

Una storia meno bella 2019

06/11/2019

[\(vai alla traduzione in italiano\)](#)

... this is to give you my observation and findings at the home of the grandmother of R. and A. together with their mother A. i took the responsibility to take the children to other family members who are mentally sound and can provide care and protection

when we arrived early morning around 8.35 Am there was no body to receive us. the mother of the children knocked on a door but found not closed and hence we walked in. i found a very old mother aged over 80 years, i greeted her but realized she could not hear me because she was deaf. the children sat on one side of a mattress, their were no chairs or stool except for 1 plastic chair which its bottom was removed to assist the grandmother to relieve herself during call of nature.

i walked out and made a observation of the shelter and the compound i saw a house i with its walls destroyed by floods and pit latrine collapsed. i took photos of the children the grand mother and the shelter to show how the environment was not conducive for the children to be left behind with the mother who has mental disorder.

i called on the area chief and the village elders, they came and witness the mental state of the mother of the children and we all agreed that she cannot provide care and protection. we did not get any other relative to intervene on the behalf of the children. Suddenly a looked door was opened and a man in age 40 stood in the door way. the crowd of youth and other onlookers commented that that was the uncle and he is also mentally challenged and that was the reason why he was locked in.

i reported to the chief,village elders and some youths who came that i cannot leave the children in this environment and that they should take the responsibility to advice the mother of the children to remain behind in moyale while i go back with the children.

A., the mother of the children became violet and vowed not to be separated from her children. after a length argument the leaders could also not take responsibility.

the next option was to bring the issue to the attention of the children officer. i advised the leaders to go to children officer and complain because you understand the family background better than i do. they agreed but not immediate. therefore i left the children behind with the mother and the grandmother . it was as good as leaving the children without any care and protection. i informed the chief and the village elder to take responsibility for the children while the case will be handled by the children officer, to this they agreed and promised.

my next action was to go to the office of the children officer likely i got him before he left for a meeting. i narrated the story, from obbitu to heilu , what i saw and how we discussed with the leaders, i also shared the photos i took at the homestead. i requested the children officer to secure a court order to remove the children from her this will give us the legal custodian of the children and hence we can handle the mother away from the children and obbitu children home and that the children will not be released from obbitu u until we find a responsible relatives like bigger sister who we are told in Nairobi or in Odda before Moyale.

the children officer agreed with me on the court order but it will be a process hence he will take up the issue immediately after the meeting. mean while late the mother stay with the children despite the circumstances.

...

in conclusion the 2 children were not officially exited from obbitu but the mother took them
secondly we did not have legal binding for custodian of the children. our expectation will be the
mother will come back with the children to Sololo within short time., we shall be guided by the
children officer how to get the children back to obbitu while he process the court order
lastly we shall expect the children will be back into Obbitu children home soonest
[kindly find the attached photos for the support of the story](#) and your understanding of the
situation.

I understand that you did everything you could to do. We are all really sorry and very worried. We look forward to seeing the government official succeed in removing those minors from those dangerous situations as soon as possible. I suggest you stay in constant and daily contact with the government official for minors.

These bad stories can help everyone understand the importance of the Project-Sololo and therefore how we should all commit ourselves not to let it go out.

... the children were back with the mother and living in a rental room near the road junction to sololo ramata . i will visit them tomorrow and give more update. i will also update the status of the children to the children officer to follow up on the court order for the children to be re-admitted back to obbitu children home. without it, it will be difficult to bring back the children and to keep the mother away from the children

I fear it will be difficult to remove the mother, even with the court order. You will always find it at the village or on the way to school ... Can other solutions be found? If the mother with her pathology is not a danger to the boys and they are happy to be with her, you can also try to assist them as a project family. The important thing is that they can go back to school and have food, clothing, ... the minimum necessary that the mother is unable to provide. You decide and you do for the best, considering every useful possibility for the minors and also for the mother.

... we can only do what we can within a framework provided in law. in my humble opinion the mother cannot become a mother for the children. this is for the doctors and the courts to decide, in this case adding her to HBC program will not change anything since the mother cannot provide adequate love, care and protection due to her depression or stress problem. she is stranger in Sololo but it like she ran away from home and relatives in Moyale. bring children back to Obbitu is only a temporary solution and children will not stay in peace due to unnecessary visit of the mother at obbitu and at school. this has already manifested in the children whom we feel there is something wrong in the upbringing of the children. like the girl is too quiet, may be have hearing problem or some form of absent mindedness, she is a very slow learner. the boy is hyper active and quarrels children very often.

the best option we have is to bring the attention of the children officer to the plight of these children as the legal custodian and having option to bring the children back to obbitu. they are the defenders of the children rights.

my personal commitment is to put more pressure on the children officer to do his work in the best interest of the children. if he fails to do that then know that we have done our best. my request to this project is to facilitate me to move freely, faster to knock on as many doors of government departments relevant to children support within the county so that children issues is responded to in real time.

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