

Establishment of VOICE Youth Group

Any young people interested in joining the VOICE of the Young should contact our Youth Coordinators. Please call Penda at 954012 or Baboucarr at 937631, or stop by the CPA office.



Since CPA is committed to encouraging the participation of young people in all of its activities, the VOICE of Youth for Child Protection was formed on the 3rd October 2002. Its major aims and objectives are to outline the critical issues facing children in The Gambia, especially abuse, the commercial sexual exploitation of children and the promotion of children's rights.

VOICE hopes to have a great impact by training peer educators and facilitating children's group discussions. They will host a children's workshop in the near future, and hope to embark on a sensitisation campaign as well as other activities.



The group discussions are extremely important because they will provide a forum where children and youth can meet and discuss matters that are critical to them, especially matters relating to their basic rights. This forum will also allow them the opportunity to voice their concerns through dialogue with people their own age.

Discussions will cover issues

including drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, child labour, corporal punishment and HIV/AIDS. The first programme will be to embark on a nationwide tour to sensitise the media and the general public about the existence of VOICE.

The CPA will serve as the advisory board of the group and also monitor its activities.

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Upcoming Events

EVENTS:

Annual Membership Meeting

Launch of Child Sex Tourism Report by CPA and TdH

Launch of Child Sexual Abuse Study by UNICEF and Department of Social Welfare

WORKSHOPS:

Media Ethics and Child Protection

Child Protection in The Gambia - The Children's Perspective

NEXT ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER:

February 2003

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

January 17, 2003

TOPICS:

The British High Commission Supports The CPA

Outcomes of Membership Meeting

The CPA's Technical Adviser Departs The Gambia

Membership Profile: BAFROW

Focus On... Corporal Punishment

Meet the CPA Board: John Njie

VOICE Plans Its Future Activities