, Pol akare pe pwo gi.

Obanga, ony gum adwong ikom opwonye,

Pikelookootelame anyim, dakatale, odwo dege me lobo man.

Obanga, ony gum ikom opwonye, Wekloboducu opwony pwoyogupu ame iketo wunu.

coo, mon, kede tinoducukobwununi opwoyo bot opwonye Lobo ducu mito apwony.

Obanga, ony gum ikom opwonye, Tek kara ba me bedo apwony Bal acel ame apwony timo dit loo bale tutumia kede tutumia ame jo okene otimo

Obanga, ony gum ikom opwonye,

*Oya ibot Otim Abila Benson
Ogengo P/S*



Children need enough time to rest and play

WHY SHOULD CHILDREN SUFFER?

Oh! Why us children to suffer? Just because we have no where to go.

Every morning we have to do hard work and go to school. Going to school, you reach late and you are punished.

This is sometimes why we don't want to go to school.

Oh! Why us children to suffer? We are beaten badly, we are denied food.

This is why some children go to streets and get exploited. Parents why are you using us in a bad way?

Oh! Why us children to suffer? We are raped by sugar Daddies and Mummies

Our hands are burnt by our parents and guardians
Sometimes when we apologise, we are not forgiven.

Oh! Why us children to suffer? We are asking the Government, NGO's, Elders and other stakeholders to help us fight our rights.

*By Opota Jasper (14)
P7 Wigweng P/S*

You have the right to chose your own religion and belief

"Itye kede twero me yero dini ni kede niyee ni"

"RAISING VOICES CORNER"

Raising voices works to prevent violence against children at home, in school and in the community in Uganda. We have talked to many children and adults in Uganda about violence against children. In this section of the magazine, we would like to share with you what they said to us.

Introducing Preventing Violence Against Children Forum

Get to Know about Violence

Hello children, welcome to the first part of the Preventing Violence Against Children Forum. In this forum we will be looking at the four types of violence, including physical violence, economic violence, sexual violence and emotional violence. But to start with, let us try to understand what we mean by violence against children...

What is violence against children?
Violence is the bad way in which people treat children such as.....



Has something like this ever happened to you? We would like to hear about your experiences. You can write to us using the address provided at the right hand corner at the bottom of the next page.

Meet Children Like you

First, we would like to introduce you to four children just like you. They will be sharing

their experiences about violence against them. The names of these children are not real, but the stories they share with us happened to children in real life...

As you read the stories about these four children, we would like you to think about yourself. Has something similar ever happened to you, has it happened to someone you know, and what do you think could be done to stop it from happening? We will be happy to hear from you when you write to us using the address provided at the right-hand corner at the bottom of the next page. Look at Sabina's story in the next issue!

Does it happen to children like us?



Story on Violence

For many children, beating is a day-to-day experience; it happens at home, it happens at school and in the communities where they live, just like how Robert tells...

VOICES ON VIOLENCE

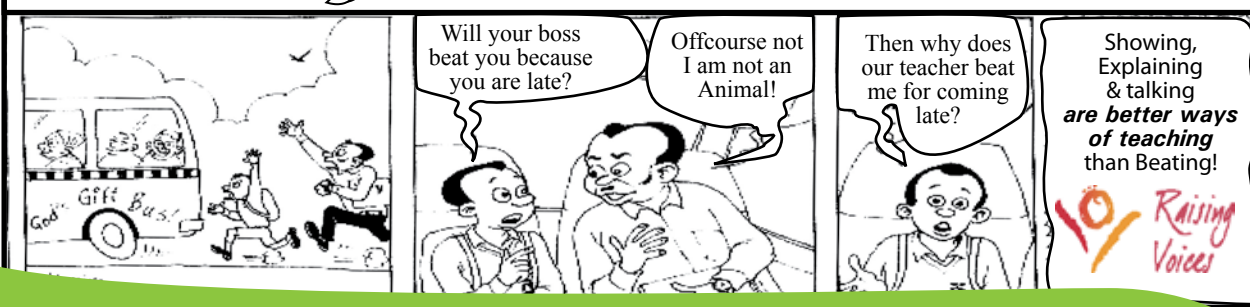
Physical Violence

Why did my mother do this to me?

Robert told his uncle, as he lightly touched the

What do you think?

...Peter and his Father are late



"RAISING VOICES CORNER"

scar on his hand.

Does she not like me?

Why does she hate me so much?

"What happened," his uncle asked.

"It happened last year," he said, still rubbing the scar. "I will teach you a lesson." she shouted, as she slapped me, he continued. she put a knife on the charcoal stove and said "I sent you to get tomatoes and you delayed as if I have got all day to wait for you?" she held my hand tightly and then I remembered what she had done to my sister. I screamed to attract attention but no one came to help me. She placed the red-hot knife on my arm.

"This is violence," his uncle said. "It shouldn't have happened to you"

"It happens against many children, not just me." Robert said. "I saw a boy being caned at school for wearing shoes that were torn yet he did not get money from his father to buy a new pair. I saw our neighbor beating his daughter because she was singing too loudly," Robert said sadly. "Big people beat children all the time."

"But not all adults are like that," his uncle said. "Some really do care about children."

Robert knew his uncle was right but that did not cool his anger. "Even as I look at this scar," he went on, "I don't think this burning taught me what I did wrong. It just made me scared of her and made me think that she doesn't like me. It made me feel that I want to grow up fast, so nobody can treat me like this again."

Maybe when you grow up, you won't treat your children like this, his uncle said.

Robert thought about that for a while and then thoughtfully responded. "Maybe"

in a study completed in 2006, more than 80% of the 1400 children consulted said they had experienced physical violence. More than one in six said that they had been burnt as a form of punishment.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

How do you feel about Robert? Are the same questions that Robert is asking running through your mind? Many children around the country are asking the same questions. These are children who shared with us when we visited different districts around the country asking children about their experiences of violence. The number of children experiencing violence is high, as summarised in the box below...

They were asking....

Did you know that many people including children are speaking out about Violence Against Children?

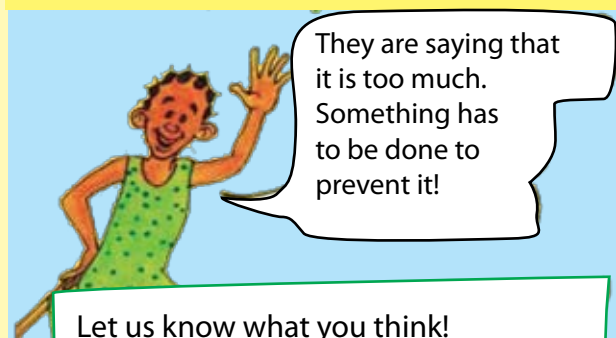
I have a question...

Are you expressing love when you hurt me?



Violence -free childhood is everyone's right!

In a 2006 study by Raising Voices and Save the Children in Uganda, 98.3% children reported having experienced physical violence, such as caning, slapping, pinching, locking up, or burning. Of those, 38.8% said it happened at home, 28.6% said it mainly happened at school, 31.8% said it happened at school as well as at home.



Let us know what you think!

Write to us at:

Raising voices
16 Tufnell Drive
Kamwokya, P. O. Box 6770
Kampala Uganda
Tel: 0414-531186
E-Mail: info@raisingvoices.org
www.raisingvoices.org



You have the right to special care and help if you cannot live with your parents.

"Itye kede twero me nwongo gwok oromo kede kony ka yin pe itwero bedo kede onywali"

Koya and Brown brings you snakes and ladders game on Child Labour

100	99	98	97	96	95	94	93	92	91
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
80	89	78	77	76	75	74	73	72	71
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
60	59	58	57	56	55	54	53	52	51
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

GREEN CARDS

98

If you are sexually exploited you have high risk of getting HIV/AIDS, pregnancy, missing out school and death.

89

Children who are forced by their parents to hawk on the street yet others are in the school are denied the chance to enjoy their right to education.

80

You are beaten by your parents, injured and you stay for 2 weeks without going to school.

40

Children who dodge afternoon lessons going to break stones for money do not perform well in class.

47

Weak and hungry children do not benefit much from their lessons at school because they go begging and get exploited on the street.

26

You are lured to work for money on your way to school and miss school.

BLUE CARDS

63

You were a child labourer like Solomon, and helped by an organization to study and now your life is good.

53

You contribute articles in Dwon Otino magazine about the dangers of child labor and you also share it with your friends in school.

50

You help your mum with house core work like washing plate, collecting water etc. These are your responsibilities.

22

You studied hard and got a well paid job and pay fees for your younger brothers & sisters to school.

17

You report any violence against children to the nearest LC.1 office or police station.

8

You participate in community and national day celebrations such as World Day Against Child Labor, World AIDS Day and Day of African Child and got inform about your rights.



HOW TO PLAY THE GAME: PLAYERS CAN RANGE FROM 2 TO 6.

COLLECT SIX SAME COLOUR BOTTLE TOPS TO BE USED AS DICES AND WRITE 1 TO 6 ON EACH. GET A CONTAINER E.G. USELESS CUP TO PUT YOUR DICES AND EACH

PLAYER HAS TO SELECT HIS OR HER OWN COLOUR TO BE USED AS CONES. SHAKE THE DICES IN THE CONTAINER, THE PERSON WHO PICKS THE

SMALLEST FIGURE IS THE FIRST PLAYER FOLLOWED BY THE SECOND ETC. SHAKE AND PICK THE DICE TO MOVE YOUR CONE.

MOVE THE CONE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER YOU HAVE GOT ON THE DIE E.G. IF YOUR CONE WAS IN 2 AND THE DYE YOU PICK IS

NUMBERED 4, YOU HAVE TO MOVE 4 STEPS AHEAD TO 6. IF YOU GET E.G. 6, YOU HAVE TO MOVE SIX STEPS AND PLAY AGAIN. IF YOU GET TO A START OF A LADDER LIKE 8, READ THE MESSAGE ON THE BLUE CARD OPPOSITE

BEFORE YOU CLIMB TO 27. IF YOU FALL WERE THE HEAD OF A SNAKE IS SAY 98, READ THE MESSAGE ON THE GREEN

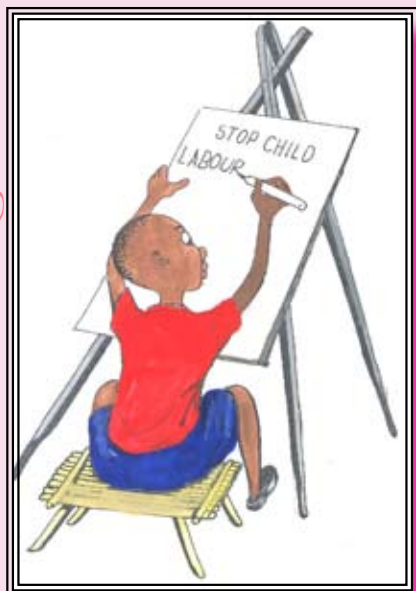
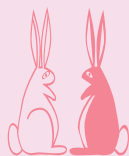
CARD OPPOSITE BEFORE THE SNAKE BITES YOU AND BRINGS YOU DOWN TO ITS TAIL THAT IS 9. THE PERSON WHO REACHES 100 FIRST BECOMES THE WINNER. SAY NO TO CHILD LABOUR AND GO BACK TO SCHOOL.

Young Artist Corner



Gwic Ogoc Otino

For those who sent in pictures, thanks for your nice pictures. We could not publish them all but in the next edition some more of the pictures will appear



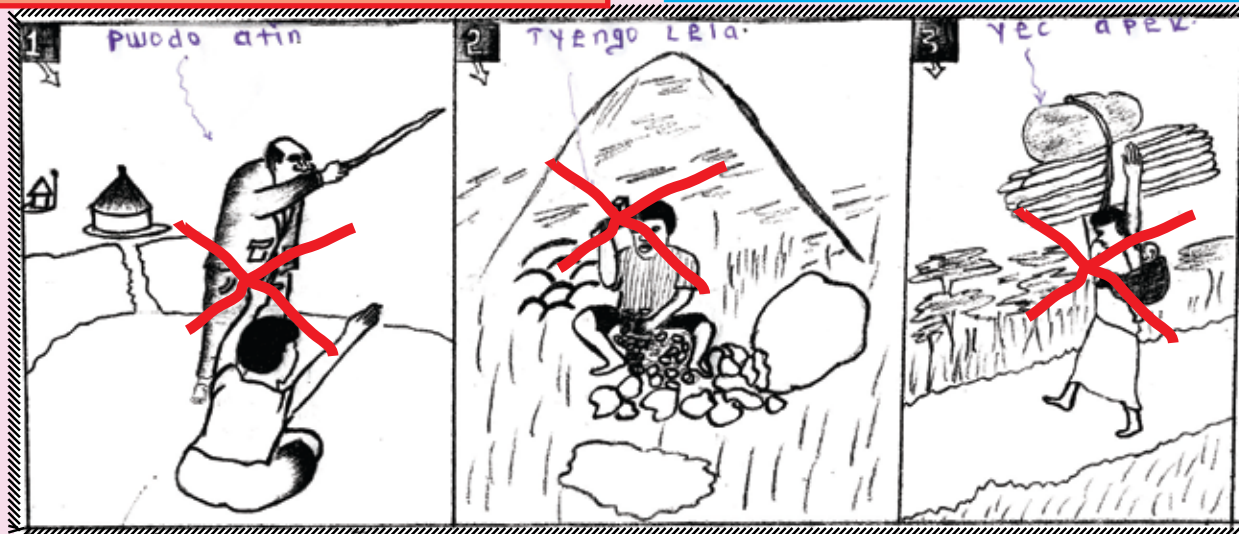
Okello Francis (15) P7 Alela Modern P/S



Ayo Jimmy (14) P7 Wigweng P/S



Akullu Dorcus (15) P7



Ogwel Solomon (14) P7 Alebtong P/S

No one is allowed to punish you in a cruel or harmful way.

"Cik pe yeyi ngatoro me wuni iyore moro alit ame twero kelo awano ikomi"



Your Letters

REQUEST TO GIRLS

I am requesting girls who have gone to be house girls, to stop being house girls at people's homes. Come back to school because by being a house girl you gain nothing but with education you will gain a lot. Parents, take girls back to school!

By Acen Eunice P7 Agweng P/S

KWAC BOT ANYIRA

Atye akwayo otino anyira ame tye ipidi, me weko pidi tung ajoo.

Dwog cen icukul, pien bedo apidi pe akonyi, ento kwan akonyi iyore apol.

Onywal, ter wunu anyira icukul.

Oya ibot Acen Eunice P7 Agweng P/S

CAUTION TO PARENTS

Dear parents and everybody who stays near quarrying sites, brick sites, sand digging sites please keep school age children out of such places. All young children have the rights to better education so that they can earn better living.

I hope parents will support us for a positive livelihood.

By Okello Calvin (14), P6 Ocaba P/S

AKWENYAKIN BOT ONYWAL

Bang onywal kede jo ducu ame bedo inget kan ame otengo lela iye, owango matafali onyo okunyo kwoyo iye, me juko otino ame mwaka gi romo wot icukul ibedo ikodi ka bedo magi.

Otino atino ducu tye kede twero me nwongo pwonyere kede bedo kede kwo aber.

Atamo ni onywal bino konyo wa pi dongo ikwo atye atira.

Oya ibot Okello Calvin (14), P6 Ocaba P/S

MY REQUEST

Dear editors of Dwon Otino Magazine, I came across your magazine and I enjoyed reading it. But I feel like contributing articles to the magazine and getting some copies of the next edition for me and my friends.

By Apio Everline (13) P7 V.H Public School LMC

KWACA

Bang acoc me "Dwon Otino Magazine", acop ikom papara akwana man, anwongo kwano mit. Amito myio tama dang iyi papara akwana man, dok dang akwayo ni ka me aryo mere okato mi an dang kede owote na

Oya ibot Apio Everline (13) P7 V.H Public School LMC

Hello Everline, Thanks for reading the magazine. Please use the address at the back page to send your articles. For the copies of the second edition, we will give you and your friends. In future we want to distribute this magazine in the entire Lango sub Region.

From ACU

Bang Everline, apwoyo pi kwano 'Dwon Otino'. Ti kede canduck namba ame tye nge buk man me cwalo tami onyo balu ame yin ico. pi papara me akwana me adek, obino miyi yin kede owete ni. Dok dang iyi anyim, obino poko papara man iyi Lango ducu.

Oya ibot ACU

REPORT ALL ABUSES

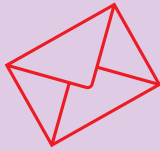
Please children report all child abuse either on you or to your friend to the nearest LC 1 office or Police station.

By Okullo Daniel (14) P7 Alebtong P/S

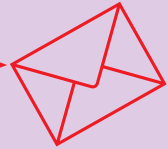
MII RIPOT IKOM TIM ARAC

Otino! nen ni idoto kit nywaro twero otino onyo tim aracoro keken ame otimere ikomi, onyo ikom awoti bot LC 1 onyo Police acegi kedi.

Oya ibot Okullo Daniel (14) P7 Alebtong P/S

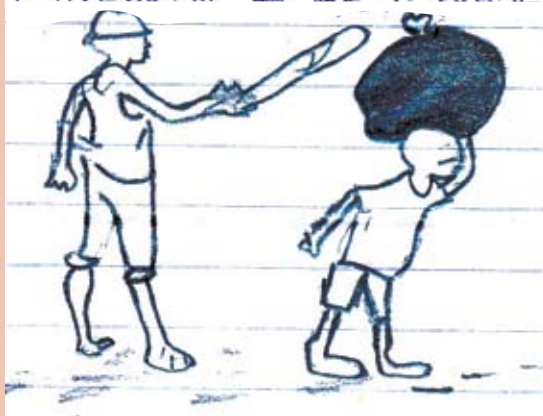


Waraga ni



Dear children as you write your Stories, Poems, Letters, Drawing etc, don't forget to put your Name, Age, Class and School In the next coming Magazine, we would be giving T-Shirts and scholastic materials if your article is published

SENDING CHILDREN TO THE MARKET



Dear parents stop sending your children to the market to sell your properties and beating them. Give them chance to study higher especially girls. Education has rewards like; having friendship, better jobs, good life in future. Children lets know our responsibility when in school.

By Okeng Jasper (12) P5 Abolet P/S

CWALO OTINO I CUK

Bang onywal, wek wunu oro otino wu I cuk me wot cati wu jami medo dang kede pwodo gi.
Mi gi kare me kwan naka irwom amalo, polere wok otino anyira. Pwonyere tye ked adwogi abeco aporere; bedo kede owote, tic abeco, kwo aber ikare me anyim.
Otino, nge wunu ngo amiyero itim wunu ka itye wunu I cukul.

Oya ibot Okeng jaspsher (12) P.5 Abolet P/S

CONGRATULATION

Dear editors of Dwon Otino and young journalists, I would like to thank you for coming with the first edition. May you always make Koya and Brown to continue reminding us on our rights at the bottom of every page. Please keep our Magazine interesting with more stories, poems, new games, puzzles and more prizes to be won.

By Ajee Eunice Journalist (15) P7 Ocabu P/S

PWOC

Bang Ococ me Dwon Otino kede oco amut atino, Amito pwoyo wu me donyo kede balu me acel. Poyo wuno kare ikare me miyo Koya kede Brown poyo wi wa ikom twero wa iyi agiki me papara ducu. Akwayo wu me mede miyo buk wa ni bedo amit, kede icina, lemo, tuko anyen. apeny apol kede jami apol me alanya.

Oya ibot Ajee Eunice, a co amut (15) P7 Ocabu P/S



Hello Eunice, we will always remind you about your rights. But make sure that you also know your responsibilities as a child. In the third edition we will bring you your responsibilities.

Bang Eunice, Pi kare ducu, obino poyo wi ikom twero ni. Yin acalo atin dag itye kede tic amyero iti. Iyi buk wa me adek, obino keli wu tic ame yin acalo otino myero iti.

You have the right to protection from any kind of exploitation (others taking advantage of)

"Itye kede twero me nwongo gwok oromo ikom kit kodi tic boyi boyi moro keken"

A case study on ACOLA CHRISTINE by IRC. She describes her life experience which nearly spoiled her future

I am called Achola Christine, I am 16 years old. I come from Aminowio Village, Anyanga Parish, Aloii Sub-county, Lira District – Uganda. I come from a family of six children and I am the second born. We are three girls and I have 3 brothers. My father was a hunter, he used to bring edible rats and we had meat all the time. He would spend most of his time away hunting so I was not close to him. We had plenty of food in the house since my mother would cultivate food as well. In 1996 my father died when I was 6 years leaving my mother with the entire responsibility to bring us up. My mother encouraged us to continue to go to school. I loved going to school and mother would do everything to make me study. However, all these were turned upside down when rebels struck our village in 2002 and we had to flee into an IDP camp.

Life in the IDP camp was unbearable. There were many people crowded in a small place, without shelter food and drinking water. With six of us to feed and care for, my mother found it difficult to cope. We all had to work for food. I had to leave school and help my mother feed the family. I started selling pan cakes and roasted groundnuts at the nearby market in the camp. With time, many women and young girls joined the pancake business and it became too competitive and less rewarding. So I concentrated on groundnuts only, I had to hawk it every where in the camp to raise money for the family.

It was difficult to cope, I sometimes sold groundnuts in bars or in public places, it was survival for the fittest.

Pressure for survival forced many young girls to elope with men who would give them something to survive on. Some resorted to survival sex in some cases with the full blessing of their parents because the parents and family would be assured of food and other necessities like soap. Due to peer pressure, my elder sister was lured into survival sex. She was impregnated by one of the local militias but he denied responsibility and that meant my sister could not go to his house. She became a big burden to us but thank God she delivered successfully and now has a baby girl.

My hope of ever going back to school was rekindled in June 2006. I was approached by an opinion leader in the camp; he introduced himself as a member of Child Protection Committee working for a Project called KURET. He advised my mother against sending me to sell groundnuts in bars and public places. He told her about the dangers of that on my morals and health. My mother asked him what he would do if he were a widow having six children and a grandchild to take care of in an IDP camp. She explained that the situation forced her to send me to sell groundnuts to raise money for food for the family. He insisted that I could still go back to school and be in a better position to help her in future. He continued to explain that the IRC KURET project would take care of my Educational needs.

My mother agreed and soon I started attending a Vocational Skills Training course organized by KURET. I am now very happy and optimistic of a bright future. I can now mend clothes for my mother and other siblings; I get 4,000shs on average per day which I use to help my mother to look after my siblings.

CHILD LABOR IS BAD

*Child labor child labor
Who are you?*

*In America you are there
Back in Africa, you are there Tried small
towns you are there
Come to village you are worst*

*Child labor child labor
You have enslaved many children
In the army there are child soldiers
At home children are domestic servants
In towns you chain children to bars, hotels and
markets*

*Child labor child labor
Your pride is ignorance, disease and negligence.
Your happiness is children's plight*

*Oh, ILO, NGOs come and fight child labor
Parents, teachers come and fight child labor
Political leaders come and fight child labor
Together let's kick child labor out forever*

**By Ejang Irene
P. 6, Akia P/S,
IRC Lira beneficiary**

PAINTING COMPETITION

With the use of water colours, crayon, or coloured pencils, colour the drawing above and drop it in the letter box which is in your school. The best four paintings will win two T-Shirts for you and your friend plus scholastic materials.



Name-----Age-----Class-----
School-----Subcounty-----

You have the right to get information that is important to your well being, from radio, books etc
‘Itye kede twero me nwongo ngec ducu apire tek pi kwo ni kun yaa I radio,buke kede en okene apol’

WORD PUZZLE

B	O	M	D	S	T	J	O	D	P	S	W	X	V	H	A
F	O	R	C	E	D	M	A	R	I	A	G	E	S	E	F
Y	I	E	F	W	L	O	U	C	M	L	B	F	T	A	E
F	R	C	H	I	L	D	L	A	B	O	U	R	A	V	R
E	S	C	N	Y	T	M	Y	N	B	M	R	L	P	Y	W
W	R	O	V	P	T	B	E	N	X	W	N	G	T	L	K
D	Q	A	H	C	F	L	I	I	C	E	I	E	R	O	U
T	E	E	K	H	H	K	O	N	P	T	N	I	C	R	R
H	S	L	A	P	P	I	N	G	I	R	G	O	L	D	E
T	O	W	B	Y	I	S	L	O	K	H	B	C	N	M	T
R	S	E	U	P	R	E	A	D	R	A	W	I	N	G	S
Y	A	F	S	E	K	Z	R	Q	W	T	U	W	E	B	C
K	S	S	E	N	Y	D	W	R	J	O	M	Y	R	M	L
P	Y	P	R	G	T	W	P	O	V	E	R	T	Y	Z	X
A	V	N	L	K	E	R	U	W	G	V	N	K	W	I	O
F	O	R	C	E	D	L	A	B	O	U	R	A	Q	Y	P

Find the following words and circle them. Heavy load, Forced Marriage, peers, slapping, drawings, poverty, forced labour, burning, child work, caning, child labor, kuret, abuse



WINNERS OF PAINTING COMPETITION



OMARA GEOFFREY (16)
P.7 AND HIS FRIENND



ACHENG BRENDA
(12), P.5 AWALI P/S



ALUM MONICA (14)
P.6 AND HER FRIEND



OPOTA JASPER (15)
P.7 AND HIS FRIEND, WIGWENG P/S



EDWARD (Not Real Name) BREAKS STONE FOR A LIVING

Obur Edward is 8 years old but has already joined people in the labour market. He wakes up very early in the morning and starts breaking stones at Akia quarrying site while other children wake up and prepare to go to school. He sits in the sun everyday with heaps of stones around him to be able to earn a living. The money he gets from stones breaking is to pay fees for his elder sister and sometimes buying food for the family.

Edward wants to spend his time in classroom as his friends but he says his parents are very poor so they can not afford school fees and scholastic materials for him, his two brothers and a sister. This is why Edward had to look for ways to get money to buy food for the family, ending him in stone breaking. But the difference is that he is a **child labourer**.

By Olipa Jasper a journalist of Ocabu primary school



Children thanks for coming with good articles for our magazine.

We still expect more from you for our third edition.

We are going to talk about our roles and responsibilities in keeping our environment clean.

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“Let our Work do the Talking”

You have the right to help if you've been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

“ltye kede twero me nwongo kony ka nyo l wane ,joo ojali oko,onyo otye awuni”



For an organisation to grow, it needs young, skilled and energetic staff. LICHYGAO staff posed for a group photo. From left to right: Moses, Harriet, Patrick, Harriet, Carol, Bernard and Penina

OUR VISION:

To bring the divided group of children and youth together for behavioral change through creative means in Art, Sports, Music, Dance and drama and promote Child Rights among the Communities.

OUR MISSION:

To develop and promote children's creativity and capability through active children participation in presenting local situations.

CONTACT

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References:

- Poster of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Child Friendly Language
- Cartoon illustration by Mr. Ayen Peter of Benmos Artist & Designers-Lira
- Child Labor Policy Hand Book
- Raising Voices
- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Basic Training on Child Labour. (A guide for trainers by KURET PROJECT 2006)



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