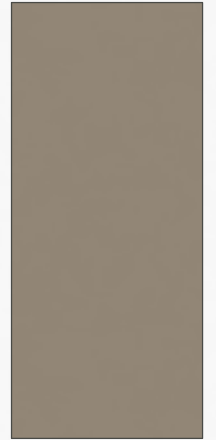


PROVIDING ACCESS TO JUSTICE:

**Women and Children's Rights in the
Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania**



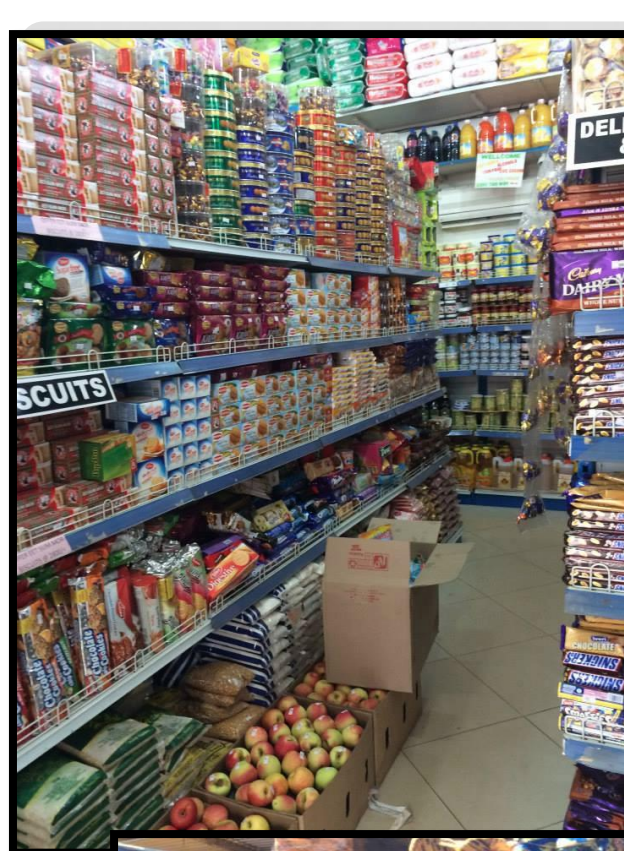
Presented by: Stacy Kirven, J.D. Candidate (December 2014)

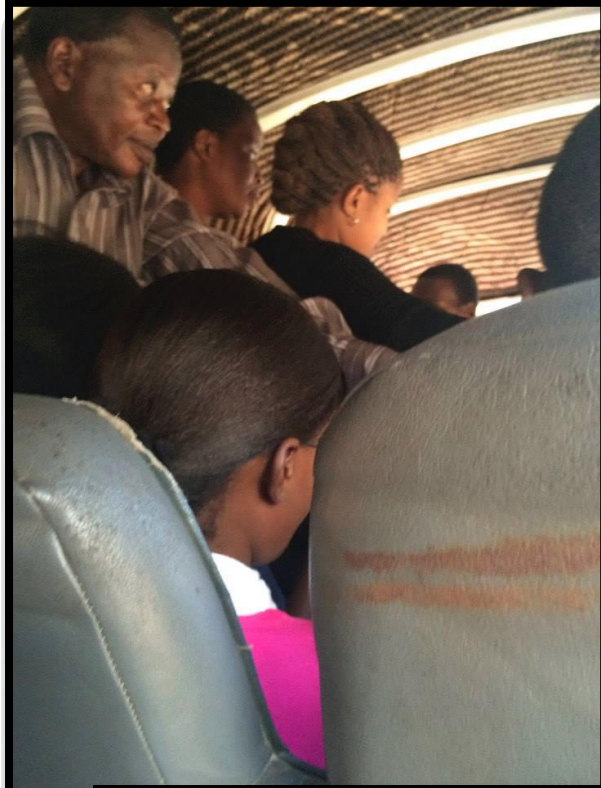
MOSHI, TANZANIA, AFRICA

- Population- ~500,000
- Located in the slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro
- Religion- Muslim and Catholic
- Language- Swahili and English
- Climate- Hot, rainy, humid
- Currency- Tanzanian Shilling (Tsh)

1749.00 Tsh = 1 USD







TYPES OF LAW

- Tanzania operates under a dual legal system.
- The TZ Constitution states that Statutory Law is the supreme law, but still have
 - Islamic Law
 - Customary Law
- Example: Property Rights
 - **Statutory Law**
 - 1/3 deceased husband's estate goes to widow and 2/3 to children
 - No Children- widow gets half and parents get half
 - **Islamic Law**
 - Widow gets 1/8 of the deceased husband's property if there are children
 - 1/4 if there are no children
 - **Customary Law**
 - Widow gets nothing
 - Entire estate goes to the husband's parents or other blood relatives
 - Wife is thrown out of her husband's house and disinherited from his family

GENDER ISSUES IN TANZANIA

- Participation in the labor force: 80.7% Men, 79.0% Women
 - Formal Employment: 15.3% Men, 6.1% Women
- Polygamy
- Marriage
 - Legal minimum age for marriage: 15 for girls and 18 for boys
 - Don't need the bride's consent
 - Wife becomes "property" if a bride price is paid
- Gender-Based Violence
 - Women think it's okay
 - 51% of women said that their husbands were justified in beating them
 - Keep it a secret
 - No funding

GENDER ISSUES IN TANZANIA

- Women are underrepresented in government, but it's getting better
 - 2010 election- 10 women government Ministers were appointed
 - Proportion of women elected at councilor level rose from 5% in 2005 to 6.4% in 2010
- Less Opportunities
- Patriarchal Society
- Traditions
 - 15% of women between the ages of 15-29 suffer female genital mutilation
 - Pregnancy complications
 - Primary and secondary school attendance
 - Over-worked

IGNORANCE OF RIGHTS

- Preferential treatment to males
- Choice of law
- Lack of Knowledge
 - For example: By writing a will, a widow could protect her statutory right to her husband's property, but most women are unaware of the need for a will.
- Awareness-raising techniques not effective
 - Laws written in English
 - 75% of Tanzanians don't understand English

AJIS



ACTION FOR JUSTICE SOCIETY

SLP 272 MOSHI, TEL: 0255272750941

Email: ajisotz@yahoo.com

VISION

- AJISO envisions a society that values both respect and the protection of social justice for everyone equally.

MISSION

- AJISO is a non-governmental, non-profit, and non-partisan civil society organization, which promotes human rights, access to justice, and the socio-economic empowerment of women and vulnerable children in Tanzania.

GOAL

- To further the socio-economic empowerment of women and vulnerable children and to allow them access to justice in Tanzania.

VALUES

- Volunteerism, Transparency, Accountability, and Respect

OBJECTIVES

- Providing legal aid and human rights awareness to women and vulnerable groups
- Improving participation of women and vulnerable groups in local governance
- Advocating for better policies, practices, and laws that prevent gender-based violence
- Strengthening social safety nets for women and children deprived of their human rights

STRATEGIES USED

- Establish and strengthen working relations with members of Parliament, councilors, the judiciary, and the local levels of government
- Develop and maintain good working relationships with the media
- Provide user-friendly legal services including mobile legal aid
- Implement paralegal services across Tanzania
 - Make sure these paralegal offices are formalized and advertised
- Prepare legal documents for clients
- Facilitate reconciliation between clients
- Coach clients for representing themselves in court proceedings
- Develop and distribute legal aid materials
- Attend meetings and forums at local, national, regional, and international levels
- Organize advocacy meetings and dialogues with partners
- Conduct training for law enforcement (especially local leaders)
- Conduct annual paralegal trainings for networking and learning
- Conduct fundraising to enable organization to grow and flourish
- Conduct baseline surveys to monitor any new strategies implemented

LEGAL AID SERVICES



- Where are these services provided?
- Why are they provided?
- Who are they provided to?
- How are legal services provided?

LEGAL EDUCATION

- Who provides education?
- Who is educated?
- How are people being educated?



CURRENT PROJECT: HUSIKA 2.0

START: 9/1/2014

END: 2/1/2016

- “Get Involved”
- What is HUSIKA all about?
- Girl children are facing more problems than boy children:
 - Higher school dropout rates
 - Earlier pregnancies
 - Early marriage
 - Increased labor rates
 - Deprivation of the right to education
 - Deprivation of the right to own property
 - FGM
 - Not being fully recognized as a member of the family before marriage



WHAT HUSIKA 2.0 ADDRESSES: LITERACY



AJISO Staff

- Literacy Rates- Men 80%, Women 66.1%
- What does it matter if the literacy rates are low?

WHAT HUSIKA 2.0 ADDRESSES: VIOLENCE



- 3 out of every 10 females ages 13-24 reported to experience at least once incident of sexual violence before turning 18 years old.
- 14.0% of females ages 13-17 reported to have experienced at least one form of sexual violence while 5.9% of males had.

WHAT HUSIKA 2.0 ADDRESSES: RIGHT TO EDUCATION



- Girls are attending school more, but dropping out more because of:
 - Pregnancy
 - Early marriage
 - Truancy
- No time to study because of domestic chores = poor grades
- Schools are long distances away from homes

PROJECT RATIONALE

- Adolescence should be used to empower children
- Adolescence for **boy** child:
 - Taught how to work
 - Encouraged to have high self-esteem and confidence
 - Begin being integrated in most decision-making meetings
 - Taught how to achieve social economic growth
 - Ensured access to the best quality of education
 - Taught and trained to understand that they are important
 - Grow up believing women are inferior

PROJECT RATIONALE

- For **girls**:
 - Exposed to the reality that she is inferior
 - Forced to understand, accept, and respect no freedoms to:
 - Choice, decision-making, speech, expressing opinions, further education, control over their lives, and preparation for future jobs
 - She will be property
- Causes low self-esteem and depression
- Give up on their rights
- AJISO's Goal
 - More people need to know that these rights exist
 - Explain that boys and girls are equal
 - Share about the positive impact girl children can have

PROJECT GOAL

- Facilitating awareness about valuing and respecting the rights of adolescent girls in their communities and the importance of not violating their rights, especially at this growth stage.
- Further, these girls need to be empowered to realize their full potential in the community, which will be a step towards poverty eradication in Tanzania.



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- To increase awareness about valuing and respecting adolescent girls' rights to community members in the two districts of Rombo and Moshi Urban of Kilimanjaro, Tanzania.
- To build the capacity of adolescent girls to advocate for their rights in user friendly and community engaging ways.
- To advocate for The Girl's Declaration to the rural parts of Tanzania in a way that will be easily understood by communities.



PROJECT WORK PLAN

- Where will this take place?
- The Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania
 - Moshi Urban
 - Rombo
- Why choose those two places?
- What will happen there?



PROJECT ADVOCACY STRATEGIES



- Strategies to be used:
 - Publications like flyers and booklets
 - Radio and TV
 - People
- These strategies have been used in other AJISO projects and have proven to be effective in helping the organization achieve its goals.

CHALLENGES PREDICTED

- Reluctance in parents and guardians to participate in the program
- Empowering those girls already affected by gender based violence to open up
- Accepting and embracing change that comes with the advocacy by elders
- Reluctance in changing culture and norms communities in Tanzania have had and practiced for decades



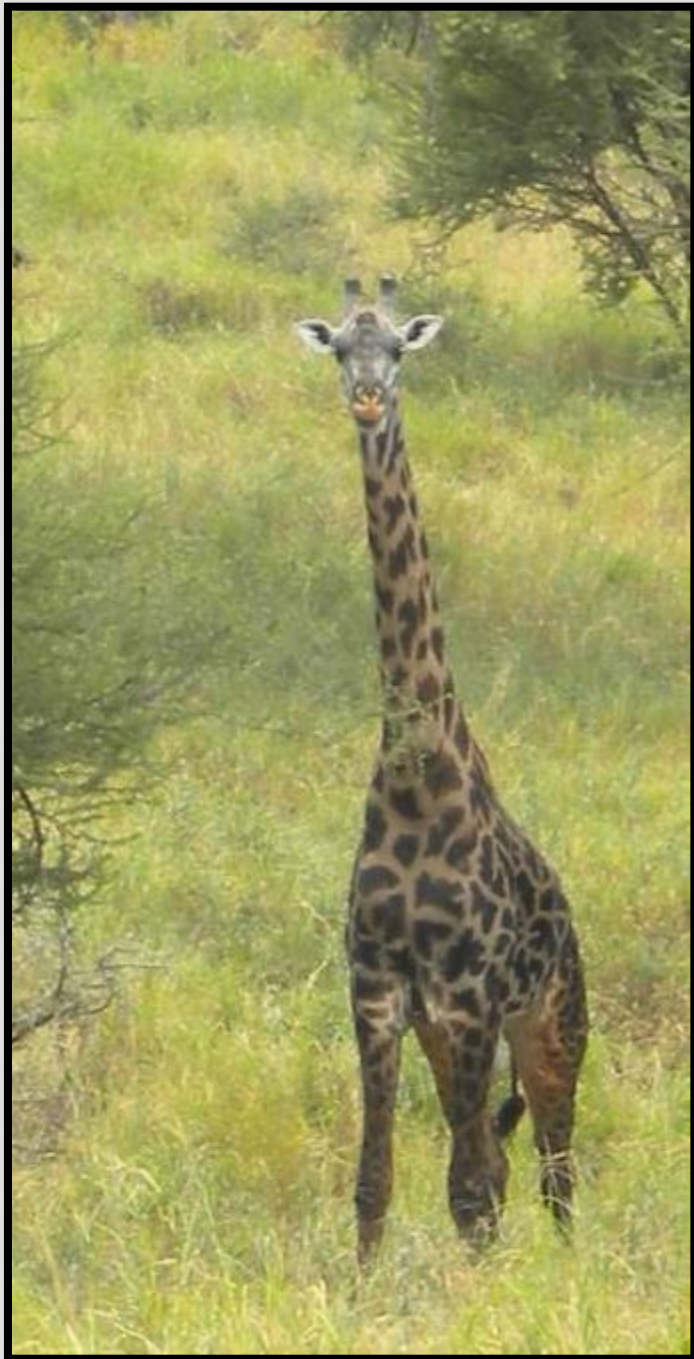
MONITORING AND EVALUATING

- This will be continuous:
 - Focus groups
 - Discussion
 - Questionnaires
 - Radio
 - General Discussions
- AJISO used similar techniques while monitoring the progress of the Law of the Child Act, which taught the officers how to better monitor and evaluate the organizations projects.

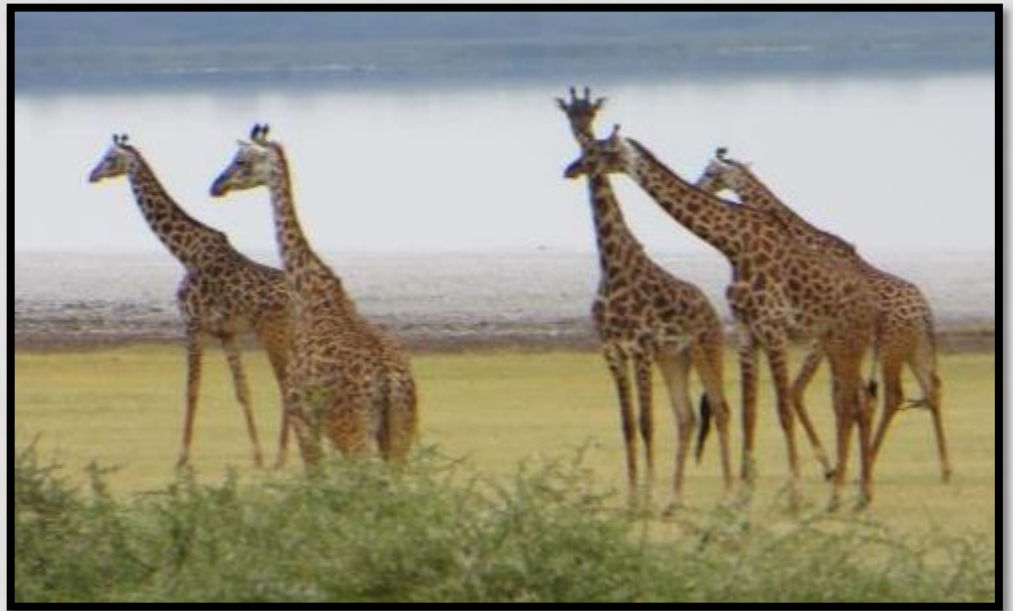


NOT ALL WORK- SOME FUN

3 DAY SAFARI TO: NGORONGORO CRATER, LAKE
MANYARA, AND TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK







QUESTIONS?