REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 17th October, 2023

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to lay the following papers;

CPAIC AUDIT REPORT ON LCDA FOR YEAR ENDED 2021

1. The report of the County Public Accounts and Investments Committee (CPAIC) on the report of the Auditor General on Laikipia County Development Authority for the year ended 30th June, 2021 dated 7th September, 2023.

CPAIC AUDIT REPORT ON LCDA FOR YEAR ENDED 2020

2. The report of the County Public Accounts and Investments Committee (CPAIC) on the report of the Auditor General on Laikipia County Development Authority for the year ended 30th June, 2020 dated 7th September, 2023.

(Hon. Parleto Lekopien laid the Papers on the table)

NOTICES OF MOTION

CPAIC AUDIT REPORT ON LCDA FOR YEAR ENDED 2021

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report of the County Public Accounts and Investments Committee (CPAIC) on the report of the Auditor General on Laikipia County Development Authority for the year ended 30th June, 2021 dated 7th September, 2023.

CPAIC AUDIT REPORT ON LCDA FOR YEAR ENDED 2020

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report of the County Public Accounts and Investments Committee (CPAIC) on the report of the Auditor General on Laikipia County Development Authority for the year ended 30th June, 2020 dated 7th September, 2023.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Before I give this notice, I have a concern. When I was entering the gate I saw many police officers. Some in plain clothes, some in uniforms, some in guns and I am wondering what is wrong. We are Honourable Members and it's not all the time we see all these officers around with uniforms.

My concern is whether we are in a war like Israel and Palestine or what is happening. I am scared because I don't want to be arrested or in jail. I want to be comfortable as I do business in this House. Give us the situation of this Assembly. If they are guarding the Assembly, I will leave it but if it's guarding us, I will walk with them even to my house because I should be guarded if there is any danger. Thank you.

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Speaker: Hon. Stephen thank you for your concern. I want to let you and the Members know that the presence of security officers is a guarantee of more security. Normally, the security may be adjusted depending on the intelligences collected by the security agency. One such information has been availed to us to ensure that all Members are safe, secure and are able to perform their duties without any undue disturbance. Thank you.

NOTICES OF MOTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF A TOMATO PROCESSING PLANT

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you Hon. Speaker for the clarity. I am now comfortable to prosecute my business without fear. It is not that I am a coward, I am a General. I was thinking if we are at war, I can walk out and get my *Rungu* to guard me. Mr. Speaker I have a notice of motion. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, Aware that Agriculture industry is the backbone of Kenya's economy;

FURTHER AWARE that In Kenya, tomato plays a critical role in meeting domestic and nutritional food requirements, generation of income, foreign exchange earnings and creation of employment;

NOTING that, Tomato processing involves the transformation of fresh tomato produce into the tomato end products like tomato paste, tomato juice, tomato sauce inter alia;

CONCERNED that during the peak harvest season most of the farmers faces the post-harvest challenges;

This House URGES the County Government to establish tomato processing plant within the major growing areas in the County.

Speaker: Thank you Hon. Stephen. Hon. Anthony?

TEENAGE PREGNANCIES AND HIV/AIDS INFECTIONS AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I now feel secure. I didn't notice the presence of police or whatever is going around here but thank you Hon. Stephen for the observation. In any case, I want to assure you that your life is in the hands of God. You don't have to fear anything. We are only sojourners in this world. Hon. Speaker, allow me to give notice of the following motion;

THAT Aware that teenage pregnancy and motherhood rates in Kenya stands at 18% which implies that one in every five teenage girls between 15 to 19 years, have had either a live birth or are pregnant with their first child;

FURTHER AWARE that although the general rate of new infections with HIV and deaths from AIDS has been falling in Africa because of improvements in awareness and use of antiretroviral medicines, reports that people aged 15–24 years are at higher risk of contracting the virus are causing concern among HIV/AIDS campaigners and governments;

NOTING that according to the National Aids Control Council, approximately 29% of all new HIV infections here in Kenya are among young people and the adolescents;

FURTHER NOTING that in the age group 15 to 19 years new HIV infections stands at 70% for women and 30% for men;

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BEARING in mind that the main mode of transmission of the virus among adolescents and young people is through sexual intercourse which shows that most young people are sexually active;

THIS Assembly strongly urges the County Executive in collaboration with relevant national agencies to;

1. Create awareness of the origination of unsafe sexual practices among younger age groups which in turn has created a new chapter in the new HIV/AIDS crisis in African Countries.
2. Broaden the work of Community Health Volunteers to include education among the adolescents about the risks of early teenage pregnancies and HIV/ AIDS infections. This is most especially among communities living in arid and semi-arid areas.
3. Use digital and other platforms to improve adolescents' sexual and reproductive health knowledge which will in turn promote behavior change among the youth.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I read the statement and its confusing today that even Deputy Speaker is reading his own things. I want to go back to this conference system we are putting in place. It has taken too long for the system to work. It's about two or three months now and we have a TV here, microphones and yet even if it's not ready, it's in order they dismantle them until they are ready. Even our space here is occupied. I will urge the Chair to give us information on when this system will be ready. Thank you.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT ON THE ALLOCATION OF LAND IN RUMURUTI TOWN FOR CONSTRUCTION OF COUNTY AGGREGATION AND INDUSTRIAL PARK (CAIP)AND REHABILITATION AND WELLNESS CENTRE

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Honourable Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 45(2) c, I wish to seek a statement from the Chairperson Finance and County Planning Committee regarding the above-mentioned subject.

Honourable Speaker, Land is a finite resource that has to be properly managed in order to reap maximum benefits thus the need for a spatial framework to guide its utilization.

Honourable Speaker, the Purpose of the County Spatial Plan is to provide a county spatial structure that defines how the county space is utilized to ensure optimal and sustainable use of land. This is imperative as it will facilitate the achievement of the land policy principles of efficiency, equity, sustainability and productivity.

Honourable Speaker, the aforementioned document has not been approved by the County Assembly as required in Section 110(3) of the County Government Act, 2012, however large parcels of land in the recent past have been allocated by the County Government in Rumuruti town for Construction of County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP) and rehabilitation and wellness Centre at Kandutura, Rumuruti.

Honourable Speaker, I'm aware that when the County Government allocates land without a county spatial plan may lead to potential issues and concerns. I request the Chairperson for Finance and County Planning Committee to inform this House on:

1. The legal basis for land allocation without a county spatial plan.
2. How does this land allocation align with the County's long-term development goals?

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3. What are the potential environmental impacts of land allocation without a spatial plan?
4. Whether there are any potential land use conflicts in the allocated areas, and how they will be addressed.
5. What measures are in place to ensure equitable land distribution and prevent land grabbing?
6. How will the county address concerns related to land tenure and property rights in the allocated areas.
7. Whether there were public consultations or engagement processes in place for stakeholders to voice their concerns or suggestions.
8. What steps are being taken to expedite the development of a County Spatial Plan to guide future land allocation?
9. What mechanisms will be implemented to monitor and review land use decisions made without a spatial plan in the interim.

Speaker: The Chairman for Finance and Planning Committee, when do we expect a response to this statement?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you. I have listened to the Hon. Member from Sosian. That is an urgent matter and within 10 days, I will work with speed and we, as a committee will burn our mid night oil to make sure that report is in this House. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. That means by the closure of business next week you shall have given us the feedback.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: No, by next week Thursday it will be 7 days.

Speaker: No, you said 10 days and it's within 10 days.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Yes, it's within 10 days. Thank you.

MOTION

TEENAGE PREGNANCIES AND HIV/AIDS INFECTIONS AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT AWARE THAT teenage pregnancy and motherhood rates in Kenya stands at 18% which implies that one in every five teenage girls between 15 to 19 years, have had either a live birth or are pregnant with their first child;

FURTHER AWARE THAT although the general rate of new infections with HIV and deaths from AIDS has been falling in Africa because of improvements in awareness and use of antiretroviral medicines, reports that people aged 15–24 years are at higher risk of contracting the virus are causing concern among HIV/AIDS campaigners and governments;

NOTING THAT according to the National Aids Control Council approximately 29% of all new HIV infections here in Kenya are among young people and the adolescents;

FURTHER NOTING THAT in age group 15 to 19 years new HIV infections stands at 70% for women and 30% for men;

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BEARING IN MIND THAT the main mode of transmission of the virus among adolescents and young people is through sexual intercourse which shows that most young people are sexually active;

This Assembly STRONGLY URGES the County Executive in collaboration with relevant national agencies to;

1. Create awareness of the origination of unsafe sexual practices among younger age groups which in turn has created a new chapter in the new HIV/AIDS crisis in African Countries.
2. Broaden the work of Community Health Volunteers to include education among the adolescents about the risks of early teenage pregnancies and HIV/ AIDS infections. This is most especially among communities living in arid and semi-arid areas.
3. Use digital and other platforms to improve adolescents' sexual and reproductive health knowledge which will in turn promote behaviour change among the youth.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have laid a very sensitive and emotional motion here that touches our lives of all ages. I have concentrated on the bigger brackets of the communities today and you can see the pandemic that we have. The first incidence of AIDS in Kenya was reported 57 years ago. There is improvement but I am ashamed to report to this House that as we are speaking, the disease has stagnated on that group.

Mr. Speaker, I am begging this House to support this motion. Firstly, they are going to add more money and not only funds, we should sensitize our youth on the behaviour we are in today. We need to engage them in all the areas and we need a platform. Nowadays, almost everyone is using smart phones. They have the access to pornographic pictures and movies that are contributing to this bad behaviour. I urge this House to support this motion because we need to safeguard our future.

We are using a lot of County money in health. If you check properly, this is coming from the poor backgrounds of our communities. We need to keep our schools and our hospitals. Mr. Speaker, right now I have a proposal and I know this House is going to help me in future. I come from Likii and we have a dispensary that serves a large number of people than the referral hospital we have. We are proposing to relocate it to a bigger area so that we can have more facilities. We shall make the existing one a youth wellness centre where youth can access counselling and the youth friendly facilities.

I urge this House to oversight and make a follow-up because at the end of the day, we are using a lot of money that could be used for infrastructure since we need better roads. We need money to do our businesses. We need to make more markets and so on. I urge this House to support this motion today so that we can safeguard our future. I ask Hon. Stephen who is not only my neighbour but my friend to second this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Kwanza nachukua hii nafasi kupongeza Mheshimiwa Anthony Theuri kwa kuleta huu muswada. Huu ni muswada ambao unamulika vijana wetu ambao ni wadogo. Nikiangalia huu muswada na mwenye ameleta huu muswada Bwana Spika, naona ni jambo la busara. Mheshimiwa Anthony ni kijana na mjadala ambao ameuleta hapa unashughulikia vijana.

Bwana Spika, yeye amejitokeza kufanya kazi kama alivyoahidi vijana huko nje. Bwana Spika, nimeona katika Taifa letu tuko katika hatari. Nimeona kati ya vijana watano, mmoja

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yuko na mimba. Kama hana mimba, kuna yule ambaye anakusudia kupata. Kwa hivyo Bwana Spika, tunahitaji kuwaelimisha vijana kuhusu ngono. Hakuna haja ya kupitia kando. Shida ambayo hukuja ni wakati tunapoongea na hao vijana tunakosa kuwaambia kinagaubaga kama kichwa ni kichwa na kama pua ni pua. Tuwache kuwaambia watoe makamasi.

Bwana Spika, ni lazima tujue ya kwamba sisi wazazi tuko na jukumu la kuwalinda vijana wetu. Kama ngono inaendelea kutoka kwa vijana wa miaka kumi na tisa, taifa letu liko katika hatari. Bwana Spika, tunajua wakati Yesu alikuwa anazaliwa, alizaliwa na Bikira Maria. Bikira Maria hakuwa amepatana na wanaume. Kwa sasa, mtoto wa miaka kumi na tano ameonana na mwanamume. Hii ni kumaanisha Mungu hana njia ya kushukia.

Sisi ambao tumepatiwa jukumu la kuwalinda, ni vizuri tuwaelimishe vijana na tuwaambie mambo kinagaubaga bila kuficha. Tuwaambie kama wamepata joto na wamefikia kiwango cha kufanya ngono na kama ni lazima wafanye ngono, basi watumie mipira. Bwana Spika, kama hawajui tuwaeleze iko. Hatufai kufunga macho kwa hili jambo. Vijana wengi wanasikia aibu kuchukua na kununua hizo mipira.

Zamani ukiingia katika hospitali zetu kulikuwa na hizo mipira. Hata hapa kwetu wakati niliapishwa, mwezi wa kwanza na mwezi wa pili zilikuwa zimejaa. Baada ya siku chache hazikuwa. Hiyo sio chakula bali zilienda kufanya kazi. Bwana Spika, ni vizuri tuongee haya mambo bila kuficha. Tunahitaji hawa vijana kwa sababu ni viongozi wa kesho. Hawa ndio madaktari, maprofesa na watu ambao wataweza kuinua jamii na kushikilia Taifa la Kenya. Bwana Spika, ni lazima tuwe makini tunapowaeleza.

Bwana Spika, hatusemi ni vibaya kupata watoto lakini tuwapate kwa miaka ambayo inastahili. Kama mtoto wa miaka kumi anapata watoto, mwenye anazaliwa hatakuwa amekomaa. Baadaye uzao unaokuja utakuwa hafifu. Bwana Spika, pengine ndio maana watu wengi hawawezi kustahimili magonjwa yanayokuja. Watu wanakufa kwa sababu hawana nguvu kwa sababu mtoto amezaliwa na mtu ambaye hana nguvu. Ni vizuri tuweze kueleza vijana wangoje ili wafikishe miaka ya kutoka ishirini na nne hadi thelathini ili waweze kupata watoto.

Niko na kijana ambaye anamaliza shule na sijui ataenda kwa nani. Huenda atatembea kwa jamii ambayo imelegea. Kama hajaelimishwa na pia akutane na msichana ambaye hajaelimishwa, watafanya ngono na mtoto atazaliwa. Kama watazaliwa kama vile nataka kwangu ili kura ziongezeke, tunataka walio na nguvu waweze kuzaa kwa mfano Mheshimiwa Mary Gathoni. Nampongeza sana na naomba akujie zawadi yangu kwa kuongeza kura kwa njia ya kupata mtoto. Namuomba asikae sana.

Bwana Spika, haya ndio mambo ambayo tunafaa kuelezea jamii. Hapa tuko na vijana barubaru kama Mheshimiwa Gitahi, Mheshimiwa Gatati na Mheshimiwa Antony ambao wako na nguvu. Tunafaa kuwa na kikao ili niwaeleze polepole. Hiki kitu hakitaisha kwa sababu babu zangu walikipata na bado kiko. Ni vizuri wazazi waeleze vijana. Bwana Spika, wakati nilikuwa kijana nilikuwa nikirukaruka. Bahati yangu ni kuwa nimetoka kwa jamii ambayo inaeleza watu maneno na wazee ambao walikuwa. Walikuwa wanatuambia kama uko na nguvu usienda kurukaruka, tuwe na mpango na tutulie uwanja ni mdogo.

Mimi sikuwa ninaelewa lakini upendo unafanya watu kuruka ukuta. Bwana Spika, wale watu ambao wako na shida si vijana wetu hata kama vijana wako na joto bali ni wasichana. Wanavunja milango wakitoka. Ni vizuri tuweze kupitisha huu muswada kwamba unapoonana ngono bila mpira mambo yawe matatu uwe mgonjwa, ufe ama uwe mzazi. Bwana Spika, ni vizuri tuchukue jukumu na tuombe Serikali kupitia Idara ya Vijana ielimishe vijana mashinani kuhusu hatari ambazo wanaweza kupata wakati wanafanya ngono.

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Mheshimiwa Spika, nafurahishwa na mapendekezo matatu ambayo Mheshimiwa Anthony ametuelezea kwamba kwanza kuwe na kamati ya watu ambao wataelimisha vijana kuhusu ngono. Bwana Spika, katika hospitali zetu kuna *Youth Friendly Health Care Centres* ambazo zinafaa kuwa kila mahali. Hawa vijana ni wetu na tunawahitaji. Vijana wengi hapa wako na watoto wakubwa. Familia ya Mheshimiwa Karuiru ni mzee na yuko na wasichana na vijana wadogo. Kama hataongeza sauti kwa wasichana, huenda kukawa kubaya.

Nakubaliana na huu mswada. Mheshimiwa Spika, hata kama Mheshimiwa Leshuel na wazee wengine hapa hawajafikisha huo umri, watafikisha. Ni vizuri tuige mfano na tuweze kuwa katika mstari wa mbele. Tuingilie kati hata mambo ya michezo ili hao vijana wawe na nafasi ya kuwa kazi. Bwana Spika, kama mtu hana kazi, yeye hufikiria mambo mabaya. Lazima tutengeneze makundi mashinani. Bwana Spika, kuna watu wanaelewa haya mambo.

Kabla ya Mheshimiwa Karuiru kuja hapa, alikuwa anashikilia hawa vijana kwa michezo. Ndio maana kwake hakuna haya mambo ila yako tu huku kwetu kama Likii. Naomba tuchukue jukumu la kuhakikisha ya kwamba tumelinda vijana wetu. Kwa hayo machache, naafiki huu mswada. Asante.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Joseph Gitahi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am appreciative that I am on point to be speaking as the first person. The last time I checked, I am the last born in this House so, I should speak first before other senior Members are able to voice their concerns. Having said that, I am a hundred percent in support of the motion brought forward by our Deputy Speaker, Hon. Anthony Theuri. You realise that the HIV pandemic has not yet ended. I know other issues have come in and tried to replace the issue of HIV and teenage pregnancies so that we are not giving them priority as we used to do in the past.

Hon. Speaker, HIV/AIDS and teenage pregnancies are a deterrence to the future prosperity of our economy and the development of our civilization. Medics have informed us time without number that the right time for childbirth is past 18 years, for biological processes. They have also informed us on other issues to do with protection against these illnesses. HIV is a terminal illness. It does not only deprive us of the labour that we need in our agricultural sector and other active sectors but also brings up the issue of mental health and uptake of drugs and other substances.

Hon. Speaker, as the Hon. Member for Nanyuki Town was presenting his motion, I reflected on the possibilities of us having… Even at the grassroots level, I have heard Hon. Stephen talk about our areas not being so involved in the issues of HIV and teenage pregnancies. I can tell you because I represent them from the smallest to the biggest, I understand that these issues are so much alive in our societies and we need to speak about them today. If we do not speak about them today, then we are not responsible leaders.

So, I would wish that even as we debate, the Executive takes cue so that upon the development of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper these things are factored in so that we can have a budget for the same. I would want to emphasize on the second point, the issue of awareness. We have a golden opportunity whereby we can entrench the motion brought about by the Deputy Speaker. There is an orator in this country who says that the problem with us Africans is that we never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity. Today we have a hundred community health volunteers that will be committed jointly by the National Government and the County Government. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that as their job description is given, we include them.

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Hon. Speaker, you realize that the youth who I represent in this House today might not be so vocal in political matters. They might not be able to come here because of the setup of our society to raise the issues that are affecting them. As we develop these communications against teenage pregnancies and HIV, we also need to make sure that the people communicating are communicating in a language that these people understand. I have risen on this floor times without number mentioning the issues of generational gaps, whereby you find that the person speaking to a teenager is triple or four times their age. There is a very big communication breakdown and this affects the reach of the information that we give.

The youth are the fabric with which we weave our tomorrow, economically, socially and also politically. If we do not actualize whatever we are talking about here in the Assembly, we will not be doing them any service. As Hon. Stephen was seconding the motion, he mentioned about important times in the past. When Hon. Kibaki heard about the pandemic, he put measures that we would see. If you went through all these dispensaries, as Hon. Kagondu was saying, we had areas where they would collect contraceptives, be they trust condoms or whatever they were collecting. It is very important.

Hon. Speaker, from my teenage years to date is not even ten years yet. So, I understand the dynamics when it comes to this communication. Let us communicate to youth in a youth friendly-language so that we are able to save them. When I was in secondary school, there used to be a teacher who is still a friend of mine up to date, he was called Mr. Ngumo Douglas. He would tell us that the problem with the current system of the society is that we try people when they do not have information.

When these people engage in promiscuity, yes, these behaviours; the Hon. Deputy Speaker has a better pronunciation of that word. When they engage in these activities, they do not have information. That is why I like the second part that the Deputy Speaker is putting across – creation of awareness and robust communications to ensure that we save the population that we are talking about.

As I end, I would wish to state that there are other activities that would save these people. The County Government should put in place issues to do with counsellors. In every school in developed economies, we have somebody who is guiding and counselling these students, even those that come from far areas. The situation here is that it is only in private and first-class schools that we have these personnel who guide and counsel our kids into accepting the future and going into it having an edge. So, we would want to ask the County Government, as we speak here and legislate as an Assembly, let them also put in place resources to actualize whatever we are talking about.

I am happy that today we are talking and legislating about the youth but let us also be practical. Let the rubber also meet the road. We do not finish at talking and sitting down, let the rubber also meet the road. I am appreciative for this opportunity and I would wish that the House supports this motion and the Executive takes it so seriously to salvage our people from this pandemic. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Gitahi.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also stand to support this motion and I want to thank the able Deputy Speaker for this motion. It is very important for us to understand that we have a problem and how to handle it. I want to confirm that this problem is all over. It is not just in Nanyuki and probably Thingithu but all over our county. We want to confirm that so as to remove doubt.

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Mr. Speaker, the issue of awareness is very important. We have been dealing with the curing but now we want to deal with the protection. That is the problem. When you go around testing people, you want to deal with curing. How do you handle the issue of protection? We want to have a serious move of awareness so that every person and child can understand that there is a problem. Children should understand from an early stage.

We have people who were born with HIV and when they grew up, other children never understood that they are probably positive. So, we need to create awareness from an early stage. I think the government should also take a serious issue even in the curriculum, so that when children are being taught from an early stage, they should have that area of HIV and how to be protected.

I agree with the Deputy Speaker that as Members of this House, when the budget comes to this House, we should try to look whether that area of protection and curing are captured in the budget. When we stand here talking and there is no implementation, it becomes a big issue. So, I stand to support, and I want to thank the Hon. Deputy Speaker for this. The Budget Committee is here so that we can engage the Health Department to see what measures are in place to make sure that our people are safe.

Apart from HIV, we have early pregnancies which is also another issue. When a child gets pregnant, the boy who has impregnated her will just continue with his education. So, you realize later that we have more girl dropouts than boys. We also need to create awareness on that so that ladies can understand that when you joke with a boy, you will be a dropout while that boy will go to high school and probably university. Eventually that lady will be suffering while the boy goes on to marry another lady who is better educated than the one who is a dropout.

Those are the things that people should understand, because when you have knowledge, you will know how to save yourself and handle things. So, I concur with the Deputy Speaker and I want us to move this thing seriously and engage the Executive. We have passed so many motions here but the challenge is implementation.

I am in the Implementation Committee and have written several letters to the Executive but they seem very reluctant to respond. So, I want to bring a motion to this House so that we can know how to engage them, or we can come up with another policy on which we can engage them in a very serious way.

I am sure that all the motions we have moved in this House are based on functions that are devolved. So, they should implement, and if not, they should tell us why it is not possible to implement them. I want to say that we will follow this to the end. I will pick it up so that we can be able to see whether our people are safe.

We should also think about giving support to Community Health Workers and guide them on how to provide awareness and education to people, especially those who are alcoholics. When you go to an area where people are alcoholics, they do not care about themselves so when you test them, the HIV prevalence will be very high. I stand to support this motion, thank you.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the motion, and would like to congratulate the Hon. Deputy Speaker for the noble motion. As a County Assembly, we might be in a position to do all the best that we can pertaining to drilling of water and digging roads but today we fail in what has been brought today by the Deputy Speaker.

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We do not deal with our youth who are always a cry to the society. They are jobless, we cannot accommodate all of them in the few jobs that we have. I think this is a collective issue that should start from our homes. If we do not train our young ones on how to conduct themselves on matters pertaining to drugs, early pregnancy and unwarranted sex, then we might be doing very little.

Some of us, as young or old as we are, to bring a girl child and start counselling her about abstaining from sex is sometimes a little bit hard. However, through what the Deputy Speaker is urging the County Government… I recall that sometime back I was the chairman of a group called SYAPEP – Sipili Youth AIDS and Poverty Eradication Project. I initiated it at around 2004 and went up to around 2009 and we used to do very well.

Hon. Ndiritu has said that when we came to the Second Assembly there were boxes of condoms in the toilets. I do not know why these fellow Members are fearing to mention 'condoms' yet quoting that name is not barred in this Assembly. I know it will help somebody from here and they will implement it in their own ground because it is a crucial and critical thing pertaining to the motion of today.

During that time, we used to make boxes. I just wish Hon. Gitahi was back here because then, if you went to Githiga you would find the Sipili Youth Poverty Eradication Project Box full of condoms. We used to attend to it. If you would look at the history of HIV, I think those were the times when HIV prevalence was very low. I have seen that Hon. Theuri has mentioned NACC – National AIDS Control Council. We used to get some funds and facilitation, and I am only expecting that what we can do currently is to urge the County Government and the National Government because I think that unity used to help.

It was on Friday that I attended a particular meeting in a market. Some of these things such as sex come automatically. I think there is this issue of dogs wanting each other. When I was doing the meeting Mr. Speaker, the concentration was low because there were some dogs mating nearby. As energetic as our youth are, we need to tell them the truth. When I finished high school some time back, because I was in a boy's school called Karima Boys, some of the girls we used to play with were from a neighbouring school, Gatugi Girls. We used to give out stories and some of those girls while debating used to say that their mothers advised them while fetching firewood, that if you want to be a good girl while climbing a tree, ensure that the boys do not see your inner wear.

At one point you would go and find a girl on a mango tree and when you ask her why she does not have her inner wear, she would tell you that the mother forbade her; that boys should not see her pants. I believe that it is high time we tell our girls that due to the unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, there is something that boys usually carry called a penis and if goes between your legs, you are at risk of getting those infections. If you go telling people that a boy has got something, some of the girls will not even greet others but it is talked openly as some of the Hon. Members have said, we are going to help our society.

Mr. Speaker, on creating awareness, we used to have mobile clinics that were left by the fourth first lady in matters of health. I remember when we used to call the youth and tell them that we are testing people for free and they used to celebrate that they have been tested. I know that there is a lot of fear. If today you would tell my friend, Hon. Ndiritu to go for a test, I know that it would be a little bit worrying because I share a lot with him.

The other day I was telling him that we are getting old and he was asking me whether we are in a position of using the condoms. Then there was another person telling us there is a future in the HIV preference that talks of withdrawal method. Biologically it is called coitus

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interruptus. I think Hon. Ndiritu was very happy that you can do the intercourse and maybe not get infected because there are reasons as to how you get it.

Mr. Speaker, it is worrying because I read another article in a WhatsApp group that what is killing us, unfortunately I have got the bandits in Olmoran Ward and Aids because I cannot be exempted from the two. The article was quoting that we are being killed fighting for the same hole we got out from. Out of drugs, we cannot exempt drugs from HIV because some of these drugs like the java and others, if consumed, I hear the youth say that it is 24/7. I don't know what that means but seeing a scenario whereby you have an erection 24/7, I believe that there is a problem because you guide that particular youth on how to use a condom but you cannot use it for 24/7, if that is the deal because it will have to burst.

I am happy that the Hon. Chairperson for Implementation has talked of following to the letter. Three days ago, there has been rampant theft of shops being broken in my Sipili Town. Because God helped and they were arrested, they were aged between 17 to 24 years. Yes, we are undergoing a hard economic time but some of the culprit girls from the scene were form three and four, it was so worrying when we went to the police station. The girl was saying that before they start anything, they had to smoke bang. I called the Deputy Speaker because whatever he has shared in the motion is actually touching.

From Olmoran where I come from to Thingithu and all these towns of ours, I have seen reckless youth. Despite of what we should think of them in terms of empowering them through sporting and economic activities, we need to tell them the truth and do all that we can as the County Assembly and as Laikipia County and engage them in telling the truth.

Despite of what the Deputy President is fighting in the issue of illicit brew, we need to join hands so that we have a brilliant future because without the youth we do not have any future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker I support the motion and urge that whatever channels that are followed, from the motion, the Assembly all the way to the Executive, should be timed so that by December we may have done all we can to control our youth.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Karuiru. I want to give the chance to Hon. Salim.

Hon. Salim Edung; Asante, Bwana Spika kwa kunipatia hii nafasi. Kwanza nishukuru Naibu wa Spika ambaye ameleta huu mswada katika hili Bunge. Ni kama aliota ndoto zake na kujua ya kwamba kuna vijana ambao wanaumia katika nchi yetu ya Kenya hasa katika hii Kaunti yetu.

Ukiangalia kwa makini sana, katika hilo taarifa ambalo liko mbele yetu, unaangalia miaka kumi na tano hadi miaka kumi na tisa. Nikirejelea miaka karibu arobaini iliyopita, wazee walisema ya kwamba nyinyi vijana hamfai kuangalia mambo yanayoendelea katika dunia ya kisasa kwa sababu msichana katika ukoo wetu wa Turkana, hakuna mtu alikuwa anaoa msichana kabla haijafikisha miaka ishirini kuendelea mbele. Kulikuwa na nidhamu pia ya kwamba ukitaka kuoa ni lazima ungeangalia familia. Hiyo inamaanisha ya kwamba katika vijana ambao walioko sasa, bila nidhamu na bila afya, hakuna maisha kwa sababu haya yote huanza kwa mtu binafsi.

Waswahili husema ya kwamba vijana ni kama moshi. Huu msemo hupeleka vijana kwa nia hatari sana hasa ukiangalia msichana wa miaka kumi anabeba mtoto. Huyu msichana akibeba mtoto wake na pale mamake anabeba mtoto, hapo utaangalia kwa njia mbili. Huyu ni mama anabeba mtoto na mwana pia anabeba mtoto. Hakuna heshima pia mahali pale na pia katika maumbile ya binadamu, yule mtoto haijafikisha ule umri ambapo atapoozwa kuwa mwanamke.

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Sisi Waafrika tumevunja kanuni ambazo wazazi wetu walikuwa wametupatia kwa sababu maisha ya sasa sio kama awali. Naibu wa Spika, umeleta mswada ambao utaokoa vizazi zijazo kwa sababu hawa vijana bila kuelezewa habari kwenye makanisa, shuleni au katika baraza, watakuwa wamepotea.

Bwana Spika, ukiangalia miaka ishirini na tisa, katika kanisa ya katoliki, walikuwa wakiweka masaa ya kufunza vijana. Hata kanisa ya *full gospel* walikuwa wametenga masaa ya kufunza vijana jinsi watakavyokuwa wazazi na vijana wa kutegemewa katika jamii. Sasa hivi hakuna jambo kama hilo ambalo linaendelea. Unakuta kijana akiambia mzazi wake ya kwamba atafanya vile atakavyotaka.

Kuhusu huu mjadala, ningeomba hili Bunge liunge mkono. Kwa nini sisi husema ya kwamba tutenge pesa kiasi Fulani juu ya Elnino, ilhali Elnino huja na kupita lakini hao vijana bado wako nasi pale. Sisi tunaomba ya kwamba tuwe na mgawo katika mambo kama haya tuweze kufunza vijana wetu jinsi ya kuishi na kuwa na nidhamu katika vijiji na shuleni.

Kama vile Mheshimiwa Karuiru amesema ya kwamba wasichana sana sana ndio wako na nidhamu tofauti na wana wa kiume kwa sababu vijana ni jina ambalo linajumuisha vijana wa kuime n awa kike. Unakuta mwanafunzi ambaye ako katika hiyo shule au kidato cha pili hadi cha nne na hata akifunga shule bado ako na nidhamu tofauti na yale mzazi anafunza. Haya mambo tukipeleka katika mashule, makanisani na kwenye baraza na tukiunga madaktari huko mashinani na tukipatia hao vijana wetu nguvu 80%, watakuwa wamerejea kwa maisha yao ya kawaida.

Ningeomba ya kwamba huu mswada ambao tutapitisha siku ya leo, huu ni mswada ambao utaweza kuokoa jamii yetu na vizazi vyetu ambapo watakuwa vijana wa kesho, wazee na kina mama wa kesho. Katika hili Bunge, tungeomba ya kwamba yale yote ambayo tunapitisha yawe yakifanyika ndio sisi tukiwa katika hili Bunge tunajua ya kwamba tunapoleta mswada unatekelezwa. Ninaamini ya kwamba Naibu wa Spika aliongeleshwa na Mungu ili kuleta huu mswada ili aweze kusaidia vijana. Kwa hayo machache, Mungu awabariki.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Salim. I now invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Antony Theuri: Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Nashukuru wenzangu kwa sababu ya kuunga huu mjadala wa siku ya leo. Kwa kweli, wakati ni sasa na kama sio sasa ni sasa hivi. Hivi nimeona ya kwamba tumedondoa mambo mengi lakini ukiangalia katika hoja zangu, la kwanza ni muhimu hata kama naona ni kana kwamba amepotelea lakini najua ya kwamba ataunga na atasema ya kwamba ni ukweli kwa sababu wanasema ya kwamba kinga ni afadhali kuliko kutibu.

Kama msichana amepatikana na mimba, mahali nimetoka, kuna wazee mahali fulani na ninajua ya kwamba Mheshimiwa Leshuel anaelewa na hata Mheshimiwa Karuiru. Hata kama Karuiru sio mzee, ni tumbo tu ako nayo kwa sababu nilikuwa nimeangalia kitambulisho chake juzi na ni kijana tu kwa sababu ameniacha ni miaka kadhaa.

Kuna wazee ambao walikuwa wanatafutwa na kazi yao ilikuwa ya kutafuta mwenye mimba. Naombea kila Mjumbe hapa ya kwamba kila watoto wao wapate watoto kwa wakati unaofaa. Kazi yao ilikuwa ya kufuata na kusema ya kwamba huyu mtoto ni wa Kironji, hata kichwa inafanana na Kironji na kwa hivyo, ni mtoto wake. Anafuata kabisa mpaka baba wa huyo mtoto anapatikana ndio watu kama sisi walio na jina za Wambui mwisho wasije wakapatikana.

Sio hivyo tu, kwa bahati mbaya mtoto akipata ugonjwa, huo ugonjwa pia unafuatwa. Juzi tulipigana na korona kwa kujifunga mapua, masikio, barabara na kila pahali mpaka dakika

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ya mwisho korona ikaisha. Hata hili jambo ningeomba ya kwamba tuliangalie namna hiyo kwa sababu tumepoteza madaktari wengi, wahandisi wengi na wanariadha wengi katika hilo janga. Kwa hivyo, tushikilie vizuri.

Kamati ya rafiki yangu hapa, Leshuel, anafaa afuate kabisa. Nimesikia ya kwamba Mheshimiwa Ndiritu hakumbuki mshahara wa kwanza, gari lake la kwanza na hata wakati aliingia ndege mara ya kwanza alipoingia hapa. Yeye anakumbuka tu ile mipira mingi ambayo ilikuwa hapo hata kama hataki kuniambia ni mipira ipi. Nashukuru Mheshimiwa Karuiru kwa sababu amesema ni mipira ipi.

Sisi hatukatai watu wafanye haya mambo lakini wajue ya kwamba hata chakula kikiwa tamu namna gani, tumbo ni kidogo na ni lazima ujipime. Haya mambo yafanywe kwa utaratibu kwa sababu haishi na zaidi ya yote watu wadumishe utakatifu na waokoke kama mimi na waombe kama Ruth mpaka Yesu arudi. Nashukuru sana na ninajua ya kwamba huu mjadala utapita na huu ugonjwa utaisha kabisa. Tutabaki na ugonjwa mmoja tu wa maendeleo na kushiba sana.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Antony for a wonderful motion and thank you for the reply.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until Wednesday, 18th October, 2023 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.47 p.m.

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