
Filename: **Alice031128**
Diarist: Alice

28-11-03

I was coming from the market at around 9:40 am. On my way, I felt thirsty and I went to the borehole which is very close to the road path. I went there to ask for the water to drink. I found two women there drawing water. While I was there, a certain woman was passing by the borehole since it is near the road. The women who were drawing water were both looking healthy and one of them put on [wore] the white blouse and her friend put on the black plastic shoes. The certain woman passed by the borehole and she was walking very slowly. She was also weak and thin.

All the three of us looked at the woman and we all felt sorry. The woman who was in the white blouse left pumping the borehole and started talking about the woman who passed by the borehole that she was very thin and weak. The woman complained that the world will remain with nobody. She continued by saying that the problem is that any disease which a person suffers is now called AIDS yet in the past people were also suffering from the same disease. Her friend who put on the plastic shoes said that she was saying the truth but people are saying that any disease is AIDS because many people have now found the advantage of bewitching their friends. There is the AIDS disease which some people buy from the traditional herbalist and bewitching their friends. Since AIDS is everywhere, they know that nobody will know that it is the disease from someone and not because of sex. I then put my comments that the woman was very thin and weak and people can suspect her that she was infected with AIDS yet the opposite was true. Maybe she had tuberculosis or she had diarrhea and many more diseases. There are some diseases which cause a person to become thin but still people think that it is AIDS.

The woman in the black shoes answered again that the AIDS disease is a very difficult disease to recognize. Nobody can know that someone has AIDS by our naked eyes unless the person goes to the hospital for a blood test. If he/she is told that he/she is infected with it, it's when we can now know the truth about that person. But people can suspect the woman who passed by because she was showing all the symptoms of the AIDS disease. She added that she was not meaning that the woman was a prostitute, she can get it from other ways, but she was suffering from AIDS.

Her friend refused. She said that she knew the woman and she was married. She was not the prostitute therefore there is no way to get infected with AIDS. I asked her if the married people cannot get infected with AIDS. But she told me that unless the man is a drunken man who is always found with the prostitutes in the bars are those who can get AIDS, but the men who stay at home with their wives cannot get AIDS because their brains reason always.

But the woman in the white blouse said that AIDS does not choose only people who drink beer. Even the one who is always sober can get infected with AIDS. Sex is nothing to do with beer only that beer makes the person dull. He cannot lessen his reasoning and do anything if he is over-drunk, but he can also do the same thing while he is sober. What a person needs is what he does. Those men who always found at home are the ones who found with AIDS because they do have extra-marital sexual partners secretly. They can go somewhere very far and have another partner there so that you cannot know anything since you really trust him. If you have no AIDS, just praise to your God that he really loves you because this disease is killing the innocent people who just stay at their homes and are faithful.

I thanked them for helping me with drinking water then I said bye to both of them.

28-11-03

On the same day in the afternoon, I heard people quarrelling at my neighbor's house but I did not care about that. I was still continuing doing my job at my house but after some minutes, I heard that they were fighting and my neighbor asked her young son to come to my house to borrow the bicycle so that he should go to V___ to call his brother-in-law and she also asked me to go to her house. My neighbor is called Miss Abigail Zunga and has two daughters. The elder daughter is called Balayina and the young one is called Dyamiale. She has also her elder son called Chawake. Both her daughters are married, but the elder daughter Balayina was born the prostitute and jealousy. Sometimes people think that she is a witch and she does her work with her fellow witches tonight.

Balayina had been asking her brother-in-law who married her young sister Dyamiale to sleep with her. There was a certain time when Dyamiale was pregnant and she went to the hospital to stay while waiting for the day to give birth and Balayina was left at home with her brother-in-law, brother Chawake, and other young children. It was this time when she was asking her brother-in-law to sleep with her since her young sister was away but her in-law refused. After some days she shouted at her in-law and told him to go back to his home where his mother came from. She told him that he must leave the place because it was not his home, but his in-law told her that he came because of her young sister Dyamiale and not her therefore he can go back to his home unless Dyamiale says to him that she has divorced him. Most of the times, Balayina was talking bad words to her brother-in-law because he refused to have sex with her.

Now the day before the 28th November, she stole her mother's maize and kept it in her house. Unfortunately, her mother went into her house to drink water and she saw the maize and took them. When came back from the well, she was asked by her mother and she refused. She told her mother that her husband bought it for her but the maize that she stole was about 3 kg.

Her mother asked one of her sons to follow his brother-in-law at V___ where he goes for the piece work. But the young man did not take much time then he came back home.

They did not quarrel on that day until they both went to sleep in their house and Balayina slept with hunger since she had nothing to eat and her husband did not go to her home on that day.

Now on the 28th November, Balayina was very hungry and she had nothing to do at her house then she decided of going to her young sister's house in her bedroom and her husband hanged it [the maize bag?] at the roof. She went into her young sister's house and took the half bag of maize that her brother-in-law kept. Her in-law became angry and told her to go out from the house and beaten her. Balayina became furious so that she wanted to fight with her brother-in-law but I was the one asking her not to fight. She began talking the evil words to her in-law and told him that she wanted to burn his house because it is not her [his? A matrilocal area] own area to dig. They started shouting at each other until the police unit came to collect all of them to the area chairman's house. When we reached there, Balayina was the one who was wrong because she stole her mother's maize. She cheated that her husband bought that maize for her but her husband refused and he said that it was his lucky to hear and know the person who bought that maize for her.

Balayina now knew that things were not good for her, she told the area chairman that she knows herself about the way which she found that maize and not her husband. She was asked to reveal to the people, but she refused. Her brother-in-law told the area chairman that his sister-in-law been forcing him to have sex with her and she was saying that she cannot reveal it to anybody but her refused saying that if she has AIDS, she must go with it by herself but not cBettang other people to follow her. He also said that he loved Balayina's young sister and not Balayina therefore there is no need to sleep with her as well. The area chairman told Balayina to ask her brother-in-law to forgive her for her life of promiscuity and jealousy. He also told her to say sorry to her young sister because she wanted to divorce her marriage with her husband without any reason. He also told her to ask her mother to forgive her because she stole her maize but Balayina refused, she just stood up and started walking back to her home leaving her mother, brother-in-law, her young sister, the area chairman and other people talking about her.

29-11-03

Mr. Chabwera sent me the message that his son Galasiyano died in A___ on 28 November 2003 and the funeral was to be on 29 November 2003. Galasiyano was the son of Mr. Chabwera who he bore at N___ Village and the marriage ended a long time ago.

In the morning of 29 November 2003, I got ready escorting Mr. Chabwera to the funeral but himself went to A___ Hospital to carry the funeral back home. When I was going I passed through [by?] Mr. Chabwera's elder brother and I was with his elder brother's wife, her daughter, and the daughter's friend. I was the fourth person in the group and we were all going to the funeral.

On our way to the funeral, Mrs. Jaison, the in-law of Mr. Chabwera, started talking about Galasiyano who died. She was telling me that Galasiyano was the thief. He was stealing much money for buying food and other thing. He was also the womanizer as well. He started with stealing his father's properties, e.g. he stole the radio in his father's car, then he was stealing money and other small things like plates for sale. His father chased him away and he went back to his mother. She then added that Galasiyano was the young man of prayers. He was mostly going to the mosque for prayers and nobody would belief that he was the thief. But he changed his behavior for a short time and joined the group of thieves.

Mrs. Jaison's daughter answered that Galasiyano was a thief because of his young brother who was born from his young mother called Graciano. Graciano is the thief and he was arrested on the day his mother was buried in the grave. He did not see his mother's funeral when it was going to the graveyard. On our way, we reached at the certain house where we found the certain woman and her daughters called Madelena Lifa. She greeted us and asked us if we were going to the funeral and we told her that we were really going to the funeral. She then started talking about the background of that village where the funeral happened. Madelena said that the village where there was the funeral is a village which everyone is feeling sorry with. It was a village with many people but today it is the village of one old woman. The grandmother is the one who has [is] left there and few grandchildren. That grandmother had many children which she gave birth to but they have died while they are old. The problem is that it is the village of people who like sex. All the women there were prostitutes and all the men were the womanizers and they were thieves as well. Since January 2003, six people have died and there are two people who are also not feeling well.

At the same time, her mother [Mrs. Jaison] came and greeted us, then she also started putting the comments to what her daughter was talking. She said that there were many people there but they [were] all gone because of stealing and sex. All of the women there had their houses roofed by iron sheets because they were the women of money. There were Miss Layeje, Odeta, Eliyasi, Oliva, Madiresi, and today Galasiyano. All of those people died within a year since January.

Madelena continued saying that Mrs. Million was just called Mrs. because she had her husband but what she was doing opposite and parallel to the person who is married. Her husband is the business man and he was not found at his home during the day because he was always found at his business place at the market. Mrs. Million was sometimes going to N___ with other men by the car or by bus and comes back at the good time before her husband comes back from the market. Her husband was told by people but he failed to catch her red-handed because he firstly asked her about the issue and she refused. She then changed the system because she knew that she would get [caught] red-handed then she was sleeping with her extra-marital sexual partners in times when her husband was gone far.

God is great, Mrs. Million got infected with AIDS from the extra-marital sexual partner and contracted it to her husband. After some time, she started showing the symptoms like becoming thin, found ill always from the different diseases like headache, diarrhea, and coughing. After some days, she was taken to the hospital where she was told that she had contracted AIDS. She was ill for a long time and then died. Everyone knew that she had AIDS and her husband Mr. Million is now showing the symptoms of AIDS. His body is not healthy and he is also mostly found ill. People have already concluded that he will die of the disease that has killed his wife.

After her death came the death of Odeta who was staying in N___ with her husband as well. Madelena said that she heard that Odeta's marriage was at the competition [husband and wife competed in unfaithfulness?]. Herself was the prostitute and her husband as well was the womanizer moving with the women from Zambia which they call Ulaya. The woman as well was moving with the men from abroad. Nobody knows about the first people between the two who contracted the disease and brought it in the house. But the first person to die was her husband and

passed a year only then the woman followed him. Odeta came from N___ when she was very ill. When her husband was working in N___, his wife was doing some small business and she was well known in the market because of her business. When her husband died after the long illness of diarrhea, she did not come back to stay at her home. She was still staying there doing her business until she started ill. She had been found ill there and getting recovery without her parents. She was trusting her daughter who was looking after her mother. But the disease was becoming very ill and she decided to go back home and stay with her relatives. She stayed at home for a few days and she was taken to the hospital and got admitted. They had been going to the hospital to look for the treatment from the traditional medicine, but she was failing. She had been taken to the hospital for the most of the times and the guardian got tired of looking after her at the hospital. In her last time when she was at home, she saw that she was not feeling well but she was able to walk by herself though she had severe malaria and headache. She asked her mother to escort her to the hospital, but her mother refused. She told her that she had been staying in the hospital for a long time. She had no interest with life in the hospital, therefore she just told her that she will be looking for some traditional medicine from the village people. But Odeta refused and she just left her mother going to the hospital alone by the bus, but she just slept there for a day then died on the second day.

Madelena continued by saying that the other person was Eliyasi. That one was the womanizer and his wife was the faithful woman. The problem was that he was the one got infected with AIDS and Eliyasi was not the thief. He was working in town and he got infected with AIDS. The time he got it, his wife was at home and the man was alone here because Eliyasi was not depending on his wife only. He had many and different extramarital sexual partners who he was sleeping with. Mrs. Eliyasi had been catching him red-handed with his extramarital affairs, but she was just looking at him that he will marry some of his sexual partners, but he was very unfortunate that he started suffering before he got married to one of his partners. His wife was asked to go to town to look after her husband when he was ill since he had nobody to look after him. His wife went to look after him until he got recovered, but since she did not know that it was the first time for him to start showing the power of AIDS, she continued staying there as her husband and she also got infected with AIDS. Her husband started looking very ill and weak. He was vomiting and opening bowels until he became very ill and died. After him followed his child who by that time was being breastfed. The child got infected with AIDS because of the breasts from his mother. When the child died, the woman was not looking healthy until she was told that she can go home and get married from [to] another man. She went back to her home but she did not stay well for a long time. She also started suffering from vomiting as her husband then she started opening the bowels until she died there as well. When everyone heard about Mrs. Eliyasi's death, he/she felt very sorry because she was the faithful and quiet woman. She was not the woman who would have met by the man of that bad kind of life, but Satan worked much for her so that she should meet with that great problem.

Then her mother answered that the one who followed at the death of Eliyasi was Oliva. She was staying M___ and she was single. She was the one who was bringing some money to her mother since she was a prostitute and money was easy to her. But that one had been found ill with different diseases like the STDs in M___, but she was getting recovered. Nobody was going there to see her since she was not sending the message that she was ill but she was revealing about that when she comes home to see her mother. She was telling some people that she had been experiencing the differences of the sexually transmitted diseases like the bubos and gonorrhea. Her mother was advising her that she should take care because gonorrhea and bubos were the diseases which people were getting recovered [from] but there is AIDS, the disease which nobody can cure therefore she must know about that. Unfortunately, she did what her mother was advising to stop it [?] and started suffering there in M___. When she saw that she was now found ill mostly, she decided to collect all her properties back home and ask her parents to look after her. Oliva was just coughing, diarrhea, and headache. Her mother had been taking her to the hospital until she was told to look after her at home and not at the hospital because she was suffering from AIDS.

Very soon died Madiresi, the granddaughter to that to the grandmother there. This one also died of AIDS but she was at school though she was also moving with men. She had forgotten that her mother died of AIDS, but she thought that it was her own misfortune to meet with men who had the AIDS disease. She was also doing the same. Madiresi did not complete her education because sex killed her yet she knew that it comes with the AIDS disease which is killing many people in the world. Her grandmother as well was the one looking after her at the hospital since there was nobody to care for her because all the women who were there died. Her grandmother thought that she will remain alive with her granddaughters, but they are also doing the bad things.

Now Galasiyano is the one who has died. Though he was the thief, but he was not depending on his wife only. He was a good man to the women because he was giving them much money and goods, but he was the thief as well. It seems that he was infected with AIDS, but it was not yet started showing its power. At the prison, he started ill and it was then becoming worse and that was the time which he was taken to the hospital. His father asked the doctor to test his blood and tell them the results. The doctor found that he was infected with AIDS therefore he was taken back to prison where he was staying while ill. He had been ill for a long time then he was taken back to the hospital again where he died and his father went to take the funeral back home where he was buried.

Madelena also said that Graciano as well is not feeling well. He looks like a child because of his body which has changed. He was coughing at the prison and he was taken to the hospital where he was found with tuberculosis. He stayed in the hospital until he received the TB treatment and got recovered then he went to the prison. While there, he started opening his bowels until he was sent to the hospital again and after a few days, he started showing that his body is not looking healthy. He is swelling all over his body and he is looking like a person who has not enough blood. Though he has gone to the prison again, but he is not very well. He can become serious any day and die.

That grandmother there will have nobody to stay with because she has lost people who would have helped her in many ways, but because of their behaviors, they have lost their lives. She has now remained with her brother who is staying C___ but that one as well is not feeling well. In these days, he is mostly found ill therefore she will only stay with the young children without their parents.

29-11-03

When I was coming back from the funeral, I was with two other women and not the ones I was with when going to the funeral. I was with Mrs. Nkamaliza and Mrs. Simya.

Mrs. Simya was divorced by her husband because he was getting shy [ashamed] on what he did with his brother-in-law's wife. Mrs. Ex-Simya's brother married a woman from L___ and left her at his home to stay with his parents. And Mr. Simya [was] caught red-handed with Mrs. Nkamaliza and his marriage ended because he was getting shy. But Mr. Nkamaliza did not leave his wife. He was still staying with her as a marriage. After some time, he took her to M___ where he was staying, but she was caught red-handed again with other sexual partners then he divorced her. Unfortunately, he did not know that he was already infected with AIDS from her extramarital sexual partners and Nkamaliza got it. When his ex-woman went home, she started getting thin and ill. During that time, Mr. Nkamaliza got married to another woman in M___ and she stayed with him for only a year and saw that Mr. Nkamaliza's body was weak and was ill in most of the times then she divorced him.

After some months, they just heard that Mr. Nkamaliza's first wife died of AIDS at her home in L___ and Mr. Nkamaliza went to South Africa. When he came back, he was looking better so that he remarried another woman at home who did not know that he is infected. Since that time, the wife was there, she started to complain that her sisters-in-law were not good people because they knew that their brother was infected with AIDS but they allowed him to marry and moreover, they already knew the woman. Why not tell her not to allow their brother to [get] married. She complained that she has some children who she gave birth with another man and those children will suffer a lot because they will be orphans and nobody will look after them because their father as well died a long time ago.

I just said sorry to the woman and told her that she should not think much about the death because her sister-in-law was just suspecting that maybe her brother got infected with AIDS since her sister-in-law was a prostitute. Unless if Mr. Nkamaliza went to the hospital for the blood test and found that he is HIV positive, but if there is not that evidence then it is not good just to suspect a person on what he has not done.

30-11-03

We have the certain young man in our village who refuses to get married, but he has several sexual partners. He has a good house and his business is to carry people to their homes as a transporter. People hire his bicycle going elsewhere they need and he always has much money because of his business. He had been doing that for a long

time. Bereki had been having several sexual partners in his life, but he was refusing to get married. He was saying that he would like to get prepared for his marriage because he heard from some people saying that the marriage is very difficult so that he must know where to start.

On the 30-11-03 at around 7:30 a.m., I saw his best friend and other two young men talking on the road about him that he slept with a certain woman who was infected with syphilis at N___ Turn-off. He went there to buy his clothes and other things he needed to use in his house. He saw the certain young woman and asked her to sleep with him. They did sex and came back home, but he just stayed for two days only and started to feel pain on his body, especially his private part. After few days he knew that it was the sexually transmitted disease therefore he left going to the market for his business. One of his friends call Njega was the one telling Jack and Ganizani about the problem that his friend had. He also told them that he was the one escorting him to the hospital because he was not able to ride the bicycle by himself.

Ganizani asked him why his friend is not getting married and depending on that wife alone? But Njega answered him that he always says that he would like to get prepared for his marriage. He doesn't want to be very poor in his marriage. He dislikes a woman who begs for salt from her friends yet his married. He would like to have everything ready so that his wife should feel well and enjoy the world.

They all started laughing and Jack said that Bereki was cheating. He must have a big problem in him. Maybe he is a greedy man or he does not know sex. He can know how to do sex, but releasing nonsense therefore he is afraid to get married. But the big problem that he has is that he is greedy. He doesn't want to eat with someone. He would like to cook food by himself so that the bags of maize should be staying in house for a long time. Ganizani asked Njega on who cares about Bereki's life when he is ill and Njega said that he is the one to look after him very well. He is the one who asks his wife to give him water to his house and sometimes his sisters are the ones who come with water for him to bathe.

They all agreed to sit down with their friend and ask him to get married because he can get infected with AIDS easily as he has done with the syphilis that he had.

30-11-03

On the same day afternoon, we just heard that Nerson has died but his relative refused to carry the funeral back home.

Miss Beston came to my house at 4:50 p.m. to buy some aspirin tablets at my house for her daughter. After she bought the tablets, she asked me if I heard about the funeral of Nerson and I told her that knew nothing and I did not hear that he was ill. Then she started to explain everything in detail that Nerson did not die of any disease though he was looking thin and weak. People were saying that he was ill and they were saying that he had AIDS because his wife is the prostitute. She had been caught red-handed with three different men since she got married to Nerson and she was once found with the gonorrhoea which she took from other men who she was sleeping with.

Mrs. Nerson was firstly staying at V___ with her husband when he was doing his business as the vendor. While there, she was caught red-handed with her extramarital sexual partner but her husband forgave her. She started to challenge her husband telling him that she wanted to be divorced because he was the poor man and he was failing to bear a child with her. But in the first days of their marriage, Mrs. Nerson had the pregnant and gave birth to a child with him and the child is still alive but now she was saying that pregnancy was not from him. She knew the man who gave her that pregnancy by herself. But Nerson was showing that he loved his wife because though she was doing that, he did not leave her. He continued loving her and staying with her as a marriage as usual.

They both left V___ going to stay at the woman's home but still she was moving with other men. While there, she was also caught red-handed with another man and her husband summoned her. The court demanded her to pay K1,500 to her husband and her extramarital sexual partner was told to pay Nerson K4,000. Her husband went back to the court and told the court chairman to rub off the amount of money which he demanded his wife to give him and left the money which his co-husband was demanded.

They were still staying together then she was also caught with the bubos which she got from her extramarital partner and gave it to her husband. But her husband did not divorce the marriage. They both went to the hospital and got recovered. He just asked his wife to stop having extramarital affairs for fearing that they can get infected with AIDS which is the non-cured disease.

The bubos that she got were easy to be healed because it is the disease which has its treatment at the hospital, but the AIDS disease has no cure therefore it needs to take care.

Miss Beston said that she sometimes doesn't understand about the marriage. She does not understand why Nerson was always cool and calm. I also said the even myself I don't understand why Nerson was not divorcing that marriage. Miss Beston said that it was happening because she was using the traditional medicine. Her grandmother was giving her medicine to give it to her husband so that he should be silly and she should be doing whatever she wanted. She then continued by saying that after they got recovered from bubos, she slept with another partner and she was also caught red-handed but her husband did nothing on that. Since that time, the man was becoming thin and weak. He was also found ill in most of the times so that he was failing to go to the market for his business.

People were saying that Nerson had AIDS from his wife only that his wife was very lucky that she was not the first person to suffer from the disease. Now when she saw that her husband was disturbing her, she just brought the poison (Antac or Temic) and applied it in the porridge and gave it to him then he started vomiting and opening bowels at the same time seriously then he died on the same day.

She told her uncle to go to Nerson's parents to tell them about his death, but nobody went to see the funeral. They said that they did not hear the illness of Nerson therefore there is no need to go and see the funeral. They [wife and her uncle?] quarreled themselves at their home fearing the relatives of Nerson. But Miss Beston said that though she did that but her husband was already dead because he had AIDS and the woman herself has AIDS so that she should be waiting for her death as well after the long illness.

01-12-03

It was the day of our meeting of the V___'s Women Group. One of the topics which we discussed was about the death of Nerson. Since some of the women there knew about the whole story of Mr. Nerson's death, then women were discussing about the disadvantage and the advantage of marriage, advantage of prayers, education and the conversations among the women.

At the advantage of the marriage according to Nerson's death was found that their marriage had no advantage. Miss Captain said that the good marriage has its advantages because:

- Both of you enjoy your life.
- You help each other in many problems like buying food to eat, working together, looking after each other when ill.
- The marriage gives out the respect of a person. You cannot be respected if you are single, but if you are married people respects you and they also fear you.
- The disadvantage is that the marriage gives tough time for the people to think about it and over-working, especially the women. But the marriage that Nerson had was not good because he was not enjoying it. He was staying there as a slave and not marriage.

Mrs. Danken answered also that what was causing her [Mrs. Nerson?] to have that bad habit was that she just stays at home without going to the mosque or church. In her, there is no mercy and no God. There is nowhere she can have mercy with anybody else. She does not know God therefore she fears nothing. Had it been that she sometimes goes to the church or mosque for prayers, she cannot do that for a long time. She would have been mercy in her life. If you do not like your husband, it is better to divorce him and tell him the truth that your love in him has come to the end.

Mrs. Deverson then said that it is not good for a woman to have two or more sexual partners at the same time because:

- You don't look like a respectful woman since many people will now know your private part.
- Your private part will now be loose because it is being used by many people therefore the heat which is found there becomes less and you don't have the tight vagina therefore your vagina becomes watery.
- There are many diseases which destroy the private parts and even the whole body like the sexually transmitted diseases, e.g. gonorrhoea, bubos, and AIDS.

She continued by saying that it is not good to harass our own children through death. If a parent has died, the children suffer a lot and they stay as slaves: that is harassing our children.

I asked my friends about the use of the condoms to those who do not manage to have sex with one man. But Mrs. Nasolo said that the condoms are not good because they encourage people to have sex anyhow since they trust the condoms that they cannot get infected with AIDS or any other disease. The most important thing is to be faithful. To be satisfied with what you have, but that can happen if you are praying. If you are not praying to your God, you cannot have a good heart and that can cause you to depend on your spouse only.

But Mrs. Nason refused. She said that condoms should be used to [by] the people who don't like praying because they will not have time to listen on how the faithfulness works therefore they can spoil their life. Though in the Bible it is forbidden to use the condoms, but that is true to those who go to the church, but to those who dislike prayers, they can use the condoms and save their life.

All the women there agreed that Mrs. Nerson did not do good and her marriage was very bad and that it is not good to have several sexual partners at the same time because there is AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases like gonorrhoea and the bubos. We stopped there and continued with other issues that we had on that day.

1-12-03

In the afternoon of the 1-12-03, my two brothers called Jamson and Million escorted their friend Payison to see his aunt's maize garden. When they were coming back from that field, they all came to my house and found me washing my clothes.

I greeted all of them and asked them to tell me on where they were coming from. Payison told me that they went to see his Aunt's maize field because he has been hearing that she has the maize garden. He asked his friends to escort him to see the field to see if she is really working. When they went there, they found that his aunt was there sitting and eating some mangoes. They found that his aunt has the small portion of the garden while she has four children who would like to eat as well.

Payison started to reveal the behavior which his aunt has. He said that his aunt cannot work in the field because she is a prostitute since she was young. He said that his aunt was the vagabond (prostitute) since she was young. He said that his mother told him that she had many partners when she was at school and sometimes, men were fighting each other because of her. She has her first born daughter called Sarah who she gave birth to when she was in standard seven. She is also not lucky because she has been getting infected with the sexually transmitted diseases while she was young.

My young brother then answered that he also heard that when she was coming back from her husband in C___ she had the bubos. She was failing to walk because had the wounds on her private part.

Then Payison continued saying that his aunt will die of AIDS because this time her husband is suffering from AIDS. They were staying together in M___ where her husband was working, but she was the one who contracted AIDS and gave it to her husband. Since last year, her husband is ill and he left working. His brother took him to the hospital for the blood test and he was found that he has AIDS. They were all furious because they knew that their relative was faithful, but that his wife the prostitute. They discussed about what to do and came to the conclusion that they

should chase the woman to her home so that they should be looking after their relative properly then they told her to go back home. She was told that they will stay together again when their relative will get recovered.

Since she came back from her husband, she has never gone to see him at his home and even herself, she is not feeling well. She firstly came with the bubos and staying with them for some weeks then she got recovered. She stayed for a few days then she started suffering from the shingles and that disease is still there until now. She is still suffering from the shingles because some of the wounds are there, they have not yet healed. But in addition to that, she is now often complaining about her headache.

My brother Jamson answered there, he said that he saw her lips covered with sores and wounds. He just saw her, but he did not ask her on what she was suffering from. He did not know that it is the headache that she is suffering from.

Payison added that she has also another problem of her breasts. It has swollen on the tip of it and she had been suffering from it for some days, but now it is better. Her children as well are not feeling well, especially the twins. Since they were born, they are not feeling well as their mother. It just really shows that she has AIDS and her children as well as that AIDS seen if she goes for the blood test today. She will be found that she has AIDS and she will die of it. Payison said that his aunt knows that she has AIDS, that is why she is lazy. She knows that she will die in any means therefore the one who will take her children and look after her will start suffering at the same time.

We all laughed and I told them that they must forgive her since she is not doing that deliberately.

03-12-003

In our group of V___ Women Group, we have the maize garden which we have cultivated that land to grow maize and sell them. After we finished our cultivation, we sat down resting and I was complaining about my stomachache and how it started to my friend. I was explaining that I always feel pain in my stomach every month during the time that I experience my monthly period. The problem is that when the time for my period comes, I just see the period for the short time and then the bleeding stops. Instead of bleeding, I start feeling pain in my stomach until I finish the days which I was supposed to bleed.

Mrs. Nelesoni answered that there was something wrong which was done during the time that I was giving birth to my child. It means that something went wrong.

And Mrs. Ulanda said maybe I have some wounds in my stomach which are paining. But I told them that in addition to the pain that I feel, I don't experience the monthly period. I have been going to the hospital to explain about my problem, but I don't see any help that the doctors help me. I don't know what to do for me to feel well.

Mrs. Bengo answered that I should go to the hospital for the x-ray so that I should know about my problem that I have in my stomach.

But Mrs. Chaweya answered that what I was said that what I am suffering from does not mean that I made an accident during the day of giving birth to the child. I am just feeling pain as what anybody feels. She added by saying that she experienced the problem of having a wound in the stomach after giving birth and it was her death. She said that when she had the pregnancy, she was suffering from the stomachache in most of the times until she gave birth to the child and the child was born with the sores on her body. The owner [Mrs. Chaweya] started feeling pain in her stomach so that she was not eating anything, even drinking some water. She also said that her stomach became a greenish color so that she was failing even to urinate because she had the wound in her stomach or womb. On that wound, the white bad smelling substances were coming out during the time that she was urinating and the white ants were also coming meaning that in her stomach, nothing was good. She stayed for two months without eating anything, but she got recovered from the traditional medicine and not at the hospital. She said that she would have died had it been that she went to the hospital to ask for help.

But people there were refusing, like Mrs. Chikungu answered her that it was the gonorrhoea that she was suffering from so that we were all laughing and the owner Miss Chaweya thought that Mrs. Chikungu was just chatting

[joking?] with her. She did not know that she saying the truth. We were all laughing and nobody added other words because we were all fearing that Miss Chaweya can become furious and start talking the bad words to all of us. Then we just shown that we were only chatting with her and she did nothing.

04-12-03

I went to D___ Village to attend the funeral where Manyenu died. I was just going there to attend the funeral, but I did not know who was dead. But on my way I was with Miss Beston we met with Mrs. Ndovi who was also going to the funeral. We met on the road and then we were together going there.

On our way Miss Beston asked Mrs. Ndovi if Manyenu's wife was still alive because she heard that she was very ill before her husband. Then Mrs. Ndovi said that Mrs. Manyenu is not well. She was still ill and very serious than before. She then continued by saying that those two people were staying at the lake because Manyenu had the fish nets and he was working with his piece workers there. His wife as well was staying there with him. Unfortunately, Manyenu starting moving with several partners because he had much money. He had extramarital sexual partners since he was the rich person and he got infected with AIDS. In the first days, his wife was the one who was not feeling well. She was mostly found ill and suffering from malaria. She was sometimes just opening bowels and when she went to the hospital, she asked the doctor to test her blood to see if she was HIV-positive and the results were shown that she was really the HIV positive. She was furious and she told her husband about the problem that he was the one who contracted it and gave it to her. Since it was the marriage, they were still staying together.

After some time, Manyenu as well started ill and that one did not have time to rest for a long time. He was mostly found ill always until he has died and how his wife is ill as well so that she is at her home with her parents. They came to take her home when she was staying here and see that her husband as well was ill. She continued by saying that Mrs. Manyenu as well is on her way going to the grave because of the marriage.

Miss Beston said that many people will die because of their marriages. It is happening that some women are faithful but their husbands are womanizers and it also happens that some men are faithful, but their wives are prostitutes. Had it been that the AIDS kills the only one who has contracted it from other sexual partners. But it is very painful because it kills all the people who contracted it and even breast fed from their mothers.

I then answered that we should be using the condoms always though we know that is forbidden to use the condoms for the people [who] pray to their God always. But Miss Beston said that it cannot be true that all the people can use the condoms especially in their houses. They cannot use the condoms with their spouses unless it is their other sexual partners. We left the story because we were near the house which the funeral was.

04-12-03

On the same day afternoon, we were coming back from the funeral and we were three people as we were when going to the funeral in the morning. Mrs. Ndovi started the same story about Manyenu, but now she was talking about Dzamkande the relative to Manyenu.

She was explaining that Dzamkande as well died of AIDS, but that one was smoking the Indian hemp. If he has smoked, he was the person who has drunk beer and he was just proposing women anyhow and he was sleeping with many of them.

His father was telling him that what he was doing was not good. He will put himself in the hot soup, but he was talking like the enemy of his son but it was true. Dzamkande died of AIDS because of the Indian hemp that he was taking.

When Dzamkande was found with AIDS, he was asked by his father on what he was telling him about the badness

of the Indian hemp so that he had nothing to answer until he died. He was very lucky that he not married therefore he did not kill anybody at his home and he had not even the young child since his birth.

05-12-03

I went to E___ Village to see my mother there and I found her away to her friend. I was told by my brother Million that mother was away to see her friend at her house because her friend was ill. Since I was very interested to see my mother, I stood down at her house waiting for her I just saw her coming back from where she went.

When she came home, she asked me to tell her if I took a long time waiting for her to come back from her friend's house and I answered that I was there for a long time. I also told her that I was very sure to see her on that day. Had it been that I was not sure to see her I would have already gone home when she I was told that she was away.

My mother started to tell me about the problem that her friend had. She told me that her friend was bewitched or she got the disease from her husband. She said that she was feeling pain when urinating and it reached the point of crying because she urinating blood at the end of urine and when the days passed, she left urinating the blood, but now she was urinating the white substances but they had the bad smell.

I asked her on where her friend got that medicine and she told me that she was given by her friend. I continued by asking about the other disease which she cannot say anything. My mother told me that she was suspecting her confident that she was infected with the sexually transmitted disease like gonorrhea therefore she felt pain on her own.

5-12-03

I have my young sister called Sarah who was born in my young aunt's family. Sarah is the old girl who can be working for her mother. Her mother had been digging in the garden. She is the one who always works for her mother at home.

Now my aunt is now often ill. She is suffering from headaches and diarrhea. Since if one is ill, she/he becomes weak. When people have seen that my aunt is not healthy, people started talking about my aunt that she has AIDS and she is waiting for the whole Hall [?].

Sarah now started to reveal to all the people that her mother is infected with AIDS. She was telling people that her elder mother is refusing to stay with her because she cannot manage to walk with her children to the field but Sarah was telling people that her elder mother was talking at home telling people that Sarah's mother has AIDS therefore she is failing to do any job on her own. People then started laughing at her that she has her own husband who was born faithful.

Some people told Sarah's mother that Sarah was announcing that she had AIDS therefore people should take care. That statement was very dangerous but to people [who?] think much about their problems [they? She?] cannot report that statement. When she went home, she asked Sarah on what her elder sister was talking concerning her and Sarah explained all what she heard her talking then they started quarrelling because of that issue.

The patient was complaining that people were given the picture that she was infected with AIDS therefore she cannot have the luck or opportunity to get married to anybody because nobody will propose to her since they have already heard that she has AIDS. Had it been that Sarah's mother was not ill, they would have fought there.

When Sarah's mother stopped talking, she came to my house that everyone must know what to do since the hunger is still existing in our country. She said that she had someone who was wanted to marry her and if her elder sister

has started that kind of living [lying?] [she will not be able to marry]. She said that her sister was the one who has spoiled her future. She is always happy to see her young sister suffering with many problems. When I heard about their issue, I told them that I will go to their house any day.

05-12-03

At N___, there was the prostitute called Khisineti who was from U___ at N___. This woman was not yet looked for her [the police not yet looking for her?]. She thought that the policemen will just leave her after showing much love to them. She thought that the police will just tell her to go to her house and run away to [?].

That woman, Khisineti, was over-drunk and she met with her sexual partner and the man was asking her to have sex with her. But Khisineti was refusing saying that she would like to have sex with other men who have much money than him. After a few minutes, Khisineti took her knife and killed her partner at the same spot and the man laid down and died. People took the woman to the police and she was arrested.

After a week only people saw the police car asking about Khisineti's home and they asked people to stay well with freedom and not killing each other. Many people went there to see and believe that Khisineti has already died and it was true that she was killed. Some people were saying that it was better for her to be killed because she would have killed several men in her life since she knows how to kill a person.

People were happy to see that she was killed by the government. Because of her death, many people are happy. Khisineti was behaving like the man and not the woman.

06-12-03

I went to the well to draw some water in the morning hours of 06-12-03. When I reached at the certain woman's maize field called Miss Tinala, I found her working in her garden with her children. I passed by there and that woman saw me and she greeted me. After the greetings, she told me that I am better off because I don't waste my time working in my garden because I have much money which I use in the maize field.

I answered her that 'no', I don't have money which I am using my garden. I am working with my sons only and I have [owe] the balances of money to some of the people which I have to square but I don't have money until now. Only that working with children only is very difficult because sometimes they don't work very well showing that they are tired.

She then answered me by commenting that children are difficult people. She gave me the example of her daughter called Dyamiale. She said that Dyamiale was there working with her for some days, but the three days before that day, she was talking [saying that] Dyamiale left her home in the afternoon. In the morning, she went to the maize garden and worked there properly. While at the garden, a certain young woman called Ndija came to collect some firewood and Dyamiale asked her if she was going to sell her firewood and she said yes. Dyamiale asked [told] her mother what she needed to collect her own firewood and go with Ndija to the market for sale because she had not any tablet of soap to wash her clothes.

Since Miss Tinala did not know anything, she did not know that her daughter had the aim behind [the request] therefore she allowed her to collect the firewood with her friend and sell them. Dyamiale did the job and said bye to her mother promising her that they shall meet at home in the evening.

On their way to the market, Ndija started to tell her friend that she has her own house at V___ where she was renting because her husband who took her to that house ran away. He did not tell her on where he was gone therefore she did not leave the house alone. She will be trying to collect from the young men and firewood to pay the rent to the owner of the house. They agreed to stay together at the same house in V___ and men will be helping them.

They started their job as the prostitutes at V___, moving with boys always and sometimes moving with men who are married. She stayed there for three days and Miss Tinala got confused on where her daughter was gone.

She asked her son to go to Ndija's home at her grandmother's house to ask about where Ndija and Dyamiale are? If he will find that these two girls were somewhere at V___.

When Tinala the son to the woman went to Ndija's grandmother, he asked her about Ndija but the grandmother said that Ndija does not stay with her because she is the lazy woman and rude. She quarreled with her on that day because the grandparent was telling her that she must know that she has her own children who need to eat, bathe and put on clean clothes. But Ndija refused. She told her grandparent that she is greedy. She is talking of food as if she cannot work on her own. She talked about much bad words to her grandparent then she took all her children going to V___ where she is staying. Tinala followed them at V___ but he did not find them. He tried to ask some people who he knew about Ndija and Dyamiale, but nobody revealed on where she was staying until her brother went back home and told his mother that he did not find her.

In the following day, Miss Tinala started to follow her at the market of V___ but she did not see her and her friend. She tried to ask for the house that she was staying and some people showed her the house and they told her that she should be staying but she is alone since her husband ran away from her. The woman went back home and some people who saw her looking for her were telling her that her mother was collecting the bush itching beans to apply them on her body because she was at V___ prostituting.

I asked her to tell me if she was now come back from where she went, but she told me that until that time, she was not yet come back. She then started getting worried that her daughter will die of AIDS and as of now, she has already started digging in her own grave because the one who gets infected with AIDS deliberately has to dig the grave alone. She then gave me the example of Ndija that she got infected with the bubos and she was hiding. She was just telling her grandmother that she had malaria, but after some days gone the two swollens were out of her private parts and they were out besides the private parts. It was now the time which she was going to the mission hospital by the bicycle in which some people were borrowing the bicycle from other people as well and took her to the hospital because it was the time that she was at home. When she got recovered, she started showing her rudeness to her grandparents. Since she went to V___ to stay, but she is not going to her grandparent at all.

I told her that she should go to look for her again because she can think that she is with Ndija yet they separated on the same day or maybe she is married since these days things have changed. The young people are just taking each other and start staying together as the marriage before the man meets with the woman's relatives so that they should choose the marriage counselors for them. The other problem is that there are many sexually transmitted diseases which are spoiling many people's lives like the gonorrhea and the bubos. In addition to that, they do not use the condoms for their protection therefore she can get infected with AIDS and die since it has no cure.

Miss Tinala said that she will go again to look for her because what has done is not good. She can get AIDS and those problems will be with her because she is the parent.

06-12-03

When I came back from the well, I found the message from L___ Village talking about the funeral. My brother married the certain woman in D___ Village and gave birth to the son child. During the holiday, the son came to my house to chat with me. In that marriage, he [Alice's brother] only gave birth to that son and then he divorced her and went to N___ where he is staying. After him came another man to remarry her and gave birth to the girl child and then he divorced her as well. Since that time the woman stopped bearing. She had been getting married for a long time and with several men but she is not bearing with them at all.

But the man who gave her the daughter who she remarried after my brother was staying in M___ doing his own business and he married another wife there. He started ill there until his relatives went to take him back home and he was ill while at home then he died and people were sending me the message about the funeral because of the son that I am staying with.

I told the son [her brother's son?] to escort me to the funeral and himself as well should go to the funeral because the one died was his stepfather. But on our way going to the funeral I was shocked to hear some words from my [brother's] son of 13 years old. He was telling me that he was going to the funeral because I told him to do so but he was not interested in doing that. He continued saying that he heard from his relatives that the man was suffering from AIDS. He cannot attend the funeral which one has killed himself/herself deliberately. He knew that there is AIDS and many people are dying of it and that one also had his wife, why leaving her at home and start moving with other women? He did that deliberately. He was tired of the world now there is no need for him to go and see him when going to the graveyard though he was his stepfather.

I said sorry to him and told him that death is the same, there is no difference. If he has died with AIDS, it's none of your concern because he was the one suffering from it and not you. If he was wrong and now he has received his punishment, still it is none of your concern. You are very young and you never know what will kill you in your future. Maybe you will also die of AIDS, but people will still come on your funeral to escort you to the graveyard. There is no good death in the world because any disease which a person suffers can kill him or her and he/she will need people to escort her/him to the funeral. There is no need to isolate the funeral [dying] because he was suffering from AIDS. I tried to tell him that he should do that again to anybody and he agreed and told me that he will not do it again.

We proceeded our journey going to the funeral and also heard from my in-law about the same issue that the man died of AIDS and that he has left the child and wife but both of them are not looking healthy, especially the child.

My sister-in-law told me that the man himself was the one who had extramarital sexual partners and not the woman. The women had been writing letters to the marriage counselors letting them know about her husband's behavior and sometimes he was being asked to come back home to receive the advice and sometimes the marriage counselors were going there in M___ to advise him and now what the elders were saying are the one thing that has happened.

06-12-03

On the same day, I just heard from the certain woman called Miss Betta that she went to the funeral in E___ Village where the certain child died of AIDS. That marriage was looking very poor and ill. Many people there were not understanding how that disease came to them because the man was looking very poor. He was showing that he has no means of getting some money and many women now accept to have sex with the man who has money because she knows that she will receive that money and buy what she is lacking but the poor man as he was looking is very difficult to propose the extramarital sexual partners to have sex with. His wife as well was looking like the mad person. Only that you can know that she is normal since her brain was functioning properly but both of them were looking that they are infected with AIDS.

Miss Betta said that she asked one of the people who are close to them and they said that it might be the woman was the one who got infected with AIDS. Maybe she met with people who had some money and cheated her that he will marry her and buy her many clothes then he slept with her and gave a little amount of money because as the man was looking, it was very difficult for him to propose the woman. She said that the woman was the one who started to show the symptoms and suffering from the disease. She was the first person because she had the pregnancy therefore she was not feeling well as well as lacking some food. Until she reached the time of giving birth to the child, she was not feeling well. The illness increased during the time that she just gave birth to her child and the child as well was ill since her birth until she has died. Now between the two, the woman is looking very ill than her husband maybe because she has been ill for a long time therefore her body now is very weak.