Glossary

Abiti/Apiti: Title for woman
Achigalu: Teacher
ADD: Agricultural Development District
Amai Amvanos: Women’s group of the CCAP (see below)
Auncle: Uncle

Banja la Mtsogolo: Private family planning association
Bawo: Board game with stones
Boma: Administrative center
Borehole: Communal well
Bursting in the sun: Basking in the sun

CCAP: Presbyterian synod
Chambo: A type of fish
Cheating: Deceiving, lying
Chibwenzii: Girlfriend, usually implying sexual partner
Chikamwini: Living in the wife’s village
Chigolegole: Chichewa, foul smell associated with ndi amadzi, a wet vagina, as opposed to wolama, a dry vagina
Chimwerewere: Playing about, e.g. multiple sexual partners
Chindoko: Syphilis
Chinyela: Traditional illness
Chirombo: “fearsome beast”, in this context the virus that causes AIDS
Chishango: A brand of condoms marketed by Population Services International
Chitela: Dances
Chitenge: Living in the husband’s village
Chitenje: Cloth wrap used by women over their skirt, to carry a baby on their back, to keep off rain, etc.
Chinzonono: Gonorrhea
Chirimba: An industrial suburb (township) of Blantyre;
Chokolo: Widow inheritance

Dambo: Well-watered plot for growing vegetables
Dimba: Vegetable crop growing on a well-watered plot
Domination: Denomination

Footing: Walking
Funeral: Ceremony, but also refers to the deceased person

Gonorrhea: Lukusula (ChiChewa), Chukusula or Chipata (Yao)

Hasky: Uncertain, probably something on the penis of uncircumcised men, derivation appears to be from the ChiChewa gaga, maize husks
Herbourist: Herbalist
HAS: Health Surveillance Assistant, the lowest rank in the health professions
Hit-runner: One-time sex

Kadziwotche: Euphemism for AIDS, “go Roast Your Self/ go and put yourself on fire”.
ChiChewa
Kulera: Child-spacing, also used for methods to space children
Kupondaponda: To be promiscuous
Kwacha Malawi currency

Likango: Traditional illness
Lobola: Bride price (in the northern region)
Lwaso: Traditional illness

Mabomu: Buboes, swellings (Chichewa and Yao)
Mangochi Turn Off: Crossroads near MDICP survey site, with relatively large trading center
MASAF: Malawi Social Action Fund (World Bank)
Mashingozi: Shingles
Mbeta: A single [never-married] woman
Mauka: Candida & trichomonas; also, traditional medicine for sexually transmitted infections
Mavuzi: Pubic hair (both men and women)
Mbanja a weni: “Hijacking” another person’s spouse
Mdolo: Leisure activity, mentioned along with bawo
Mdulo: Category of hot/cold beliefs: hot is sexually active, cold is sexually inactive.
Mvious: Promiscuous, moving around from one sexual partner to another

Nankhungwi: Female initiation official at girls’ Nsondo initiation
Ndaka: Traditional illness (same as tsempho)
Ngaliba: Male initiation official at boys’ Jando initiation
Nkhokwe: Granary
Nsima: Staple maize porridge
Ntayo: Traditional illness
Nyumba: Grave (for burial)

Pinning: Probably a combination of pining and thinning, often edited to pining.
Relish: Vegetables or meat to eat with nsima.

Sadaka: Funeral feast
Shy: Ashamed
SMAG: Seed Multiplication Action Group, program for smallholder farmers
Songeya: Perforations on the genitals
Swallow/swellow: A boil or sore, (probably from “swollen”)

Trading: Trading Centre
Tress: Trace, as in “tress who gave me syphilis”.
Tsempho: Traditional illness
Umanyano: A group of women in the CCAP church, trustworthy, they wear uniforms to funeral ceremonies, church services, public rallies
Umodzi: Togetherness, helping one another

Velander/varander: Verandah
Zam’maboma: Show on MBC radio, 7:30 p.m., presents “strange stories” from around the country