

Youth Leadership

In Conflict Resolution, Peace Building and Governance



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In Liberia today, many youths are homeless due to fourteen (14) years of civil crisis. During this foolish and somehow useless war, Liberia got pushed backwards. After so many years of independence, we have got nothing to show for it. Youth in Liberia today have suffered for crimes they did not commit. Some youth/children got abused, beaten, raped and even killed. I do not think Mama Liberia should be this way.

They made youth/youngsters turn into mobsters. They killed their own brothers and sisters. The warlords made us kill our own mothers and fathers.

After the civil war, we the youth suffered the most. Some children's parents were killed thus leaving them homeless. Being homeless, helpless, and hopeless many of them decided to turn to the streets. They started fending for themselves at early ages. After going through all the suffering and abuses, peace finally came to our rescue.

Now that peace has come and we have settled, all of Liberia's faithful citizens are working hard to rebuild Liberia. Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf became president making promises. Our voices are not heard through the nation. Our cries and prayers have not been answered. We have said many things, at so many things yet and still we are being ignored. If we are really put to the test some youth after some months of training can do better than some people at things they took all their lives learning to do.

Our issues and interests need to be discussed. We need to be addressed as first class citizens and not second class citizens just because of our ages. The government should help lead youths in the right path for we are the future leaders.

In order for them to see the youth of today rule Liberia tomorrow, let them reconsider their thoughts and deeds.

Peace is what every country/nation needs. You cannot live happily without peace. Peace is what every Liberian youth should strive for. By holding hands,

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Liberia will rise again, we will shine again. The youth of Liberia need and deserve one thing and that thing is peace. Some youth are still wandering in the streets of Liberia looking for places to sleep, clothes to wear and food to eat.

In order to have a peaceful society, we the youth of Liberia must contribute by stopping violence. In order for the youth to stop violence, we need to have the things we fight for. For example some boys pick pocket to buy food and clothes. If the government give them the food and clothes they need, they will stay off the streets. Same as is the government gives money for school fees, girl will stop selling their bodies for money. More schools should be opened in order to help the war victimized youth.

The government should focus on the rights of children. We should be treated with the respect due to us. Our rights should not be abused by anyone anymore. We should be the center of attention as we are tired of crying and pleading. If by any means the youth of Liberia decide not to work with the government, the entire country will be in disarray. I believe more schools should be opened instead of opening clubs and entertainment centers let the citizens of Liberia put their thinking faculties and hands together to help build Liberia. All the youth will have bright and shining futures if we all work together as a nation.