

The Press



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Brush
Up
On
Your
Beauty



Check it! Join in!
Youth Action Movement - Swaziland

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 2012

ISSUE No.1

"PARENTS ARE **WRONG**, WE DO HAVE SEX..." Page 2



Young people shocked their parents by admitting to have started having sex in a community dialogue at Lamgabhi. The dialogue was attended by Indvuna yenkudla, bucopho, rural health motivators, parents and young people. Appeal to parents to allow them to go to community events where they can get knowledge and skills about sexuality the young people between the age of 15 to 24 years revealed that they do not get in-depth information about sexuality from their parents at home. This is cause for concern because Parents want young people, particularly girls, to abstain. How is this possible without talking to them about sex and growing up. Who is to talk to these girls (young people) so that they do not have sex early?

(Continues on page 2)

Doughnuts and dialogues at US embassy every month for every youth. Book your place and share your mind...



It's Not Culture; It Is Not a Religious Practice;
So Why Didn't Swazis Say Anything About It?

See Page 3

Should government sponsored students pay
back their scholarships so that other Swazi
children get the same privilege?

See Page 3



Check them out at the mobile clinic
for all your
Sexual and Reproductive Needs

Every week @ Mathendele, Ludzeludze,
Mpuluzi, Ekudzini, Mtholweni,
Nhlanguano, Kwaluseni, Mahlobatsini,
St. Phillips, Mahlanya,
Ezindwendweni, Taxray



PLAY 4 LIFE

SPORTS! RACES! MUSIC!
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MANY PRIZES &
GIVEAWAYS!!!!

Sept 29th Jabukweni Community 9am
Oct. 13th Makhonza Community 9am
Oct. 27th Lamgabhi Community 9am
Nov. 10th Kandzangu Community 9am
Show us how YOU Play For Life!!!

HAVE THE LIFE
THAT YOU WANT

IPPF International
Planned Parenthood
Federation
Africa Region



Hey Membas of 'The Press',
Welcome to our **very first** issue of a national youth newspaper written for the youth by the youth. We are starting out small but we are hoping for big **big** things and only YOU can help us do this.

Our dream is that this paper will be yours. A place where your thoughts are shared, where discussions are started, where you laugh, share your ideas and creativity. Where current sexual and reproductive health, hot topics, life, love and other issues affecting YOU are investigated, questioned and understood... But mainly this paper is a place where you can just be you.

We are still looking for journalists/writers/contributors between the ages of 15-29 that are interested in writing or contributing to the following columns/articles:

- Youth Athlete of the month
- Sports
- Movie Review
- Music Review
- Youth and Politics Discussion
- Comedy

We are also looking for individuals looking to gain experience and exposure (perfect for peeps trying to build up their CV):

- Artists
- Photographers
- Graphic designers
- Fashion critics
- Editors
- Team Leader

And we are always looking for creative content e.g. poems, photos, drawings, comics, jokes at any time.

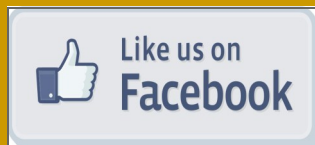
Give us a holla at
ec.thepress@gmail.com

Kristiana Bruneau
Editor n' Chief
ec.thepress@gmail.com

"Like" The Youth Action Movement Swaziland Facebook Page



The youth action movement launched a facebook page. This is a platform for young people to organise themselves in a cost effective way. Instead of traditionally organising venues and travelling to different places to meet, young people all over the country can meet in the comfort of their homes, in buses, while walking or wherever else they are. In the page, they can vote for their favourite international and local songs that will be published every month in the press, participate in regular competitions, ask any questions they want to know about relationships, sex, and sexuality, learn about events in the country, post their favourite pictures to be selected for the monthly press issues. The page partners with entertainment events country wide to ensure that young people are engaged. To be part of the page all you need to do is to search for youth action movement Swaziland and like the page.



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What's up fellaz!

Especially the ladies out there loving and taking care of themselves. OKeyokeyokeyokey and the "gentlemen". Ladies I've been chatting with my girlfriends who are constantly complaining about their Ex boy friends in their lives who re-surface and pretend to be caring and all the drama one can think of come to think of all the Exes in my life . I have one who's always calling or dropping an inbox saying "I miss you please give us a chance" huh! Miss me! Give us a Chance? What will happen to the girl in your life? Thinking to myself.

Ladies! Ladies! I'm tired of men taking us for granted all in the name of love. Ah!! Shame! They are dependent creatures who run back to

Parents Are Wrong, We Do Have Sex...

(From page 1)

The young people felt like parents believe that they are not ready for sex even in their late teenage years or early twenties. This is why they do not talk to them about sexuality issues. But as they revealed, their parents are wrong; in their late teenage years and early twenties, young people are having sex.

In their shock, the attending parents admitted that they did not know how to talk to young people about these issues. Adding that they were not sure of the right time to start talking about sex and sexuality, or were afraid to talk about it because they believed it would encourage young people to start sex early. The issues above raise some serious questions about parents.

Firstly, are parents saying that they are having children but are not qualified to raise them? Second, is it true that talking to children about sex and sexuality makes them have sex early? What does that saying "lugotjwa lusemanti" mean if parents think they should not talk

about sexuality to young people early? When should they start talking about it then so that young people grow up knowing and internalize the right time is to have sex? If young people would learn about the right time to have sex, as early as possible, would they not set goals to have sex at the right time? Would they not know that any sex that happens must be with a condom? Would they not have sex with only one person?

If parents do not talk to their children about sex and sexuality or do not allow them to community events, where are they going to be taught? Who is going to teach these young people about the changes in

their bodies, what they need to do so that they don't start sex early, to prevent early pregnancy, getting STIs which includes HIV.

It is time that parents in Swaziland realize the importance of assuming their rightful responsibility and do what they are supposed to do. Organizations are here to support them, not to do their

work for them. The government can play a part by enforcing teaching young people about sexuality in schools but the people who have a right to bring children on earth are the parents. Therefore, they have to give young people all the tools they need prevent having sex early, use condoms when they have started to have sex and have one sex partners.

This is a child's right and a parent's responsibility. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that young people grow up with the potential to have a good future. As such, parents who do not talk to young people



about sexuality, are actually indirectly encouraging them to act and behave in ways that they are trying to prevent.

The challenge then extends to leaders in the communities, churches and the entire country to encourage parents to talk to young people from an early age. They must be given age appropriate information about growing up. Men must not leave the responsibility of talking to young people to women. They have a role to play too.

If we all want to make ourselves and the country better, then it is our responsibility and that's the truth.

a stand by just because men think they will say the most comforting and soothing words to have me back in their lives.

Ladies it's high time we decide and stand in our own terms. Let's be emotionally independent.

On my own terms I stand!

THE RANT

their ex-girlfriend when their girlfriends have dropped them like hot potatoes. Girls these men do not have the decency to move on with their lives without looking back. I choose not to be

Comment to M.D.?
ec.thepress@gmail.com

YOUTH OF THE MONTH



What is your name?
Siyabonga Vuyani Dlamini

How old are you?
20

Where in Swaziland are you from?
I live in Ticantfwini

What do you think is the biggest issue facing youth today in Swaziland? What work have you done for the youth of Swaziland? The biggest issue facing youth of Swaziland is ignorance and the "I don't care attitude". Most of young people have the information at their disposal and they are choosing not to use it, if you look at issues of teen-pregnancy and drug abuse it's not the lack of information but its ignorance...I think we have passed the stage of peer pressure and lack of awareness of SRH issues.

Who is your role model and why?

I do not have one particular person that I can say I sincerely look up to. Anyone who makes a positive change in other peoples lives be it at school, in church, at community level. I consider that person my role model.

What are your passions? What inspires you?

I'm passionate about working with young people, being in their company whilst working together

towards a common goal .I enjoy seeing them making a positive change in their lives is what inspires.

What do you do as a hobby or recreational past time?

I'm not a sport fanatic but I like watching soccer and playing pool.

What are your plans for the future?

My plans for the future are to go to University and get an Honours, and hopefully a Masters or even PhD but whatever I end up doing, my goal in life its to continue working with young people as they try to make the world a better place.

Why do you think you were selected as 'Youth of the Month'?

I think I was selected to be the 'Youth of the Month' because of the dedication , effort and love that i have for working with young people.

One funny/interesting thing about you that most people don't know?

I am a really really good cook. I can cook everything.

Know a youth that deserves to be 'Youth of the Month in Swaziland? E-mail your nominations to
ec.thepress@gmail.com

"Do people choose to be gay?"

For a few moments I pondered the question that this stranger (now my best friend, a pillar in my life, and the kind of support that all gay people need) had posed. I mean, *who would actually want to be gay? Really Now!*

Then I responded, "Who would choose to be disliked, ridiculed, and literally hated?" At that moment, I answered my own question and that was when I first 'came out'.

In retrospect, I should have responded to this stranger with a stern "I did not CHOOSE to be gay" and that would have been the end of the conversation. However, I'm just not that kind of person and from there a whole discussion ensued.

Recently I hung out with this person again and it reminded me of that time. When it happened ten years ago, I wanted to say that given half a choice I would not choose to be gay. But hey, if wishes were horses... And I realize I wouldn't change that for anything.

I'm also glad we had that conversation because it sort of prepared me for the challenges and many difficulties that have resulted from being gay in this society.

Truthfully, being gay is as hard as being a prisoner on death row. If you are in the closet, you have no freedoms and always sort of in hiding. You constantly have to watch what you

There was a story in the Swazi News dated

14 April 2012 that I thought was important to look at again. The fact that no one said anything about it means that stories like this one

which means that under the constitution this is rape. This act went against the young girl's human rights and the sexual and reproductive health rights , and put her at risk of getting pregnant, getting HIV or

her be raped by her boyfriend and no one seems to be bothered? Why don't our elders stand up for the rights of this young girl? The media has played their role by telling us this story but what has our church leaders done?

Do Swazis think it's okay to sleep with your mother's boyfriend?

What has our community leaders done? What has our government done? What have they done to protect the rights of the youth?

If nothing is said about these events, what is to become of the future? What will Swaziland be like in ten years if reports like this become commonplace and what of the ones that are not being reported?

This mother and her boyfriend must be held accountable for their actions, and that adults act the way that they want their children to act.

Young people it's now time for our voice to be heard.

By Vusie Wax Mthupha



are becoming common sense, and this is not right.

The story was about a mother who told her daughter to sleep with her boyfriend (mother's boyfriend). Both the mother and the boyfriend were living in a one room flat but due to illness, the mother told her daughter to take her place and bed with the boyfriend. Despite the challenges of being ill and still needing to have food on the table, the mother had no right to tell her daughter to sleep with the boyfriend.

Even if this girl was given a choice, she was only 15-years old,

other STIs, which could give her problems more serious than 'paying the bills'.

Adults and church leaders are telling us as young people that we should not engage in sexual intercourse before marriage. We are shown verses from the bible about the importance of holy matrimony and the consummation of marriage but adults in our own society, people that attend church, are doing the opposite. They are supposed to be our role models.

How are we supposed to listen to this when a mother can force her daughter to have inter-generational sex, lets

say, especially around certain people or you have to act 'straight'. Being gay is tough enough, but living in this society? It is a full time job without

any payment. But what choice does one have, to 'come out'? Yeah right, then what, endure even more hardship, discrimination and hatred?

I remember during that conversation, my friend later asked, "So why are you gay"? Ten years later, I know that the only people who would ever ask such a question are not gay. Not that I take offense to it but

the answer is not straightforward. I mean being gay varies from individual to individual. Most people don't realize there are different degrees of homosexuality; or worse, they compare you to someone else they know (or heard of) that is gay, as if we are all somehow the same. Why is it that 'straight' guys can be different but gay guys are somehow all the same? I am me. I can only be me and the me that I am is gay. I just am. Period.

How I came to this realization shall be explained in an upcoming article.

Florence Nightengayle



? The Big Question

Can government sponsored former students pay

back their scholarships so that other Swazi children get the same privilege? Many Swazis were given scholarship by the government. This was a good initiative

because it gave most Swazis the opportunity to go to university. Young Swazis are at the verge of losing that privilege. Is this because those who enjoyed the privilege did not pay? What is stopping them from paying? If a person wants to pay, where can that person go to pay? What has the government done to ensure that this money is paid. Here we ask the questions that all young people ask.

Write to us at ec.thepress@gmail.com so we can ask the questions you want to ask.



Kulukhuni Heh!

Some people never cease to amuse me, lol. sisi longu MC welicembhu sisi. Asengitibutele nje kutsi "ubafunani labafanyana umdzala kangaka!" Wacalaphi kubo Fash nyalo sokunangu bengititsembelekuya! Awuboni yini kutsi umdzala utawutselela labantwana letinswayi takho!! Good tip, get a life sisi, utfole labangan-gawe.... Wuuu! Cha uyatihlaza. Ahhh! Asewubin-dze mntfwana wemalangeneni utoba ngumuntfu.

Ayi! KuseMahlanyeni'

Cha! No offense peeps but cha siyabonga ku bhuti DJ kugcwalisa population mnakefu. I mean wena at the age of 23 una 4 webantwana!!! From 3 different mothers, hhayi no! ngabe u compita naban shem ngoba nalokondla kuyakwehlula. Advice from a friend (not sure if this is necessary) "usesemncane nawungaka, yini lokukwehlulako ngekuhlela nje?"



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Youth With Purpose by Ntokozo Mdluli

Youth is the most treasures stage in the lifetime of humankind. It is during this point in life whereby new hopes and dreams accumulate and ambitions accelerate. However, the

youthful stage can also be the cause of your downfall either temporary or forever.

Life is short yet it offers wide opportunities and knowing that, is just realising your capabilities and then taking full charge in your responsibilities.

We are young people so blessed with many resources but still we find it tough to survive in life. Many young people are messing around and their blessings are being compromised. In their yesteryears our elders used to cherish the youth and cheerfully say; "Oh the young shall grow." But now we live in an era where the young are full of mischief and I have no doubt in declaring that; "Surely the young shall die if they continue living in that way"

Anyway, those who play with cats really deserve to be scratched. However, they say while there is hope and yes we do need hope in order to cope. Being a youth with purpose, we have great hope that sometime in the future all the bad shall give way.

A healthy nation is one that comprises young people so vibrant, with minds so brilliant; faces always looking jubilant, as well as addressing issues that are relevant. Let us join hands together and nurture the hope of our future.

Precious young people, we must beat ignorance and show zero tolerance to evil prevalence. Try not to be the weak link in the quality chain. For without purpose life is a motion without meaning, activity without direction and yes without purpose I suppose life would be pointless.

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Solution found at www.facebook.com/youthactionmovement-swaziland

Huge Stab In the Back'

Uyabona bakaNgwane basuke bacinisile nabatsi "your best friend is your biggest enemy". I can't imagine it is happening to me and I wonder what you are going through sweetie. Ey ngoba batsi ligama lemuntfu yinkhomo no names are gonna be mentioned. So this famous dude from TV just got the bad news that his colleague has impregnated his girlfriend. I don't understand, sisi, what was so hard about just sticking to one partner??? I hope that they have learnt their lesson. All I

Brush Up Your Beauty

The Crew From "The Press" went to ask the experts at Clicks: 'How do we get a natural look with our make up that looks nice but not overdone?'



1. Make sure your face is clean. Use a gentle facial soap or just warm water and a cloth.

2. To tweeze your eyebrows apply a moisturizer to avoid irritation.

3. Apply a foundation evenly over your face and blend into the neck

area with a sponge wedge. Go to the cosmetic section to find the right tone to match your skin. Apply a pressed powder to face to "set" the foundation.

4. Then apply a neutral eye shadow was to the whole eyelid.

Because her skin is a cinnamon tone we chose a shimmery light gold.

5. Apply any other colour just along the edge of the lid. We use a shimmery purple. Follow this with mascara.

6. Before putting on the light shimmering pink gloss on, line your lips with a liner slightly darker than your lip colour.

7. Apply with a blusher brush to your cheek bones to give a healthy glow.

And Voila!!!!

Remember to remove the make up with facial wipes which cleanse, tone and moisturize, or warm water then moisturizer.



Dear Sugar and Cutie H;

Is it wrong to introduce my boyfriend to my family while I'm still at school?

Thanks, *Undecided*

Undecided, Don't worry so much, girl! Do what you feel is best and talking to your parents openly is good. We think that being truthful will always be the best option. But then again, what if you know your parents will not like it? You may have the best intentions but they might misunderstand and see it as disrespectful. Or the minute you start slacking at school, for whatever reason, they may blame it on having a boyfriend. So we advise you to think it through, being honest is best but perhaps waiting until after you are finished school is better. And who knows, waiting may let you be sure he is even worth the introduction! Ya we said it. Xoxo.

Sugar and Cutie H

Write to Sugar and Cutie H about all your love, relationship, sexuality and SRH questions
ec.thepress@gmail.com