



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

Njegomama / Just like a mother **Phindile, 11 years old, 2007**

- SFX: Umsindo wekhwela nezimbuzi ezihambayo nezikhalayo – goats being herded
- Phindile: Sawubona mama.
Hello Mama.
- Mama: Yebo.
Hello.
- Phindile: Unjani?
How are you?
- Mama: Ngiyaphila.
I am well.
- Phindile: Ngiyaphila nami.
I am also well.
- Phindile: Nenzani lapho esibayeni?
What are you doing in the kraal [goat enclosure]?
- Mama: Sikhhipha izimbuzi
We are letting out the goats.
- Phindile: Nizikhipha ukuthi ziyodla?
Are you letting them out so that they can graze?
- Mama: Yebo.
Yes.
- Phindile: Lena eniyibambayo?
And the one you are holding?
- Mama: Siyifaka umaka ukuze itholakale uma ilahlekile.
We are putting a mark on it so that if it gets lost it can be recognised.

- Phindile: Oh.
Oh.
- Mama: Yebo.
Yes.
- Phindile: Lapho okusebenza khona umama kunamasimu amaningi, batshale amathimba obhatata, nobhanana nomango. Kunanezinja ezinkulu ziyalumana.
Where my mother works there are many fields, they have planted sweet potatoes, bananas and mangos. There are big, vicious dogs here.
- SFX: umsindo wokukhonkotha kwezinja – dogs barking
- Phindile: Igama lami ngiwuPhindile isibongo ngingowakaMsweli. Ngibukeka ngimuhle, ngimude kancane kodwa ebusweni angifani namuntu. Engikuthandayo ngithanda ukupheka nokudlala ibhola. Engikunyanyayo ukuthi uma sidlala ibhola umuntu avesane akushaye ngebhola ngebomu.
My name is Phindile, my surname is Msweli. I am beautiful, slightly tall, and my face doesn't resemble anyones. I like cooking and playing ball. I hate it when we play ball and someone hits you very hard with the ball on purpose.
- Phindile: Ekhaya ngihlala nomama, noskwiza, nobhuti, noSnothile, noAnele noKhululiwe. Uskwiza ngiyamthanda ngoba uyasenzela izinto uma anayo imali. Noma futhi uyasenzela, uyasinikeza nje imali yokuthi nje sidle esikoleni.
Ufana njengomama ngoba, ehena, naye uyakuthenga ukudla athenge nalokhu esizokugcoba ukuthi sigcobe. Bese ethenga konke nje namafutha, uma angekho amafutha uyahamba ayowathenga. Uma futhi singekho isishebo esizosidla, uyakwazi uskwiza ukuthi asithenge.
At home I live with mother, my 'skwiza' [sister-in-law], my brother, Snothile, Anele and Khululiwe. I love my sister-in-law because she buys us things when she has money, and sometimes she gives us money to buy things to eat at school.
She's just like a mother, yes, she buys food, and she buys body moisturizer, she buys everything, [cooking] oil - when there's no oil, she goes and buys it - and when there's no relish left to eat, my sister-in-law buys it.
- Phindile: Lapha umuzi wasekhaya kunezindlu eziwu-6. Kunelala uskwiza, nelala umama neyethu. Egcekeni kunesihlabathi namatshe. Nezihlahla ziningi.
Here is my home, there are 6 rooms. There's the one my sister-in-law sleeps in, my mothers, and ours. In the yard there is [building] sand and stone. There are many bushes.
- SFX umsindo wamadada aphuza amanzi – ducks quacking at the drinking water
- Phindile: Amadada awu-6.
There are six ducks.
- Phindile: Lapha sihleli ecansini noskwiza. Sawubona.
Here I am sitting on a grass mat with my sister-in-law.
Hello.
- Skwiza: Yebo.

Hello.

Phindile: Unjani?
How are you?

Skwiza: Ngiyaphila.
I am well.

Phindile: Ngisacela uzichaze.
I would like you to introduce yourself.

Skwiza: Mina igama lami nginguNelisiwe wakaNxumalo. Lana ngihlala koPhindile Msweli, kodwa ekhaya kuseNgwavuma le phezulu eGwaliweni.
My name is Nelisiwe Nxumalo. I live here at Phindile Msweli's home, but my original home is in Ingwavuma, up there at Gwaliweni.

Phindile: Kukuphatha kanjani ukuhlala layikhaya?
How do you feel about living here at home?

Skwiza: Kungiphatha kahle ngoba angihlukumezekile ngihleli kahle.
I feel good about it because I am not treated badly, I have a good life here.

Skwiza: Lapha ekhaya ngingasho ukuthi siyaninakekela sibambisene sobabili nomama ngoba uma kukhona okungekho lapha ekhaya umama engenayo imali mina uma nginayo ngiyakwazi ukuthi nginithengele lokhu enisuke ningenakho, enisuke nishoda ngakho.
I can say that your mother and I work together here at home - because when we're short of something at home, and when your mother doesn't have money, if I have it I buy it for you, whatever it is that you need.

Phindile: Uyathanda yini ukukwenza lokho?
Do you like doing that?

Skwiza: Yebo ngiyathanda ukukwenza lokho ngoba angisuke ngiphooqiwe kusuka othandweni kimi.
Yes I like doing that because I am not forced to do so; I do it because I want to.

SFX: Umsindo wokulima kwegeja – hoeing sounds

Phindile: Ngicela ukubuza ukuthi, ehena, wenzani engadini?
What are doing, eh, in the garden?

Skwiza: Engadini ngilimile amaveji ngilime namathanga. Konke nje uma lina ngiyele ngilime nommbila.
In the garden I have planted vegetables and pumpkins, just everything. When it rains, I plant maize.

Phindile: Ufundiswe ubani ukulima amathanga?
Who taught you how to plant pumpkins?

Skwiza: Angifundiswanga umuntu ngafunda ekhaya ngoba ekhaya vele kade sikhule silima futhi ekhaya kade silima endaweni enamatshe.

Nobody taught me, I just learned at home because we grew up planting things; we used to plant in an area that was rocky.

Phindile: Ngicela ukubuza ukuthi uyangithanda yini?

I would like to ask, do you love me?

Skwiza: [Ehleka] Yebo, ngiyakuthanda ngikuthandela ukuthi ngoba uyingane ehloniphayo uma ngikuthuma uyangilalela.

[Laughing] Yes, I love you, I love you because you are a respectful child; when I send you on errands, you listen to me.

Phindile: Yebo. Nami ngiyakuthanda.

Yes, I also love you.

Skwiza: Ngiyabonga ukuzwa lokho ukuthi nawe uyangithanda.

I am glad to hear that you love me too.



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