

Prayers and Reflections

OPENING PRAYER

Reflection on Matthew 5:43-48

Voice 1: For exploiter and exploited;
For persecutor and persecuted;
For criminal and victim,
God of perfect love,
We pray.

Voice 2: As we pray, remove the fear
That makes us strident and vengeful,
And take away the shallow thinking
That makes us sentimental.

Voice 1: Give us clear eyes to see the world as it is
And ourselves and all people as we are;
But give us hope to go on believing
In what you intend us all to be.

Voice 2: We pray for children growing up
With no sense of beauty,
No feeling for what is good or bad,
No knowledge of you and your love in Christ.

Voice 1: We pray for men and women who have lost faith
And given up hope;
For governments who crush peoples' spirits,
And for governments slow to act
In the cause of justice, freedom, and development.

Voice 2: We pray for the whole church and the world,
Giving thanks for your goodness,
For your love made known in Christ,
For your truth confirmed in his death and
resurrection,
For your promises to us and to all people,
Keeping hope alive.

All: Let us go to our work and into our relationships
Stimulated by hope,
Strengthened by faith,
Directed by love,
To play our part in the liberation of all people,
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Algoa Regional Council (Eastern Cape, South Africa)

REFLECTION

CLOSING PRAYER

Reflection on Isaiah 40:28-31, 43:1-7

Oh people, you shall not drown in your tears
But tears shall bathe your wounds.

Oh people, you shall not die from hunger
But hunger shall feed your souls.

Oh people, you are not weak in your suffering
But strong and brave with knowing.

Oh people, if you have known struggle
Only then are you capable of loving.

Oh people, be aware of the love you have.

Let not your tears submerge it.
Let not your hunger eat it.
Let not your suffering destroy it.

Oh people, bitterness does not replace a grain of love;
Let us be awake in our love. Amen.

Noorie Cassim, South Africa



Activities

This unit may be used in one long session or divided into shorter units.

1. Begin with Opening Prayer and Reflection on page one of this unit.
2. Use the quiz on page 3 and country descriptions on pages 4-5 to learn about the regional background. Ask your group:
 - a. What strikes you about the history of this region?
 - b. Where have South African countries seen struggle and in what areas have they experienced success?
3. Go through the fact sheet on page 6 and use the discussion questions that follow.
4. South Africa:
 - A) Read the South Africa Traveler's Log on page 7. Use the following questions:
 - i. What were the traveller's main impressions during her/his trip? What elements of South African culture did s/he experience?
 - ii. Why is apartheid against the basic tenets of Catholic Social Teaching?
 - iii. Read Nelson Mandela's quote in the gray box. Why do you think few countries dedicate a holiday to reconciliation? How can other current conflict-torn regions learn from Mandela's ideology and South Africa's history?
 - B) Read the case study on page 8 and the following HIV fact sheets on page 9. Use these questions:
 - i. How does social stigma contribute to the spread of HIV/AIDS?
 - ii. What makes high rates of migration so dangerous?
 - iii. Consider this statement by the World Food Programme's Regional Director for Southern Africa, Mike Sackett, made in Oct. 2004:

"The media spotlight may have moved elsewhere, but the people of southern Africa will carry the scars of the last few years for generations to come. If we don't step in now with support, there's a very real danger that southern Africa will descend into a perpetual cycle of tragedy, with children missing out on education and vital agricultural knowledge being lost."

How does the HIV/AIDS crisis affect other parts of life and development, such as education, employment, and the fulfillment of basic needs?

What do you think should be the role of both local and international communities in dealing with the HIV/AIDS crisis?

5. Divide students into groups and engage in the role play on page 10. Be sure the groups consider themes of Catholic Social Teaching (people over profit, human development, human dignity, and solidarity in the development of their initiatives).
6. End with the closing prayer on page 1.

Answers to True/False Quiz:

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. False
7. False
8. True
9. False
10. True
11. False
12. True
13. True
14. False
15. True
16. True
17. True
18. False
19. False
20. True
21. False
22. True



SOUTHERN AFRICA

TRUE/FALSE QUIZ

1. ___ Angola has suffered an intense civil war that grew out of Cold War divisions.
2. ___ The legacy of slavery has not affected Angola's development.
3. ___ Botswana is one of the few countries that has seen huge success in dealing with HIV/AIDS.
4. ___ Botswana supported South Africa's racist apartheid regimes because of its previous administrations of its southern neighbor.
5. ___ Lesotho's climate is harsh, making farming difficult in most of the country.
6. ___ Lesotho is a very diverse country.
7. ___ Because of its isolation as an island, Madagascar was never colonized.
8. ___ Madagascans are thought to be descendants of Africans and Indonesians.
9. ___ Malawi has had positive post-colonial leadership.
10. ___ There are difficulties with shortage of fertile land in Malawi.
11. ___ Mozambique was colonized by the Belgians.
12. ___ Much of Mozambique's progress has been hampered by natural disasters.
13. ___ Only in 1990 did Namibia become independent, having first been colonized by Germany, then governed by South Africa.
14. ___ Namibia achieved independence peacefully.
15. ___ South Africa is the powerhouse of Sub-Saharan Africa.
16. ___ South Africa's colonial legacy led to serious inequalities in the development of its black and white populations.
17. ___ Swaziland is Africa's only remaining absolute monarchy, where the King of the Swazi Kingdom still rules by decree.
18. ___ The King in Swaziland faces no resistance to his authority.
19. ___ Zambia's post-independence history has been one of continuous stable democratic development.
20. ___ Zambia's current president has pledged to fight corruption, and appears to be succeeding in his battle.
21. ___ Relations between Zimbabwe's white and black populations have been peaceful.
22. ___ Victoria Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of the world, is found on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe.



SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Population: 13,000,000 *Language:* Portuguese

This resource-rich nation has been plagued by a slave legacy and civil war since its independence from Portugal in 1975. For several centuries Portugal sold Angolans into slavery in Brazil. It is estimated that the civil war has killed more than a million people in the country; the rebel forces, however, formerly backed by the U.S. and South Africa against the Marxist government, recently agreed to dialogue and is moving toward reconciliation since its leader, Jonas Savimbi, died in battle. Angola was self-sufficient before the war began.

BOTSWANA

Population: 1,800,000 *Language:* English

Botswana is Africa's oldest continuous multiparty democracy, having gained independence from the UK in 1966. Its economic success and comprehensive transportation system, however, results of the relative political stability, stimulated the fast spread of HIV/AIDS that has made Botswana the world leader in HIV infections, with an almost 40% infection rate. During the period of apartheid in South Africa, Botswana provided a haven for many activists struggling against apartheid, being sympathetic to their cause. The Kalihari desert, home to the dwindling population of bushman hunter-gatherers, makes up much of the country and is too arid to sustain agriculture.

LESOTHO

Population: 1,800,000 *Language:* Sesotho and English

The Kingdom of Lesotho, composed almost entirely of Basotho people, is made up mostly of highlands reachable only on horseback. During winter months, farmers in these highlands, wearing boots and blanket wraps, must contend with snow. Because of the harsh climate, very little of the land is arable, forcing Lesotho's economy to depend heavily on South Africa, which surrounds it on all sides. At times, 40-50% of Lesotho's men may be working in the gold mines of South Africa. There is currently a huge water development project underway which, when completed, will allow the country to sell water to South Africa, hopefully generating considerable income. Lesotho gained independence from the British in 1966.



MADAGASCAR

Population: 17,400,000 *Language:* Malagasy and French

One of the largest islands in the world, Madagascar's isolation has given it the unique claim that most of its mammals, half its birds, and most of its plants exist nowhere else on earth. It has also saved Madagascar from the devastation of AIDS. The dominant ethnic Malagasy people are thought to be descendants of native Africans and Indonesians who settled the island more than 2,000 years ago. Madagascar was colonized by the French, and has since developed close cultural and economic ties with Francophone West Africa, having achieved independence in 1960. The country was subject to a military coup and a subsequent attempt to create a successful socialist state, but has since given in to economic liberalization. Its government is currently democratic, but has periodically experienced political violence.

MALAWI

Population: 12,100,000 *Language:* English and Chichewa

For thirty years Malawi was bound by the directives of its self-appointed president-for-life, Kamuzu Banda. The repression of those years, finally ending in 1994, quelled not only national development, but also basic cultural expression. Malawi is struggling to recover, and is in need of stable leadership. Considerable population growth is straining the largest resource, fertile land. Poverty and corruption continue to be problems. Malawi reached independence from the British in 1964.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE

Population: 18,800,000 *Language:* Portuguese
Battered by five centuries of colonial rule by the Portuguese that did not end until 1975, and a sixteen-year civil war that ended in 1992 and has left a legacy of landmines and amputees, Mozambique has made considerable progress in the last ten years. Setbacks have come in consecutive flooding in 2000 and 2001, and a drought in 2002, but the government has given up its Marxist policies, opened up to multiparty democracy, and managed to keep the country at peace. In recent years, tourism and development have increased dramatically, and cultural expression is being reaffirmed.

NAMIBIA

Population: 36,600,000 *Language:* Kiswahili and English
Originally colonized by Germany, Namibia was taken over by South Africa during WWI and ruled by a mandate from the League of Nations. Following a 25-year bush war, Namibia gained independence in 1990. The years since independence have been successful in terms of political and economic development, though there was recently a secessionist challenge in eastern Namibia. Like its neighbors, Namibia is also facing serious challenges with HIV/AIDS.

SOUTH AFRICA

Population: 45,000,000 *Language:* 11 official, including English, Afrikaans, Sesotho, Setswana, Xhosa and Zulu
For half a century, up to 1994, South Africa's white Dutch Afrikaner government repressed the black population with the apartheid system, which left native blacks with no political voice, forced resettlement, and inferior education compared to that of their white counterparts. The leadership of President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu brought South Africa out of apartheid relatively peacefully after a half-century struggle for freedom, advocating for reconciliation and forgiveness. They even led the groundbreaking Truth and Reconciliation Commission to forgive many perpetrators of apartheid's violence. As the region's economic and political powerhouse and most modernized nation, South Africa is a land of vast diversity, with extremely developed cities existing simultaneously with traditional rural lifestyles. The country gained official independence from the UK in 1910, though did not become a republic until a referendum held in 1961.

SWAZILAND

Population: 1,000,000 *Language:* Swazi and English
Swaziland is Africa's only remaining absolute monarchy, having discarded its constitution in 1973, which was inherited from the British at independence in 1968. King Mswati III, on the throne since 1986, rules by decree. Pressures for reform have been getting stronger, largely from student and labor groups within the country as well as South African activists, as labor rights are weak and speech is severely limited. Swaziland is composed almost entirely of the Swazi people, with a minority population of Zulu.

ZAMBIA

Population: 10,800,000 *Language:* English
Following independence from the British in 1964 and 27 years of one-party rule, Zambia emerged in the world limelight as a strong hope for the continent in 1991 with its first multiparty elections. The first president, however, allowed human rights abuses, corruption, AIDS, and debt to spiral out of control. The current president has pledged to promote peace and development, and even his detractors admit that he leads his government with transparency and integrity.

ZIMBABWE

Population: 12,800,000 *Language:* English
In the 1930's, during Zimbabwe's colonial occupation by the British, white settlers systematically excluded the native blacks from the best farming lands; the relationship between these two populations has defined much of Zimbabwe's post-independence history, which did not begin until 1980. Once aspiring to be the "Switzerland" of Africa, Zimbabwe is home to the famous Victoria Falls. But the country's hopes have been declining as President Mugabe has engaged in a campaign to "redistribute" land owned and operated by whites to poorer peasants, with the backlash of substantially decreasing vital agricultural earnings and quelling opposition politics, free speech, and media.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

	Life Expectancy (years)	Population Living on Less than \$2/day	Adult (15 & older) Literacy	Health Expenditure Per Person (US\$) Per Year*	Population with Access to Improved Water Source**	Population Malnourished	Population Living with HIV/AIDS
Angola	40.2	--	--	\$52	38%	50%	5.5%
Botswana	44.7	50.1%	78.1%	\$358	95%	25%	38.8%
Lesotho	38.6	65.7%	83.9%	\$100	78%	26%	31%
Madagascar	53.0	83.3%	67.3%	\$33	47%	40%	0.3%
Malawi	38.5	76.1%	61%	\$38	57%	33%	15%
Mozambique	39.2	78.4%	54.8%	\$30	57%	55%	13%
Namibia	47.4	55.8%	82.7%	\$366	77%	9%	22.5%
South Africa	50.9	14.5%	85.6%	\$663	86%	--	20.1%
Swaziland	38.2	--	80.3%	\$195	--	17%	33.4%
Zambia	33.4	87.4%	79%	\$49	64%	50%	21.5%
Zimbabwe	35.4	64.2%	89.3%	\$170	83%	38%	33.7%
U.S	76.9	--	99%	\$4,449	100%	--	0.6%

Source: UN Human Development Index, 2003

*Includes both private and public health expenditures.

**Improved water source merely means that there has been some form of structure constructed to assist with accessing water, such as a well dug into the ground. This does not mean the water is immediately safe for consumption.

ACTIVITY

Answer the following questions by reviewing the table above.

Which country in Southern Africa seems to have the best quality of life?

Compare the life expectancies with the statistics from the other categories. How can all of these other factors such as literacy, etc. affect life expectancy?

What correlation exists between the amount that countries spend per capita on health care and the percentage of the population carrying the HIV virus?

“Where there is despair, let us sow hope.”

Pastoral Letter of the KwaZulu-Natal Church Leaders' Group and the KwaZulu-Natal Christian Council, South Africa, 2000



SOUTH AFRICA

Traveler's Log 12/18

I flew into Johannesburg, one of South Africa's largest cities. The contrast between South Africa and Uganda is stunning; this country is clearly in a different position economically than Uganda, at least in the urban areas, which show evidence of much more affluence and modernization. After finding a hostel, I set out the next day to visit Alexandra, a township just a little ways outside Jo'burg, as it is called by the locals.

For half a century, between 1948 and 1994, South Africa suffered what was called "apartheid," where the government systematically separated whites and blacks, subjecting the blacks to inferior education and quality of living, and allowing them no political voice. During the 1970's, there was a large campaign by the white government to forcibly relocate blacks to townships, from where the whites could access a large pool of cheap and available labor, and could more easily control the black population.

Many parts of these townships have grown into slums, including Alexandra (see photo). 170,000 people live there, in an area approximately two square kilometers. Wealthy suburbs of Johannesburg surround the township. I was overwhelmed by the poor quality of housing, water, and sanitation. Crime is also a serious problem, largely the result of extreme economic inequality and poverty.

In the evening, I went to a club where there was live music. I



learned from the people in the club that one positive aspect of the townships has been the music that has arisen; I was listening to a band that played *kwaito*, a genre that fuses many different types of music, and focuses largely on freedom and the plight of South Africa's black population.

The following day, December 16, was the nationally recognized Reconciliation Day. I listened to speeches given by government officials and joined in celebrating hope for better relations among the country's racially diverse population.

Escaping the city life, I next headed to the Zulu Kingdom, in Eastern South Africa, just below Swaziland. I was hosted by a generous family in the area, who took me on a tour of several of the villages. I also had the opportunity to visit an AIDS

orphanage. HIV/AIDS is a huge problem in South Africa, and one of the results has been many orphaned children whose parents died from the disease. I enjoyed my time playing with the children, who seemed happy, but I wondered what the future held for them.

During apartheid, cultural expression was strongly repressed by the government, but since it has ended many old traditions have begun being practiced again. The Zulu Reed Dance is one such example. I was able to witness the dance, where young Zulu women march with large reeds in front of the Zulu king; the event celebrates femininity and women's empowerment, and has been used to promote abstinence to help curb AIDS (see photo).

I left the Zulu Kingdom and took a long busride to the western coast of South Africa, and then rode a boat to Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela (who became the first black President of South Africa in 1994) and other opponents to apartheid were sent, enduring brutal treatment in prison. Mandela himself spent 27 years there.

My last stop in South Africa was Cape Town, located on the southwest coast at the Cape of Good Hope. The city is beautiful, with Table Mountain in the background. The locals told me that there are 240 different species of bird in the area. South Africa is well known as having fantastic wildlife reserves. In



Cape Town I visited several art museums, and the District 6 Museum, where I learned about one of the Cape Town neighborhoods that was bulldozed by the apartheid government. Then it was back to Johannesburg to leave South Africa. I feel like there is so much more I wish I could have seen.

"There are few countries which dedicate a national public holiday to reconciliation. But then there are few nations with our history of enforced division, oppression and sustained conflict. And fewer still, which have undergone such a remarkable transition to reclaim their humanity."

Nelson Mandela, Reconciliation Day speech, South Africa, 1995



Case Study: AIDS and Migration in South Africa

The following is a summary of the struggles of Proteus Timbe, a South African migrant worker

“I grew up in a village in Kwa-Zulu Natal, in eastern South Africa. I come from a poor rural family. Growing up, my family harvested corn, sorghum, beans, as well as pineapples and mangoes. During my childhood years, many of my family members moved to Johannesburg, seeking to earn more money and a chance to live like we hear some people in the United States live. The only choice for them was to live in the slums, with cramped conditions and poor sanitation and water. But the slums were the only choice for most migrating blacks. In the 1970’s, however, the white apartheid government became uncomfortable with such a large presence of blacks, and forced many to move back into their home villages. Many of my own family members returned to our community.

This reality, as well as the government’s forceful moving of many blacks to townships constructed for them, allowed the rich whites to access cheap labor and to control the black population by keeping it all together and out of the cities. This set up the system of migrant labor, where blacks from rural areas and townships traveled to either white areas or to the our mines to find work. The problem with this, however, was that it instigated the rapid spread of AIDS, with so many people moving in so many places. When a person became infected, then migrated back to their home villages, they brought the virus with them.

When I got a job in the mine, however, we definitely didn’t know about all that. When I was 25, I began working in a mine in Igoli, the “City of Gold”, outside Johannesburg. I had been married at that point for a few years and I even had several children. Working at the mine, I was only allowed to visit my home and wife once a year. There is a 40% unemployment rate in South Africa and I was lucky to have a job to support my family. What else was I to do?

In our Zulu culture, sex outside of marriage is not openly accepted, but older notions of manhood still thrive. I wanted to be faithful to my wife, but being away for so long was challenging. I started a relationship with another woman living near the mine, and from her became infected with the HIV virus. I had heard about the virus and the sickness, but I did not want to get tested because if any of my friends or family found out that I had the disease they would have treated me very poorly. So instead of being responsible, I

also infected my wife with the HIV virus the next time I traveled home, in 1992.

When apartheid ended in 1994, the travel restrictions on blacks were ended, and because of this the virus spread even more quickly. That’s the irony: the migrant labor system constructed by apartheid policies first caused the AIDS virus to spread quickly, and then the ending of apartheid travel restrictions just made it worse.

My wife and I had several more kids, two of which ended up being HIV positive. The drugs to keep this from happening were not very easy to access then, and though I guessed that I might have the virus, I still did not know for sure.

I started becoming very sick in 2000, and was on the verge of being fired from my job in the mine. I didn’t know what my family would do without my income. Luckily, though, my mining company began to give out free anti-retroviral drugs to HIV positive employees, because they realized they were losing so many of their employees and the cost of the medicine was cheaper than having to retrain new workers. I am still working in the mine, and will continue to do so for as long as possible. My two children born with the virus recently passed away, but there is hope for the future.”



HIV/AIDS Facts

What is HIV/AIDS? HIV, or Human Immuno-deficiency Virus, is contracted through the exchange of blood or other bodily fluids. The virus steadily wears away at the carrier's immune system, causing the person to be less able to combat various sicknesses. When the replication of the virus reaches a certain stage, the disease is called AIDS, or Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome. It is a relatively new virus, having shown up only in the early 1980's and gradually spreading to the extent that it exists today.

Why is HIV/AIDS so dangerous? Even though AIDS is not the number one killer in sub-Saharan Africa, it remains as the largest threat to public health. AIDS, unlike malaria or other sicknesses, can be spread by human contact. People who contract the HIV virus may be unaware of their disease and can infect other people. It also has no cure. The AIDS epidemic is a threat to the very survival of highly infected populations. In South Africa, where the infection rate is above 20%, AIDS is wiping out a large part of the able-bodied work force, leaving behind millions of orphaned children and other vulnerable people.

What controversies currently face the battle against HIV/AIDS? There are numerous controversies surrounding the way the epidemic is being fought. Leaders of First World countries, when giving money to the developing

world to combat AIDS, often devise their own programs without the participation of the recipient populations where the money is to be channeled. Well-meaning international organizations and governments do what they think is best without practicing the Catholic Social Teaching principle of subsidiarity, which would lead them to empower local people to direct the fight against AIDS.

Also, there have been difficulties surrounding the issue of drug patents. Pharmaceutical companies carry out the research that eventually leads to producing drugs to combat diseases such as AIDS; in return, they have patents on these drugs so that other companies cannot reproduce them and profit. But the pharmaceutical companies with these patents have been demanding extremely high prices for AIDS drugs, called anti-retrovirals (ARVs), making them far out of reach for most Africans.

Moreover, there are numerous drugs used in fighting AIDS that are all created by different drug companies; because of the patents, it is illegal to condense the various drugs into simpler and cheaper treatment plans. The U.S. recently pledged \$15 billion to fight AIDS, but is stipulating that all ARVs be purchased from U.S. pharmaceutical companies, whose drugs cost twice as much as those from India or South Africa and are not condensed into simple doses. This allows only half as many lives to be saved as would be if the drugs were purchased from generic producers in India or South Africa..

SIGNS OF HOPE

There are many organizations in South Africa working to slow down the progress of the AIDS epidemic, through education, programs to reduce social stigma, and attempts to increase access to medicine. iThemba Lethu is a local organization, working especially for children affected by the disease. They run a transition home for orphaned children, and do outreach programs in schools. They also work with the parents and caregivers of the children and community leaders in a "safe homes, safe streets" program, which promotes a healthy out-of-

school environment for the children to be in. Learn more about iThemba Lethu at: www.ithembalethu.org.za/

An international organization combating the AIDS epidemic is Catholic Relief Services, an international humanitarian organization. CRS' programming includes education centers for children, provision of anti-retroviral drugs for those in poverty, and outreach activities aimed at behavior change in at-risk populations, supporting abstinence, holistic life skills, and resistance to peer pressure.



JOURNEY THROUGH AFRICA

ACTIVITY: *Subsidiarity in Action*

An international organization funded by the U.S. government's \$15 billion initiative to fight AIDS has set up in your community, and begun programs meant to combat AIDS. The people in your community, however, are not participating. Create recommendations for possible initiatives the organization could organize, and ways to ensure the involvement of the local community.

<p>You are: A representative from the international organization</p> <p>Your role: The organization you work for has struggled to get any of its initiatives off the ground, having been met by the local population with disinterest. You don't know why they would not want the resources you have to offer them in the fight against AIDS. You organized this roundtable discussion with several key community members, to receive their input on what you can do to make your programs at decreasing AIDS more successful. You have a lot of money at your disposal, and hope to use much of it purchasing anti-retroviral drugs to help.</p>	<p>You are: School teacher</p> <p>Your role: You have had numerous students, as well as close friends and family, die of AIDS. You realize that as a school teacher, you have an opportunity to teach people about HIV/AIDS, and how to avoid it. You are looking for ideas on how to most effectively combat the spread of the disease through your classes, and to decrease stigma. You are especially interested in helping to combat misconceptions about the disease and how it is most effectively treated. You also realize that many children do not attend school, instead working on their parents' land. You do not know how to reach these children to teach them about the dangers of HIV/AIDS.</p>
<p>You are: Local radio broadcaster</p> <p>Your role: You lost all three of your brothers to AIDS, and are now taking care of their twelve children. You run a local radio show, and want to use it to help educate the general populace, especially those that do not go to school, about AIDS. You don't know all that much about it, however, and are looking to learn how to make your radio show effective in combating the disease that killed your family.</p>	<p>You are: A community member who has researched anti-retroviral drug availability (see info on previous pages)</p> <p>Your role: After seeing so many members of your community struggle with HIV/AIDS, you became interested in learning more about the issue of AIDS medicine. Recent trade agreements have made these drugs much more accessible, though they are still largely out of reach for rural South Africans without the help of aid organizations. Also, though they might be accessible, the government of South Africa has not made distribution of the medicines enough of a priority. You are looking for ways to fight for this issue and to increase access of South Africans to AIDS medicine.</p>
<p>You are: HIV+ migrant worker in the gold mines (see case study)</p> <p>Your role: You grew up in a slum outside Johannesburg, but were lucky enough to land a job working in a gold mine. You can only come home from the mine a few times a year, which has caused you to foster new relationships with women living near the mine. You contracted HIV from one of them before you became aware of the disease and then spread it to your wife as well. You have been very sick lately, and only recently found out that you have AIDS. You want to do all that you can to see that others don't have to suffer the way that you have.</p>	<p>You are: A mother of an HIV+ child who was raped</p> <p>Your role: Your 14-year-old daughter was raped by a man who works in the mines; he was told that having sexual intercourse with a virgin would rid him of the HIV virus. Your daughter has started becoming very sick as a result, and will soon die. You want to stand up for the rights of women, to advocate measures that would prevent such events from taking place. Further, you are aware of gender inequalities in the AIDS epidemic; in South Africa, women often don't have control over reproduction. In your culture, men choose when and when not to use contraceptives, a reality that is dangerous for women.</p>
<p>You are: A worker at a local AIDS organization</p> <p>Your role: Your organization has been working in this area for several years already, and has developed a positive relationship with the local population. You were not consulted by the new organization. You are worried that your work and the work of the new organization will overlap, and want to make sure there is sufficient coordination to guarantee the best service delivery possible to people who suffer from AIDS.</p>	