



Growing up in a time of AIDS: Abaqophi basOkhayeni Abaqinile Children's Radio project

Omthembayo /Confidant ***Nosambulo, 11 years old, 2007***

SFX: umsindo wamanzi – water pouring

Promise: Wenzani ngoba ula?
What are you doing here?

Nosambulo: Ngiyanisela
I am watering.

Promise: Unisela ini?
What are you watering?

Nosambulo: Ispinashi.
The spinach.

Nosambulo: Igama lami nginguNosambulo elinye nginguNokuphiwa. Ngineminyaka ewu 11 ngiphethwe oka 12. Ngazalwa ngeyi 23 Febuwari 96. Ngihlala eMaranatha ngifunda u-Grade 5 ngifunda Okhayeni Primary School. Ngibukeka ngimude angimude kakhulu ngimuhle futhi ngiyabukeka ngiyakhanya nje kancane. Into engiyithandayo ukupheka kodwa angisitholi isikhathi sokupheka nokufunda nokudlala ibhola. Ekhaya ngithanda ubaba nomama; ngibathanda ngoba uma ngifuna izinto bayakwazi ukunginikeza, nomama futhi ngiyakwazi ukuxoxa naye.

My name is Nosambulo and my other name is Nokuphiwa. I am 11 years old going on 12. I was born on the 23rd of February 1996. I live in Maranatha. I am in Grade 5 at Okhayeni Primary School. I am tall but not too tall; I am beautiful and slightly light in complexion. I like cooking but I don't get time to cook. I also like reading and playing ball. At home I love my mother and father: I love them because when I need something they are able to get it for me, and I can confide in my mother.

Nosambulo: Ngizokhuluma mayelana nokugula kukamama isikhathi eside. Wagula ngo 2004 kwaze kwaba u 2005 wasukeke wabancono ngo 2005 kwaphinda kwamphinda ngo 2006

I am going talk about my mother's long illness. She was sick from 2004 to 2005. She got better in 2005 but in 2006 she got sick again.

Okwangiphatha kabi ukuthi nasesikoleni ngasengiphazamisekile ngingasazi nokuthi ngizokwenzenjani ngoba umama owayegula kwakunguyena umuntu

owayenginakekela kukho konke esikoleni wayengivusa ngihambe ngiyesikoleni futhi okunye okwangiphatha kabi ukuthi umama wagula isikhathi eside thina singazi besifihlela ukuthi umama ugula yini kodwa engikuthandayo waggcina waze wasitshela ekugcineni ukuthi wayephethwe yini.

What was difficult for me was that I was worried, even when I was at school. I didn't know what was going to happen because my mother was sick and she was the main person who took care of me: she would wake me up in time to get ready for school ... The other thing that upset me was that my mother was sick for a long time and we didn't were not told anything, they kept the reason for her illness a secret from us. I liked the fact that in the end they told us what was wrong with her.

SFX: umsindo wezinkukhu – chickens clucking in a yard

Nosambulo: Lapha kusekhaya kubiyelwe ngocingo. Ekhaya kunendlu enkulu iwu-10 room. Lapha kukhona ithoyilethi elingaphandle. Kwasuke kwaba isihlabathi esikhona. Kwasuke kwaba yigaraji elingaphandle, likhona elinye elisendlini.

This is my homestead with a fence around it. The house has ten rooms. There is an outside toilet. There is also [building] sand. There is a seperate garage as well as a garage attached to the house.

SFX: umsindo wamanzi kampompi – water tap pouring

Nosambulo: Kukhona nompompi amanzi siyawathola khona.

There is a tap where we get our water.

Nosambulo: Sawubona mama.

Hello, Mama.

Mama: Yebo, sawubona Lami.

Hello, Lami.

Nosambulo: Wazizwa kanjani ngenkathi ugula?

How did you feel when you were sick?

Mama: Kwakungasemnandi phela kwakubuhlungu ngoba ngangingazi ukuthi kanti sekutheni yini le esiyenza ngingaphili ngoba phela nodokotela babengakhombisi ukuthi mhlampe ku-serious kangakanani ngoba ngiyakhumbula nje ngesikhathi ngiseNPA baze bathi bazongihlinza babheke ukuthi yini ngempela le engiphethe.

It was a bad time because I didn't know what was wrong with me, because I simply wasn't getting better. Even the doctors weren't able to tell me how serious it was. I remember when I was at NPA [hospital] they said they were going to operate to find out what was wrong with me.

Nosambulo: Wawusifihlelelani ngenkathi ugula?

Why did you keep your illness a secret from us at the time?

Mama: Angiqondi ukuthi usho kuphi ukufihla ngoba phela ngangigula njengokujwayelekile ngoba ngangingazi ukuthi yini le ebambe kangaka ngoba nabodokotela ngangithi noma ngifika kubo bangasho ukuthi ngempela inkinga ikuphi njengoba baze bahlela ukuthi ke bangise e-theatre bayongibheka ukuthi yini kahle kahle le engiphethe.

I don't understand what you mean by me keeping it a secret from you. I also didn't know what was wrong and even the doctors couldn't tell me what the exact problem was – that's why they took me to theatre so that they could have a look at what was wrong with me.

Nosambulo: Ngisacela ukubuza ukuthi wazizwa unjani ngenkathi usishiye sodwa lapha ekhaya ngenkathi ugula?

How did you feel when you left us alone here at home while you were sick?

Mama: Ngangiphatheke kabi ngoba ngangazi ukuthi nibancane ukuthi ningazenzela ezinye izinto. Ukuvuka ekuseni nje ngangazi ukuthi nje, ey, esikoleni kusho ukuthi nifika late ngoba phela ekuseni nivuswa yimi, nginibekele amanzi okugeza, nigeze bese niyagqoka niya esikoleni. Ngangibona-ke ukuthi ngoba ngingekho vele kuningi okonakalayo.

I felt very upset because I knew that you were too young to do things for yourselves. Waking up in the morning I knew that, ey, it meant that you were always late for school because I was the one who usually woke you up in the morning, heating your bath water for so that you could have a bath, get dressed and go to school. I knew that without me there many things would be going wrong.

Nosambulo: Sawubona anti.

Hello auntie.

Aunt: Yebo.

Hello.

Nosambulo: Unjani?

How are you?

Aunt: Ngiyaphila.

I am well.

Nosambulo: Yini uma umama egula usisize emndenini?

Why were you helping out in the family when my mother was sick?

Aunt: Phela umama wakho unkosikazi kamfowethu manje usisize nami uyinxenye yomndeni wakithi uma egula kufanele ukuthi ngisukume ngimsize lapho ngingasiza khona.

Because your mother is my brother's wife so she is also a part of my family. When she is sick I need to stand up and help out wherever I can.

Nosambulo: Umama ngimthanda ngoba uyasinakekela uma sicela izinto kuye uyasinika, noma sinezinkinga siyakwazi ukuxoxisana naye asibonise futhi ukuthi kumele senzeni. Uyasifundisa futhi nokuhlonipha ukuthi umuntu omdala kumele simphathe kanjani.

I love my mother because she cares for us. When we ask for something she gives it to us and when we have problems we talk to her and she gives us advice on what to do. She also teaches us about respect and how to treat an adult.



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