Kupitia Macha Ya akina Mama

Through The Eyes of Mothers

Kutumia Sauti ya Picha kujifunza kuhusu changamoto ambzo wanawake hupitia katika kitongoji duni moja mjini Nairobi katika kusawazisha kazi na ulezi ya watoto

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Through The Eyes of Mothers

Using PhotoVoice to study the challenges women in one Nairobi slum face in balancing work and child care

Kupitia Macha Ya akina Mama

Makaazi ya vitongoji duni jijini Nairobi, ilivyo katika jumuiya kama hayo kusini mwa bara la Afrika, uwezo wa mwanamke kufanya kazi na kujipatia mapato mara nyingi huwa mdogo kulingana na wajibu wake wa ulezi ya watoto wadogo. Kwa wanawake wengi, ajira ya mara kwa mara inategemea uwezo wa kupata kituo cha ulezi ya watoto iliyo salama na ya bei nafuu. Hata hivyo, kuna utafiti kidogo juu ya jinsi uwezo wa kupata huduma ya malezi yawa watoto huathiri uwezo wao wa kushiriki katika shughuli za kutafuta mapato, iwe rasmi au isiyo rasmi. Picha katika hii *catalog* ya maonyesho zilichukuliwa na akina mama wanaoishi Korogocho. Wakifanya kazi katika makundi madogo na kutumia kamera ya digitali, walishugulikia maswala mawili muhimu: Ni kwa jinsi gani ulezi ya watoto huathiri kazi yako? Je, ni nini baadhi ya changamoto na ufumbuzi yao? Wanawake hawa hawakuchukua pich tuu; hali walishiriki pia katika kutoa maelezo mafupi na kuchambua picha zao. Picha zaidi ya 100 ambayo ilisababisha, maonyesho hii na *catalog* ya maonyesho hii, inatumika kuonyesha aina ya sauti ya '*Visual*' kuwakilisha idadi ya matatizo yao. Matatizo haya ni pamoja na hatari zilizopo kazini na ustawi ya mtoto, kukosekana kwa usalama wa kiuchumi, na hatari ya mazingira. Kwa jumla, picha na maelezo mafupi yaliyotolewa na akina mama hao inatukumbusha umuhimu wa mbinu ya kushiriki ya '*Visual*' ambayo ni 'kutoka chini hadi juu' katika mchakato ya utungaji wa sera na mazungumzo ya kijamii.

Mapendekezo yaliyotolewa akina Mama

Kama sehemu ya ushiriki wao katika jukwaa wa kijamii, wanawake hawa walikwenda zaidi ya picha kutoa mapendekezo kwa kushughulikia matatizo yalionyeshwa katika picha zao na maelezo mafupi.

Usalama wa kifedha na utoaji wa vituo vya malezi ya watoto

chini ya mada hii, akina mama hasa wale walio na watoto wengi wadogo, wanahitaji udhamini wa elimu kwa watoto wao kuhudhuria vituo vya malezi ya watoto. Wanawake pia wanaamini kwamba wanahitaji kupata mikopo ya riba nafuu ili kuboresha biashara zinazofanywa na wanawake. Zaidi ya hayo wanamadai kuwa wanaume wanapaswa kushiriki katika mazungumzo hayo ili kuwapa nafasi ya kujifunza changamoto wanawake wanakabiliwa nayo katika kusawazisha kazi na ulezi ya watoto.

Usalama na Ulinzi

Juu ya usalama na ulinzi, akina mama walidai kuwa ugawaji bora wa ardhi, na ujenzi wa mazingira kwa ajili ya biashara, ikiwa ni pamoja na ujenzi wa malazi mazuri iliyo na vituo vya maji salama na taa za kutosha itaboresha nafasi ya biashara.

Mazingira na Afya

Akina mama wanaamini kwamba makambi ya matibabu ya bure inafaa kufanywa ili kutibu magonjwa yanayoathiri watoto. Wanapendekeza kuwa mitaro ya wazi yanafaa kufunikwa kwa sababu ni sehumi za hatari ya hali ya juu za ajali, watoto wakiathiriwa zaidi na pia vyoo zaidi yanafaa kujengwa.

Through the Eyes of Mothers

In the informal urban settlements of Nairobi, as in similar communities throughout sub-Saharan Africa, a woman's ability to work and earn income is often limited by her responsibility to care for young children. For many women, regular employment depends on the ability to find safe and affordable day care. However, there is little research on how access to day care affects their ability to engage in income-generating activities, whether formal or informal. The photographs in this exhibition catalogue were taken by mothers living in Korogocho. Working in small groups and using digital cameras they explored two key questions: How does child care affect your work? What are some of the challenges and some of the solutions?" The women did not just take photos; they also produced captions and engaged in analysis of their photos. The more than 100 images that resulted, the exhibition and this exhibition catalogue serve a type of visual voice to represent a number of their concerns. These concerns include workplace hazards and child well-being, economic insecurity, and environmental hazards. Taken as whole, the photos and captions produced by the women remind us of the significance of participatory visual methodologies in 'from the ground up' policy making and community dialogue.

Recommendations Made by the Mothers

As part of their participation in a community forum following the PhotoVoice workshops , the women went beyond the images to make recommendations for addressing the concerns highlighted in their photos and captions.

Financial Security and Day Care Provision

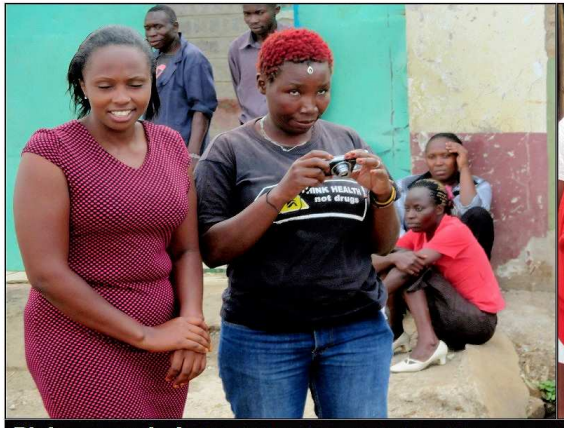
Under this topic, mothers, particularly those with many young children, need education-fund sponsorship for their children to attend day care. Women also believe they require access to low-interest loans to improve women-run businesses. Moreover, they claim that men should be involved in such conversations to give them a chance to learn the challenges women face in balancing work and child care.

Safety and Security

For safety and security, mothers assume that better allocation of land, and construction of spaces for business, including well-built and safe shelters that have water points and adequate lighting will improve businesses opportunities for them.

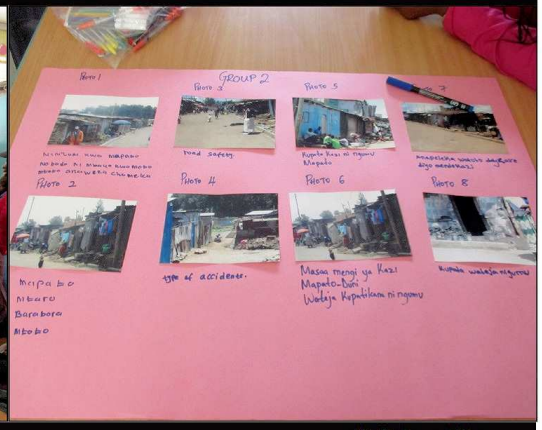
Environment and Health

Mothers think free medical camps should be conducted to treat illnesses affecting children. They also suggest open ditches or trenches should be covered up since they are high-traffic areas for accidents, mostly affecting children and more toilet facilities should be constructed.



Picha za mchakato: Picha zilizochukuiwa bila ya washiriki kujua ikionyesha washiriki katika hatua; kujifunza na kupima teknolojia; kuchukua picha katika kukabiliana na maswala ya utafiti; kuchambua picha zao; kutambua mandhari na kutoa masimulizi na uchambuzi katika mahusiano ya picha hizo.

Process Photos: *Behind the scenes photographs that show the participants in action; learning and testing the technology; taking photos in response to their prompt; analyzing their images; identifying themes and producing analytical narratives in relation to the photographs.*



Elimu na Uwezeshaji
Education and Empowerment

Kujieleza Kisanaa
Artistic Expression

Ushiriki
Participation

“Kilichonifurahisha ni mawasiliano yetu hapa”
“What has excited me is our communication here”

“I have learnt to use a camera, to zoom”
“Nimejifunza kutumia Kamera, kuvuta picha”

“Tunaujuzi ya kidijitali”
“We are digital”

Mama huyu anapika chapatti, kutafuta hela za kujikimu maishani. Kando naye kuna mtoto . Ingelikuwa mama huyu anapata hela za kutosha, angempeleka mtoto wake kwenye daycare. Mahali anapopikia kuna karayi na mafuta moto inayoweza kumchoma mtoto wake.

This woman prepares chapattis, meaning that she is looking for money to sustain her life. Beside her, there is a child - if this woman was getting good money, she would take her child to day care. And also, where she is cooking from, there is a pan with oil. The oil is hot and can burn her child.

Mama huyu ako na watoto wake lakini ukiangalia kwa makini, mtoto wa jirani yuko karibu na laini ya stima. Ni vizuri mama huyu amwangalie pia mtoto wa jirani wake.

That mother, she is with her children there, but if you look carefully, the neighbor's child is close to the electric line. So, it would be good for this mother to also take care of her neighbor.

Hizi ndizo biashara ambazo ziko hapa kwetu “orodha”. Yanafanywa na wanawake, wanaume na hata watoto. Biashara hizi zinafanya watoto wetu wengine kuacha shule…na huenda sisi wamama pia tunakubali kununua vitu hivi kutoka kwa watoto hawa na labda hawakuenda shule ndiposa wauze vitu hivi.

These are the businesses that are here at our place -“orodha”. It is done by women, men, and also children. This business makes some of our children drop out of school… And maybe we women also agree to buy these things from these children, and maybe the child did not go to school so that they come and sell to you these things.

Mazingira yetu yamekua chafu. Kwa mfano, mahali watoto wetu wanaoleta plastiki na vitu kama hivyo, wanaweza kudungwa na chupa. Kama huyu ambaye hajavaa vyatu, mahali anakoenda ni mahali chupa na vyuma hutupua, huenda akadungwa.

Our environment has become dirty. For example, the place where our children bring plastics and such things, they can be pricked by bottles. Like this one wearing no shoes, where he is going to walk is a place where bottles are dumped, metals and therefore he can be pricked there.

Pahali mama anapika githeri karibu na mtaro ya maji chafu na tunaweza kuona hatari ya kupata magonjwa.

Where a mother is cooking "githeri" (mixture of beans and maize), there is drainage, and we see the risk of diseases.

Mtoto huyu kwenye sare ya shule anasukuma mkokoteni na ni mdogo. Pia, tunaweza kuona mtoto mwingine barabarani akikimbia nyuma ya lori—hiyo ni hatari sana. Halafu, tunaweza kuona mama hapa, sisi kama akina mama kila wakati tunashiriki kwa biashara. Mama huyu ametoka kuchukuwa ndizi sokoni na pia anajaribu kuenda kumchukuwa mwanawe.

This child, in uniform, pushes a cart, and he is a small child. We can also see another child where the lorry is moving on the road and the child runs after it - that is so risky. Then we can see a mother here, we as mothers are always involved in business, this mother has come from taking the bananas from the market and she is going to try and fetch her child.

Hii inakaa kama choo na mtaro wa maji chafu. Mtoto huyu anaweza kwanguka ndani na kusababisha ajali. Pia inaonekana kwamba watoto ndio wanalipisha choo na hiyo ni kama ajira ya watoto. Harufu mbaya kutoka kwenye choo na mtaro ni hadhara kwa afya.

This looks like a toilet and there is drainage where it is... this young one can fall into it, and so it can cause an accident. It also sees that the children there are the ones charging for the toilets, so it looks like it is child labor, which is not good and it is not healthy because of the smell from the toilet and the drainage.

Tunapata kwamba mtoto huyu anavuka barabara bila kusaidiwa na mtu yeyote. Ni kama mama yake hangeweza kumwacha pahali mtu angemwangalia wakati ameenda kutafuta kazi ili watoto wapate kula.

We find that this child is crossing the road without anyone to help him/her. It is like the mother was not able to leave this child anywhere for someone to look after her child, and it looks like this mother has gone to look for a casual job so the children can eat.

Huyu ni mtoto na anafanya kazi aina tatu…anauza kwenye kibanda, kuangalia mdogo wake na mtoto mchanga. Mtoto huyu ameenza kazi akiwa wa umri mdogo, anamwangalia mtoto asianguke kwenye mtaro huku akingoja kuuzia wateja na kuangalia bidhaa za mamake zisipotee wakati ameenda kutafuta kibarua.

This is a child and s/he is doing three types of jobs: s/he sells at the stall, s/he is looking after a younger child and is looking after the toddler. So this child has started work so early and still s/he is ensuring that the child does not fall in the drainage and also is waiting to sell for customers and checking out that the mother's stock is not lost. The child is left here and maybe the mother has gone to do a casual job somewhere else because hustling is so serious.

Hapa kuna changarawe iliyomwagwa na mtoto huyu anayachezea changarawe ya kujenga nyumba. Vumbi kutoka kwenye changarawe hii ina hadhara. Mamake mtoto huyu angekuwa na hela, angempeleka kwenye daycare.

There is sand that has been poured, and this child is playing with the sand for cementing the house. The dust is harmful. If the mother had money, she would take them to daycare.

Mtoto huyu anasaidia mamake na kazi. Nina hisi ukosefu wa hela. Mzazi wake angekuwa na uwezo, angempeleka shule. Mtoto huyu ni wa umri mdogo sana.

This child is helping their mother with work. So here too, I feel that there is lack of money because if the parent was able, maybe the child would be in school, s/he is too young.

Watoto hawa wakike na wakiume ni wadogo na wanaweza kuwa wa umri wa miaka minne na mitatu na wanacheza kwenye ploti pekee yao. Kwa sababu wanaume ni wabaya siku hizi, mtu anaweza akamchukuwa mtoto na kumuumiza. Mama yao angekuwa na uwezo, angewapeleka kwenye kituo cha kulelea watoto ama masomo ya ziada.

These are small children like four year or three years and they are in a "chuom" (alley) - it is a mixture of girls and boys. They are somewhere in a "chuom" and they are all alone in a plot. Because men are bad these days, you can get someone coming and taking a child and harm them. If this mother was able to, she would have taken the child to tuition or day care to stay there.

Mtoto huyu ako barabarani na makaa iko karibu. Mtoto Yule mwingine anayecheza aliachiwa mtoto na kuangalia biashara. Amesahau kumwangalia mtoto na pia biashara na sasa anacheza.

There is a child on the road and there is charcoal nearby. The other child, who is playing, was left with the child and s/he was left to take care of the business. S/he has forgotten about the business and taking care of the younger one and instead s/he is playing.

Hapa kuna mama anayepika. Mtoto anaweza kupitia karibu na kuchomeka.

Here there is a mother who is cooking. A child can pass by there and get burnt.

Hapa kuna mama anayetoka kazini. Pahali pake pa kazi iko barabarani na pia kuna mtaro karibu. Mama huyu ako hatarini kwa sababu chochote chaweza kutokea.

Here there is a mother who is coming from work, but the place where she works is on the road, and there is a trench. She is in danger because she is on the road, and anything can happen.

Hizi ni mifupa ambazo zinapimwa iliziuzwe. Mama ya watoto hawa ambaye anapima vitu hivi amewapa kazi ya kuokota “mandenga” na kuyaweka kandoo na wanaweza kupata magonjwa kwa sababu hawatumii kinga.

These bones are weighed to be sold. Their mother who is weighing “mandenga” (scrap metal, plastics) here has given these two children the work of picking for her those things and putting them aside and it is not good because they can contract diseases… and they are not using gloves there.

“Chombo” ni chakula kutoka “boma”yanayotoka kampuni ya ndege ya Kenya. Unavyona, hawa ni watoto, na mama yao huwa anawaletea vitu hivi kutoka “boma” iliwapate kumuuzia.

“Chombo” is food from “boma” (dumpsite), the one which comes from Kenya Airways. As you can see, these are children, and the mother is the one who brings these things from the “boma” for them to sell for her.

Hii ni takataka na kuna njia inayopita katikati yake. Mtoto wako anaweza kutembelea hapa mguu tupu na kudungwa na sindano au kukatwa na chupa na kupatwa na magonjwa.

This is dirt and there is a path passing through where this dirt is dumped and your child can walk barefoot and go there and get pricked by a needle or a bottle cuts him/her, and s/he will leave there with diseases.

Huu ni uwanja wa kucheza kwa watoto wetu hapa Korogocho. Korogocho ni kitongoji duni mzuri na watoto wanapenda kucheza micheza ya aina mbalimbali. Wanapocheza kwenye uwanja huu ambayo imeekauka na inayo mawe, wanaweza kuteleza na kuanguka kwenye magoti yao na kupata majeraha.

This is a playing field for our children in Korogocho. Korogocho is a very good slum, and children like playing all kinds of games, and as they play games in the field, which has stones, it is so dry, the children can trip and fall on their knees, and they will get injuries.

Mama huyu anainama barabani akifua nguo. Gari likija, linaweza kumgonga na kumtupa kwenye laini ya stima na hiyo ni hatari.

There is a mother bending over on the road while washing clothes. She is close to electricity. If a vehicle comes, and knocks her, it will throw her on the electricity and that is a risk.

Huyu mtoto anakimbiza gari hili. Unaweza kuona kuna bumps, gari hili likirudi nyuma, linaweza kumgonga na kusababisha ajali. Ingekuwa kuna tuition (kwa sababu hawa ni wakubwa na hawawezi kupelekwa kwa daycare) ingekuwa afadhali.

This child running after this car, you can see there are bumps, if this vehicle reverses it can hit him, and that is an accident. If there was tuition (because they are older, and they cannot be taken to daycare), it would be better.

Mama huyu anapika kwenye nyumba ya matope iliyokaribu na mtaro. Anapika chapatti hapa, kwa hivyo watu wanakula vumbi kutoka kwenye mtaro hiyo.

This woman is cooking from a mud house, and there is a trench here. She is preparing chapattis from here, so people are eating dust from the trench.

Unaweza kuona kuna watoto karibu na mkokoteni hii ambayo inadondoa maji machafu. Watoto hawa wanacheza michezo ya watoto ya “kalongo longo” hapo karibu na wanachota maji machafu kutoka kwa mkokoteni hii…maji haya ni ya kinyesi na unajua kulizuka ugonjwa wa kipindupindu hapa.

You can see that there are children playing here, and this cart is dropping dirt. These children are playing “kalongolongo” (child’s game) there; they start drawing in the water that has remained behind from this cart. That dirt is feces, and you know, there was that cholera outbreak there.

Mama huyu anaenda kutafuta kibarua na ako na mtoto. Ukienda kwa mtu kutafuta kibarua ukibeba mtoto huku ukishika mwingine mkononi, watuku wengi hukataa kwa sababu wanaona kwamba watakupa chakula na pia kukulipa shilingi mia mbili. Kwa hivyo huwa hawakubali kukupa kazi.

This mother has a child and she is going to look for a casual job. So if you go to someone looking for casual work while carrying one child and holding the other by the hand - the majority of people when you go to ask for a job and you have children - you will not be given it because someone thinks they will pay you the ksh.200 and give you food, so they also can't agree to hire you.

Watoto hawa wadogo wamepewa kazi mingi ya kufua nguo. Kwa maoni yangu, wangepelekwa shule na mama yao kufanya kazi hii.

These children here have been given a lot of work to do - laundry - and they are young children. In my opinion… they should be taken to school to learn and the mother to do that work.

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