



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

For 5 April - 9 April 2021



NEWS COVERED

- RAFIKI - SDO Held Dialogues on Violence against Women and Children.
- Mwamala Junior Council Successfully Helped A Student Out Of Denial From Her Right To Education By Her Parents.

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09 April, 2021

RAFIKI - SDO have been implementing a project with the aim of fighting violence against women and children, the project has been implemented in two wards Pandagichizi ward and Mwamala ward in Shinyanga District Council since January 2021.

The project is packed with different activities including proving positive parenting skills to parents in

through Community Facilitators, formulating junior council formed and run by children who are provided with education about their rights and about violence against children so they can educate others and report cases about violence against children happening in their society, and conducting dialogues to discuss the situation and the status of violence cases in a respective society.

On the first week of April 2021 on 7th April and 9th April a team from Rafiki – SDO carried out three dialogues in three different villages Mwamadilaha, Bunonga and Mwamala “B” from the two targeted wards Pandagichiza and Mwamala with each dialogues featuring 50 participants from different groups of parents, village leaders, local security leaders, Ward leaders and community facilitators, violence victims and Rafiki – SDO representatives together they discussed the situation of the society on violence against women and children.

Through these dialogues the project coordinator from Rafiki – SDO Mr. Charles Ally took the participants through a brief report on violence against women and children in Shinyanga region which reported on how Shinyanga region is among the leading regions in violence against women and children by being the leading region on Child Marriage and the fifth in place on Early pregnancies.



Also, through these dialogues we had a glimpse on the village and ward’s situation on violence against women and children from



participant’s testimonies that explained the presence of violence cases in among families, especially an economic violence which happened to be the case in most of the families, and there also were cases with women getting beaten by their husbands.

Although in all three villages participants claimed that violence against children especially the issue of Child Marriage has been disappearing lately, still there are cases about Child Marriage are reported in the villages, some of people are still practicing violence against their children by forcing them to be married so they could get the dower money.

One of the cases was reported in Bunonga by the local security leader Mr. Charles Shija about a secondary student who was married off to a man from Mwanza while she was still a student, the local security received the information so the setoff to track the man who took her and they successfully returned her and reported the case to the Ward leadership who take care of it and the girl is now proceeding with her studies.

Asha Shija also from Bunonga, one of the victims of Child Marriage gave her testimony on how she was denied her right to education and was forced to marry a man by her father at the age of 15 years old, her husband used to beat her and later he married a second wife, so she decided to leave him ran to her aunt where they later reconciled and get back together, but her husband somehow had changed since then.

From testimonies and discussions, a lot were delivered to the Parents, Government leaders and other groups about violence and they learned a lot, at last most of participants requested for the need to expand the education on violence against women and children to reach more people as it will help to take down violence in the society and revamp justice across the community. Also, government leaders promised to enforce laws to fight violence against women and children on their people.

Mwamala Junior Council Successfully Helped A Student Out Of Denial From Her Right To Education By Her Parents.

09 April, 2021

Mwamala Junior Council in collaboration with Mwamala “B” Village Executive Officer Mr. Kadashi Kadashi, successfully helped a student out of denial from her right to education by her parents who were alleged to be planning to marry her off to a man lives in Tabora despite the fact that she is underage and she is still a student.

A student (Name is preserved) was a graduate from Igegu Primary school class of 2020, she passed her standard seven NECTA examination and had good results which qualified her to be one of the selected students to join secondary education at Kaselya Secondary school in January 2021.

Speaking to the chairperson of Mwamala Junior Council Nkama Machiya Masesa, she explained how through their council they were able to acquire information about the student and reported the case to their supervisor the Village Executive Officer Mr. Kadashi who



immediately took initiatives to meet the girl’s parents to ask them what happened to the girl where they found out that her father took her right after her completion of primary education in 2020. “In our Council there are children from Mwanundi who knew about the girl so we reported to our Supervisor the Village Executive Officer who summoned her parents

and ordered them to bring back the girl within a given time, they brought her back and she is now attending school and she is doing fine” Said Nkama Machiya the chairperson of Mwamala Junior Council.

In discussion with the Village Executive Officer Mr. Kadashi Kadashi, he said “I met with the junior council asked them if there were any cases about violence against children going on in their localities, they told me about this girl who was a primary school graduate who was supposed to be joining form one at Kaselya Secondary School in January this year but she didn’t and she is nowhere to be found in the village.”

He added, “I summoned her parents and asked them where is the girl and her mother told me the girl’s father took her to Tabora where he lives so she could meet



her brothers since her parents were separated and she was living with her mother and her stepfather, I ordered them to bring back the girl as she is supposed to studying by now, with a limited time they brought her back and she started attending school”

So far, the Village office received the information on her progress saying that she is doing fine and she is attending school as required since she was brought back as we ordered.

Mr. Kadashi also said that they are not certain if the girl was married because when they asked her parents if she was married, they denied and when the girl was asked, she also denied but when she was asked if she would like to continue with school she said yes.



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