

The Effects of Conflict on Education

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BILLBOARD:

Today we are asking how conflict has affected the way peer relate to each other at school.

Clip: I would have gone there to play with them but there some of my village mate that we had conflict with in the village I am not in good terms with some of them so I fear if I go there we might fight.

And what are teachers doing about it?

Clip: we mix them, we organise for them atonements where they play different types of games together, debating, and we have clip chard that draws images on the effects of war to them and their community.

That's all coming in the next fifteen minutes.

CUE 1 (studio recording)

Hallo and welcome to our school, a programme that talks about girl's education am Jackeline Ihure.

Many people in Imotong state have tough experience on inter-tribal and inter community conflict and this have made them to have bad tension towards each other and even boys and girls from this tribes and clans are affected at school.

In our todays programme we are asking how conflict affects the way peer relate to each other at school. But first let's hear from a school girl but we are not going to mention her name because of security reason.

CUE 1(field recording)

I am right now in ST Teresa primary school pupils are playing different games in groups but one of the girl is there sited under the tree alone I would like to talk to her, Hi why are you sitting here alone?

A1: I am sitting here alone because there's no one that I can play with.

Q2: but there some pupils playing there in groups why are you not joining them?

A2: I would have gone there to play with them but there some of my village mate that we had conflict with in the village I am not in good terms with some of them so I fear if I go there we might fight.

Q3: Have you ever fought when playing together?

A3: whenever we are playing in one place and they do something wrong and I want to comment or correct them they feel annoyed and we end up quarrelling or fighting because of the grouch we have since from the village am not in good terms with them there was an inter community conflict in our village, we even ran from there during the conflict.

Q4: and how is your relation to other pupils from that community here in school?

A4: like now we don't share ideas or things in the class with them if one of them lack something and I have I don't give and also if am lacking something in the class they don't give me too and even in our class one of them is our monitor he hates me, all the time he likes writing my name as a noise maker to be punish though I did not talk.

Q5: Have you ever told the teacher or your parents about it?

A5: I have never told any teacher about it because I fear that it will bring a big problem between me and him after and I don't want to fight with anyone, my parents knew that am studying with them here they advise me not to accept fighting with any of them if they want to fight me on the way I should use a different road.

Q6: Now how have this conflict affected your education?

A6: It have delayed me to go to the next class because since the conflict started I stayed at home without schooling and a gain am studying with fear that anytime this other pupils from here might decide to do something bad to me at any time.

Q7: How are you managing your studies with this kind of challenges?

A7: am just avoiding them I don't go where they are and I ignore what they are saying to hurt me so that we don't fight or quarrel.

Conflict have much effects on learners in schools, a school girl said conflict made her to remain in one class for couple of years, while during break in school she plays alone because she is scared of joining other pupils that they might fight. As teachers what behaviour have you analyst from learners and how are you helping them?

STATION IDENT.

CUE 3 (Field recording):

I am now with madam grace the senior women teacher of this same school she was in for meeting but now am with her at the door of the office I want her to tell me how the relationship of school children in this school to each other and teacher.

A1: in this school there pupils from different tribes and communities so advise them not to hate each other here in school because it's a learning environment though some of them have grouches from the community, not only that in the classes where they sit we mix them, we organise for them atonements where they play different types of games together, debating, and we have clip chard that draws images on the effects of war to them and their community then we tell them to inform their parents about what they learn each time when there's conflict effects teaching day that's why they are united.

Q2: but early on I talk to one of the pupil and she said some of them are not in good terms with each other?

A2: if something like that is happening here among this pupils then they are the ones who are not reporting it to us teachers because we cannot know what is not reported or witness, that's why I said so.

Q3: What's the importance of making them united at school?

A3: it makes it easy for us teachers to teach them because they are cooperating and it makes them to have peace of mine and free to learn without stress or fear and sharing ideas within the learners.

Q4: how does fear or trauma of conflict affects learners?

A4: it affects their performance because they will not be sharing ideas in the class but instead they will start forming groups according to the community where they came from then some of them will end up leaving school because of fear that they might be attack by other fellow learners from the other community and it makes it harder for teachers to teach them because they will not participate.

Q5: you said trauma of conflict affect the performance of learners how do you know?

A5: that one mostly happens not only during exams but also when giving exercise to them after teaching some of them fail then we call them individually to explain to us why they are failing class work while it's something which was just thought, and those who are affected by conflict they starts crying before explaining that when they see some of their fellow pupils whose community or tribe had conflict with they feel bad because it makes them to remember what had happen in past since some of them lost their parents and other family members during that act and that makes them not to concentrate in the class when the teacher is teaching.

Q6: What do you do to a pupil who have that kind of experience?

A6: after telling us the his or her stories we saw them our sympathy and council them by telling them they should forgive and forget and we give them examples of people within the school who also had that kind of experience so that they feel that it's not only them who past that condition and we tell them to concentrate in their studies so that it will help them in future.

Q7: What role can parents play to reduce this trauma at school?

A7: I think parents can play a big role because what their children are doing here starts from home, they should be able to talk to their children to stay together with other children at school though they have differences in the community, they should council them from home as we do at school to love and respect for each other.

RECAP:

That was grace telling that conflict affects the performance of learners because when they two people who were victims meet in school it makes them to have fear and that makes them not to concentrate with their studies. But what do other people think about it?

STATION IDENT.**CUE 3 (Field recording):**

I am right now in the office of a CBO which deals with child school initiative, conflict and reconciliation among schools and villages, it's starting to rain now and am with Hakim I found him drafting a menu for their activities now I want to from him how conflict affects peer relation to each other at school.

A1: many children here are not able to go to school not because their parents are not able to cater for them but it's because of conflict, for example here in south Sudan most states do not have high schools like secondary and university so children from those areas have to go to the neighbouring state which has the high school but because they do not live in peace with each other this children end up not continuing with their studies because of fear of going to other towns they just end at the level of the school at their state then those whom their parents have money take their children to the neighbouring countries and even teachers are fearing going to teach in those kind of area.

Q2: You said teachers fear going to teach in an area where there's conflict, how will children in that place be though?

A2: Actually it's not easy to deal with this condition since we all want to save our lives because some learners are made disable due to conflict so the youth from that particular area have to take that responsibility to their hands by finding people from their own place to teach the school children until if the condition calms and the

government employ teachers to go and teach in that place because if they are waiting for the government to do everything to them in this tough condition their children will lost interest of learning because of going on and off of school.

Q3: What do you think can be done to stop all this from happening?

A3: We are children of one nation there's nothing much better than humbling themselves and calling for peace talk and reconciling all their differences among the youth, leader and elders so that learners in south Sudan schools can also have peace and freedom of movement that's by counselling them by their own village mates because the government cannot build school at once in all the parts of the country so that they study in their own it will take time and this children have to go to school otherwise if it continues like this learners from here will not get quality education and getting good and educated leaders in future will be a problem.

Q4: what can communities do to reduce this conflict?

A4: the best they can do is to reconcile but there's also an alternative like the community people can contribute materials like poles, grass and build community schools in each village by their youth and if there some of them who can write and read they can teach and this will reduce this issues of refund and killing of school children by going too far distance for studies, and it will also reduce the tension between the learners and teachers.

FINAL RECAP

That has brought us to the end of our school,

Today in our program we had been asking, how conflict have affects peer relation to each other at school.

A girl who had tough experience of conflict said she fears playing or sharing ideas with other learners whose community had conflict with theirs because she they are ever harsh on her.

A teacher tells us that trauma affects the performance of learners because they fail to concentrate in the class when they remember what had happen in the past while the teacher is teaching.

Hakim an expert in learners initiative and conflict and reconciliation said many children in this state are not school because of conflict he said the only way children will get good education is if the communities accept to reconcile so that learners go to school without fear, he said the youth should build community schools to reduce the tension teachers and learner have. But as a parent what are you doing to make sure your child is studying without fear?

INTERACTIVE MESSAGE with music bed:

“Remember this is your programme. We want to hear from you about how your education is going, whether you’re a pupil a parent or a teacher we want to hear your problems and solutions. Keep on listening this radio station will receive your calls.”

With all that we have come to the end of this programme our school.

Thanks so much for listening...I'm jackline and this has been Our School brought to you by BBC Media Action.