

Parental and Guardians Education on Children’s Right to Birth Registration and Identity in Rural Areas

by:
Caroline Kandowe

Abstract

This human rights project themed “my birth certificate, my right” took place in Chiweshe rural community in Zimbabwe. The aim of the project was to empower parents/guardians and raise awareness on the importance of birth certificate registration for the child, which essential for the child to identify legally, access social benefits and respect the child’s right to identity and nationality. The project involved workshops in groups and a march through the villages. Following the objectives of the project, participants were empowered with knowledge through human rights education, they began to appreciate the existence and applicability of children’s rights, were encouraged and interested to learn more and they realized that a small piece of paper, often ignored as useless could infringe the rights of the child and become a barrier for many life events as they grew older with no identification. Various lessons were learnt and recommendations were given in the end.

Key words: **birth certificate, child, empower, rights, identity**