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28-09-03

In the afternoon at around 6:30 pm came a certain man called Mr. Everson. He came to my home to buy the paraffin and a box of matches. After he finished buying what he wanted, he told my sons to call me and talk with him. I went out of my house to greet him and he told me that he came to say thanks to me for what I did to his wife. His wife came to beg for the maize seeds and I gave her free of charge. Now he told me that my sons should go to his house and receive the tomatoes from him or his wife.

When he finished talking about the thanks that he thanked me, he then started talking, telling me that people are mocking him that he will be only harvesting much maize but he will be lacking people to eat together with, since he is not bearing children. That time, he was drunk but not over drunk. He was knowing what he was doing. Mr. Everson complained that people are mocking him that he is not bearing children by harvesting much maize. I asked him if he has no any child at home which he gave birth [to] in his life? But he told me that he has four children with the woman that he has married but he stopped bearing because he got infected with gonorrhoea disease and he contracted it to his wife. He asked me the question that I should tell him if the one who infected with the gonorrhoea do have an opportunity of bearing some children. I also asked him the number of number of times [how long?] which he had between getting infected without gonorrhoea? He told me that he firstly got infected with the gonorrhoea and he looked for the treatment from the traditional healer and his wife was also infected with the same disease but they both got recovered. After that he also got infected with the buboes but that time his wife did not get infected with that disease because he did not sleep with her since she was doing her monthly period. That was the time that he slept with another partner and got infected with buboes and it shown the painful and the swellos [sores, swollen] very fast before his wife was finished her monthly period... When he got recovered from that buboes, he just saw that he started suffering for gonorrhoea again and then he looked for another traditional medicine and he got recovered. Since that time, Mr. Everson is not bearing any children at all.

I asked him on where he got infected with those diseases yet he is married and even during that time, he was still married. Mr. Everson told me that he married another wife during that time because he was mostly quarrelling with his first therefore he decided to marry another woman. But he was very misfortune that he married the prostitute. He did not know that the new wife was the prostitute and even [she] herself did not refuse to sleep with him. She knew that she was infected with the gonorrhoea disease but she did not tell him that she was not okay. But those buboes were not from the same woman. Mr. Everson said that he was misfortunes during that time because he was not staying well with his [first] wife, his second wife gave him the disease. But he thanked God that though [he had] those two diseases, he bought the roots of the medicine that helped him. Right now he know the type of medicine which can help to cure the gonorrhoea and the buboes. I also asked him if he is still with his second wife but he told me that he divorced her at the same time because he knew that he will just die for nothing. I still asked him why he did not use the condoms with the women who were new to him but Mr. Everson told me that the condoms are used only for emergency. But the one who you think that can be your partner for a long time [it] cannot be possible to use the condom because that one is your regular partner. She is not just a prostitute like that one who gave him the gonorrhoea disease [who?] was his real wife therefore there was no need to use the condom.

He then told me that he was rushing because he left his wife waiting for the matches for her to light the fire for looking food. I allowed him to go to his home and he promised to come at a certain day to chat with me because he wanted to tell me more about the use of the condoms. I thanked him and allowed him to come at the certain day if possible.

29-09-03

I went to Liwonde to collect the money for buying the maize seed. There, we have one of our members called Mr. Thenesi whose wife died some months ago. On this day, his friends were asking him if he has married another woman. Mr. Chabwera asked him and he advised him that he should make sure that he has married the woman who is faithful because many women [will want to marry him] now that he has money since he is a farmer and he has sold his yields. Mr. Thenesi answered him that he has not married another woman and has not yet planned of getting married to another woman. He will be just using the condoms if he is tired [of not having a sexual partner].

At that point, his fellow farmer Mr. Ngwizi refused, he said that nobody can use a condom with the regular partner unless the woman is only for the short time, if you would like to have sex on that day only you can use the condom but if the woman is your regular partner, you cannot use the condom. Here Mr. Chabwera put his comments that the condoms as well are not good things because they remove nature of the person. The same as the child spacing method to the women. They are very bad things because they remove the nature of the woman. The woman's body becomes watery than before and the woman lacks interest in having the feelings for having sex with the man. Those things cause the man to disturb his body and he sometime loses his natural power of having sex. The same thing happens with the use of the condoms. The condoms have the bad effects which also disturb the bodies of the two people. It is very bad to use the condoms when having sex otherwise you can spoil your future.

Mr. Niini also put his comments. He said that the doctors, nurses and researchers do not use the family planning methods. They are very clever people. They just force other people to use them because they need money it is their business. They know that if they refuse to attract or encourage people to use them, they will be demoted from the job or being dismissed, therefore they try to encourage people to use them yet themselves do not use them. Some nurses who were born with mercy do reveal to some people that the child spacing method causes cancer in the women's breasts. Some many women have died of cancer and some of them are suffering from cancer because of the family planning method. All the men there agreed that the condoms cause other diseases and Mr. Ngwizi said that he believes the Aids disease is also found in the condoms and that is easily spread and very fast it looks like the Aids disease [was] bought [brought?] from somewhere to reduce the number of people in the country and that is why the condoms are not helping people but adding other problems. Lastly Mr. Thenesi said that, he will just stay without a woman. He is not getting much worried because he has another woman already but he was used to have two women therefore he wanted to marry another wife. But his friends asked him to remain with the one wife that he has already because she can be the only one to save his life but if he marries another woman, he can put himself in a hot soup.

29-09-03

On the same day afternoon, I went back home and I met my friend Miss Binali on the road. She went to Lilongwe to buy the groceries and she also wanted to see her young sister who stays there with here husband. Miss Binali told me that she did not find her sister because she was somewhere to attend the funeral of a certain young woman who was prostituting in the village and she was away at the certain time when she went to Kasungu to stay and doing her prostitution.

Miss Binali told me that Lise Daniel was her sister's friend but she was telling her that her friend was the prostitute. She was having other partners while she is married. She was mostly divorced by her husbands because she was the prostitute. Lise was getting married to many men at a single year. She was sometimes getting married to six or eight men within a year. She was also found with the sexually transmitted diseases since she was mostly sleeping with different men and with no condoms. She then once suffered from the Tuberculosis and she was admitted at the hospital. But when she got recovered, she did not feel well at all. She then started suffering from the different diseases like headache, stomachaches and malaria. She was

also coughing oftenly therefore her brothers took her to Kasungu in order to look after easily. My friend Miss Adams told me that, Lise's brothers were advising her to stop on what she was doing but she did not want to listen to them. Though she was rude to her brothers but when she got ill, her brothers took her to Kasungu where they were doing their business. They tried to take her to the hospital where they were told that she was infected with Aids They tried to put her in the private hospitals for her to get recovered but she did not get any progress until she died in Kasungu. Her brothers phoned their mother and their uncle the headman about the funeral and they were told to carry the funeral from Kasungu up to her home. The funeral came home and her friends went there to mourn for her.

After some minutes, we saw Miss Adams sister coming by the bicycle running for her sister since she heard from people that her sister went to see her. She came and found us walking. She said sorry to her elder sister that she did not find her because she went to see her friend who was her best friend when she was alive. She said that many people are happy because of her death because the woman was sleeping with women's husbands. She was the prostitute and rude to other people especially the women whom she knew that their husbands were her partners. She was just accepting any man who was proposing her. She was the woman of not saying 'no'to a man because she had that the disease of having much feeling of having sex everyday. It was a great problem for her to sleep alone in her house without having sex with a man. Some women were happy with that death because of her behavior and her brothers were mourning and were saying that their sister has died because she was not listening to them, she was very rude to her brothers but today her promiscuity has killed her. Aids has taken her into the grave because she was not faithful. She was failing to depend on one man only. To her it was a great problem. Miss Adams asked her sister why she was not advising her so that she should stop what she was doing. But her sister answered that her friend [Lise] was not a person to listen on what someone has said. She also said that her friend wanted to be sleeping with her husband but the man told [her] that he was not a man of sleeping with everyone. She proposed the man to be her partner and told him that she will not be rude to his wife but the man refused and he told his wife about that issue. Miss Binali's sister said that she asked her friend about the issue if her husband was saying the truth but she refused. She also said that it would have been very shameful to hear that she was really sleeping with her husband because the man would have got infected with the some infections because Lise was refusing to use the condoms. She was saying that, she was feeling nothing if she uses the condoms therefore she was refusing to use them, unless if the man has promised her that he will give her much money then she was allowing him to sleep with her with the use of the condom. The sister went back home and asked her sister to go to her house again in the next morning because she had something to give her.

30-09-03

I went to the maize mill at four miles Chikalema. There I found some women seated on the floor waiting to the owner to mill their maize. But the owner was refusing to work for only few people because his maize mill is working with diesel and not electricity. Diesel is very expensive than electricity therefore it is good to work for many people and not few of them.

There were some neighbours of mine and another woman who were complaining because they wanted to go to the market to sell their businesses since in the village, money is very scarce. Mrs. Chaweya was the one who started to complain that she wanted to rush so that she should go to the market to sell her doughnuts because she had no money for buying relish and soap on that day. But her friend Mrs. Ganizani admired her that she is able to do the small business and buy whatever she wants with her husband showing his cruelty.

Mrs. Ganizani said that she has a great problem at her home because her husband is the man who does not want to buy clothes, groceries, even relish for his wife. Most of the time Mrs. Ganizani sleeps without eating anything if she has failed to beg from her neighbours. The other bad thing is that her husband is very jealousy on her, if she goes to the bush to look for the firewood with her friends and took that firewood and sell them at the market then buy some relish and soap of even some salt, her husband beats her. He says that she has been given by other men and not that she has sold the firewood. Mrs. Ganizani said that she is tired of being beaten by her husband without any reason yet he fails to help her in any means. But there was

another woman called Miss Iweni said that, she was thinking that those who are married are very lucky because their husbands do everything for them. If some of them do the business, it's just for the help. They need to help their husbands especially when they are ill. But Mrs. Ganizani answered that there are some men who are good and not the same men who are good and some are very cruel. They don't buy anything at their home but they wait everything to be done by, their views. In addition to that, they also show cruelty to them by beating them, saying that they are given some money by other partners yet they fail to help them. Because of that reason the Aids disease will not end in the world. Men are the ones who encourage their wives to have other partners because they don't help them and they also show their cruelty to them.

Mrs. Chaweya answered that even herself, she has seen that the marriage is nothing. One can easily get infected with Aids if you are married, but those who are single can just depend on their business [without] someone harassing them. The one who is married can easily get Aids because you meet with problems while married so that you decide of having another partner to help you in addition to the business that you in addition to the business that you are doing. Miss Iweni told Mrs. Chaweya and Mrs. Ganizani to use the condoms when they would like to have sex with other partners but they should not sleep with them plain but Mrs. Chaweya answered that the condoms are not good things. They remove the person's nature and you don't feel like having sex. God did not create the condoms but people's behavior is causing some people to make the condoms. We were all over with what we took, we left each other going to her house

01-10-03

I was at Chandiwira village to attend the funeral. There is a certain young man who has opened his hardware at the Chandiwira trading center. He was married to his wife and gave birth to [with] her. That man was sometime back going to South Africa where he was working. But after sometime he left his job and then he opened a shop at his home. He then started again going to South Africa but now just to buy some goods for selling. He was also going to Zimbabwe and Tanzania to buy goods for selling. During the time that he started his movement again, he was not faithful and people were knowing that he was not a faithful man.

He started moving with other women so that he met with the some problems. He caught infected with the Aids disease but he is lucky that since that time, his body did not show that he is somehow unhealthy. He only once got ill for two weeks and he became very thin but after some time, he became healthy again.

Unfortunately, his wife had a child who she was breast feeding. She also got infected with Aids from her husband and she contracted it to her child through breast feeding. Unfortunately she started suffering from headache and then continued her illness with malaria and coughing. Her child also was oftenly found ill. The child had the problem of suffering from pneumonia and malaria. The woman did not get well since the time that she started her illness until she was told at the hospital that she was suffering from Aids. The man himself did not know that he was infected with Aids though he knew that he had many partners apart from his wife. Even the time that he was ill, he just thought that he was ill as anyone does but he did not know that he is infected with Aids. When he heard that his wife has Aids, he knew that he was the one who got infected with it and contracted it to his wife but only his wife was unfortunate. The woman died and left her child while ill but she died after the long illness. Her husband left his business of going to South Africa to purchase the goods which he was selling.

At the funeral day, the man was mourning and he was talking about the death, that he was the one who caused that death. He was mourning that his wife left him with a child while ill, he does not know what to do with that child. He was also talking that he had no say since he knew that he was on his way following his wife but he was thinking much about his children especially the last born child who was ill. He was talking that in public since he was mourning. Some people who did not know that the woman died of Aids were very shocked to hear the man talking though mourning.

I heard from some two men who heard him mourning and talking about his problems. The men were Mr. Daniel and Mr. Thenesi. These two men were talking to each other that the man has lost his intelligence and now he was talking the notty [nutty?] things. Mr. Thenesi asked his friend why that man was revealing that his wife has died of Aids and himself will also die of Aids? He knew that Aids is there but he did not want to be faithful or to be faithful or to protect himself from getting it. He knew that he has his wife and

children but he did not want to think much about them and today he has seen that he has seen that he was wrong. Many people were laughing at the man, he was silly because he was not faithful yet he knew the badness of having many partners in these days.

02-10-03

I received yet another message that the certain woman died. That woman was married to my brother's friend called Gerlard. These people were both not faithful. The woman was brewing alcohol beer and she was selling them to the people. Her husband was just a drunken man and he was sometimes sleeping at the bar, He was the womanizer and it was not confidential. Many people knew. And they were seeing that he was not doing good to his wife. They stayed together for some years but the woman got tired of what her husband was doing and she then decided to have one [a sexual partner] for her and she did that. They had the competition in their house because each one of them had other partners excluding the spouse. Unfortunately the woman got infected with a disease. She got the gonorrhoea from one of the men who were coming to buy her beer. That disease caused their marriage to be disturbed and it became to the end. They divorced each other and the man went to marry another woman who he stayed with for one year but the marriage ended because the man was still over drinking and being [an] unfaithful man. He was sleeping outside with the prostitutes for two or three weeks without going back to his home.

When the marriage ended he went back to his first wife and remarried her again. They promised each other that they will not be doing what they were doing again, and then they remarried each other. Unfortunately the woman started suffering from the shingles after getting recovered from the gonorrhoea that she had. The man helped her very much as his wife. He was looking after her and looking for medicine for her until she got recovered after three weeks of her illness. Since that time that she suffered from the shingles, she did not feel well again. She got the pregnancy but she was always coughing. When she gave birth to her twins, she became serious. She was much coughing and she was feeling stomach ache. Her one of her children was ill as well and then the child died after three months old. One child remained but the child was also not healthy. The woman became very ill and then went to the hospital where she was admitted for three weeks then she come back home. She was told that she had tuberculosis She was admitted at the hospital for three weeks then she came back home when she got recovered. But even she came back from the hospital, but her body was still unhealthy. She was very thin and weak so that she was failing to walk by herself. She then started ill again after few days from the time that she came back from the hospital. She was felling pain in the stomach and she was told at the hospital that she had the ancens [cancer?] therefore she must go back to hospital but she failed because of transport.

Mrs. Gerlard did not feel well at all and her child who was left alive was also always ill. Since she was lacking the good breast. The woman suffered a lot so that her husband was leaving her ill and going to marry other women. He yet married three times while his first wife was ill. After some time the patient started diarrhoea and her husband was the one who was looking after her. He was the one bathing her, washing the clothes which she was using during the time that she had diarrhoea. Her relatives were there but they were not helping him looking after his wife and children. He was doing everything alone at his house though he was staying in the village with her wife and moreover it was his wife's home. The woman stopped diarrhoea and then she was okay. But after few days, she started another disease called *chidikhodikho* which she suffered for six days and then got recovered. She just stayed for few days then started ill again.

I met with her husband and he was telling me about his wife's illness that it became to the worse. It was [more] serious than any day that she was ill in the days before. The same day mid night, the woman died. The woman has left four children but all are still young and she was not staying well with her relatives. They were hating her because she was making much money from the alcohol that she was brewing and selling.

During that day, some men were gossiping [about] the husband that he was looking ill. He was becoming very thin because he was thinking much about the person who has just sent the message. Some other

women who came there were going that [?] Many people were talking much about the children, that they will feel pain because of their problem of having no mother. Since they are orphans, they will die soon or will suffer a lot because of their behavior. Their parents were bad people because they were not respecting other people and they were rude to many people. Their children as well were not well educated people. They were rude to their parents as well as to other people.

02-10-03

At the same day afternoon, I went to draw water at the well and I met with two women Pasonje and Miss Chaweya talking about the other funeral which just happened in the village. I found Pasonje telling Miss Chaweya that she has just heard mourning at a certain house in the village at Lilongwe and Miss Chaweya was the one [who] explain[ed] to her to her friend that she has also heard that the one who died was a woman. That woman's husband was called Mr. Kachingwe and he was the thief. He had been stealing people's properties and there was being done nothing. People were doing nothing to him because he was using the traditional medicine so that people should be failing to catch him or kill him. But he also met with people who know much about the traditional medicine. There was a certain man called Mr. Makala and he was the rich man. He was selling his Bales of sugar by wholesale. Mr. Kachingwe went to steal some Bales of sugar with his friends and Mr. Makala bewitched all the all the people who stole his sugar and some of them died already and few of them who were left alive are ill until now. Mr. Kachingwe had been ill for a long time so that people were saying that he was also suffering from Aids because he was ill for a long time and he was thin. People thought that if one is bewitched, he don't take a long time before he/she dies but the one who suffers from Aids is the one who suffers for a long time.

Now Miss Chaweya continued by saying that the woman Mrs. Kachingwe started prostituting during the time that her husband died. She had nobody to help her therefore she started brewing the alcohol beer which she was selling there at her home. Men were coming to her house to buy beer but she was also sleeping with some of the men who were coming to buy her beer. For the whole three years since her husband died, she had been prostituting in the village, therefore she also got infected with Aids. In the first days, she was complaining that she was suffering from headache but she was still brewing her beer. And she was still doing her job for prostituting but she was becoming thin and thin. Little by little, she was becoming ill oftenly, and people were laughing at her that she was ill because her husband died of stealing. Some people were thinking that it was the same problem that her husband met. She was ill because her husband was bewitched and since she also affected to the reason. But some people who were watching on her duties were saying that the woman was infected with Aids and that was why she was becoming thin. Miss Chaweya told me that Mrs. Kachingwe was a prostitute since she was born. Only that she was very lucky that she got married early before she decided of going to the bar. Though she was married, she was also moving with other partners and it might be that she was infected with Aids during the time that she was with her husband. It can also be that her husband was partially died of Aids and the witchcraft was just an additional. In fact Mrs. Kachingwe was the prostitute and she has suffered for a long time. She had been complaining about the headache and diarrhoea.

03-10-03

There was a yet another funeral at Lilongwe in which the school boy died. That boy was a student of form two and he managed to write his examination. When I went to the funeral, I sat with to the certain two women who I close to. The women were Mrs. Chabwera and Mrs. Maluwa. These two women were talking about the death of that student that his parents have just lost their money for nothing Mrs. Maluwa said to her friend that the student was very innocent [and] calm. He was the very respectful person. He was not rude to anybody but she just heard that he was too movious. He was moving with many women including prostitutes. He had some partners at his fellow students who went there for schooling. He had also other partners from other schools and in the village but he was innocent that nobody had the whole hope [belief] that he was moving with many partners. The boy was very unlucky that he got infected with Aids from women and he was just becoming ill oftenly while at school. He was growing thin because he was over

reading so that his brain was always forced to work. He had no time to chat with his friends. Still at school, he became very ill so that, he went to the hospital and he was told that he had no blood therefore his parents went to donate him some blood. But he went home, he was still showing that his body was very weak and ill. He just forced himself to work hard so that he should pass his examination. Though he was still oftenly ill but he was trying to force himself working hard.

Mrs. Maluwa continued by saying that the problem came soon after he finished his examination of the Junior certificate level. He started ill again and this time he had much malaria before he received his treatment, he collapsed and the doctor's checked for his blood and found that he had no blood again. Some people helped him and the transfusion took place there. But it was very unfortunate that the blood was over are the same night so that the patient was found with no blood again. At the same time, the boy was tested for the VCT and the doctors said that the boy was leading the hard life in the hospital so that he was told to go back home since the results from the VCT was that he was Aids positive. His parents took him home but they did not reveal to him that he had Aids. When they reached home, he became very ill and he was complaining about his headache and he was oftenly fainting since he had no enough blood in his body. After few days, he found that the disease was very serious then died.

Mrs. Chabwera also commented that she also heard from the students that their friend might be found with Aids because he was not choosing the good girls to sleep with and he had no knowledge of the condoms.

Lonjezani's funeral was very shameful because everyone was crying since his parents lost much money paying him for the school fees. They make his good future so that he should not feel it painful but the man Lonjezani died and his friends went to escort him to the grave.

03-10-03

On the same day after the funeral was over, I went to Damalesi village to buy rice. Before I reached the house where I was going, I met with one of the respondents which I interviewed sometime back and she asked me to go to her house. She greeted me and asked me on where I was going and I told her that I was looking for the rice to buy. Then she started telling me that her husband died two years ago and how she is married [to] the new one. But she started also complaining that she wouldn't have accepted that marriage had she known, because her first husband was very faithful and she was not thinking anything bad of him. She believed that her late husband had no other partners apart from her but if he had some of them then he was doing [that] very [far?] from her. She never heard anybody talk about her husband but now the opposite is true. She had the faithful husband and she believes that the man died of other diseases and not Aids. But today she has got remarried to the man who is too movious. He has four wives but he has also some other partners apart from his wives.

I asked her if among the four wives she is the first one and she told me that she is the third one. She stayed with him only for one year and then he proceeded the journey going to marry the fourth wife and they are four. She then said that her husband has other partners and among them there is one woman [who] is well known to her so that they hate each other and they don't speak to each other. That respondent told me that she thinks that her new husband will contract the Aids disease to her and his all wives because he is not faithful. She accepted to get married to him because she wanted to be respected that she is married. In the village, women who are not married are taken as the prostitutes. Many women who are married hate those who are not married because they think that the unmarried women sleep with their husbands. She complained that her husband has four wives and other partners in the village. She said that she asked her husband to use condoms with the other partner in order to protect his life and his wives life but he refused. He told her that he will never use the condoms until his death because he once tasted it and found that it is useless. It sometimes breaks and it is tasteless therefore he cannot allow to loose his money for nothing. He will be sleeping with his partners without the use of condoms.

05-10-03

I went to the funeral where a certain woman in court clerk died. She was married to the certain man who had two other wives and she was the third wife. But though she was getting married, she was looking unhealthy and some people were asking if she was ill but she was just saying that she was becoming thin because she was overworking at her office. After some time, she started suffering from headache and she was feeling headache because of overworking and after some days, she went to the hospital. She stayed there for a week then came back to her office but she did not work again. She was oftenly found ill and admitted at the hospital. This time she had diarrhoea in addition to the headache that she was suffering from. She once felt much pain and she decided to go back home to her brother's house and she went. Nobody thought that she went to her brother because she was feeling much pain because she was looking better. When she went to her brother, she stayed there only three days then died. Now people were told about the funeral that it happened at her brother's house at home and we were waiting for the lorry to carry people to the funeral.

While we were waiting for the car, I was chatting with Mrs. Kidu the teacher. This woman told me that she wanted to leave the place because she also wanted to go to her home to see her relatives. She said that she was wasting her time waiting for nothing. She then continued by saying that the court clerk who died was the prostitute. She was sleeping with different men who some of them had Aids. At every weekend, she was departing to town or sometimes she was saying that she was going to see her parents. Mrs. Kidu saw her with two different men moving with her in town. She firstly saw her with the man from town at the first day, after some weeks she went to town again and she was with another man different to the first one. Though she accepted to get married to her husband, but she knew that she was not okay. She knew that she was infected with the Aids disease but she did it deliberately. She just wanted to kill her husband and her co-wives yet she knew she is infected.

While she was telling me about that issue, Miss Chavula came and she found us talking about the death of the court clerk and she also answered and she altered her words. Miss Chavula said that Aids will kill all the people in the world because of one person, she said that she was very concerned with that death because the clerk had different partners which she was sleeping with before she got married. And she knew was not feeling well in her body but she accepted the marriage deliberately which means that she wanted to spread the disease. Now her husband had already two wives and the children. Today all those two wives and the man himself will die leaving their children orphans and if the other women have the youngest children who are still breast fed, both will die because of her. Though this time her husband has not yet started showing the symptoms but he is really infected with the Aids from his third wife. In addition to the death of her husband and co-wives, she will also kill all the men that she was sleeping with during the time that she was sleeping during time she was infected and those men's wives will also die because of one person. The world will sometime found empty without any person to live in.