

- Preface
- 4 Lectures
 - Economics
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Education
 - Women
- Solutions

chapter 1 – “Context: It Shames and Diminishes Us All”

- Provides financial context for the situation in Africa
- Millenium Development Goals (MDG) won't be met by deadline
- Colonialism
- Cold War politics
- Victims of International Financial Institutions (World Bank, International Monetary Fund, African Development Bank)

- Africa is unable to respond to AIDS pandemic due to heavy users fees on health care and education
- Poverty has increased, trade decreased, debt has increased
- No G7 country has met its target of 0.7% for foreign aid
- 60% of money received does not go where it is intended

Chapter 2 – “Pandemic: My Country is On Its Knees”

- HIV/AIDS
- Pandemic described as “holocaust,” “annihilation,” “extermination” and as a country “on its knees”
- Lewis : “I was completely unprepared for the pervasiveness of death. It has shaken me to my core” (56).

- Lack of health care professionals
- Lack of pharmacists to administer retroviral drugs
- Brain drain
- Orphans
- Inability to afford education
- Lack of food

HIV/AIDS

- Human immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)
- Causes Acquired Immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)
- Immune system fails
- Contracted through contact of mucuous membranes with blood, semen, pre-seminal fluid, vaginal fluid, breast milk
- Women more susceptible than men
- Believed to have originated in southern Cameroon from wild chimpanzees and crossed into human population
- First identified in early 80s
- Best protection is use of latex condom during sexual activity
- Can be controlled with anti-retroviral treatment; not uniformly available
- www.cdc.gov/HIV/resources/factsheets/index.htm
- www.unaids.org

Sub-Saharan Africa

- 10% of the population of world, 60% of HIV cases
- 25.8×10^6 cases of HIV
- 3.2×10^6 newly infected in 2005
- Expect 18×10^6 orphans

**North America,
Western and Central
Europe**

- 1.9×10^6 total cases of HIV in 2005
- 65,000 new infections in 2005

- Anti-retroviral drugs work
- Administration of nevirapine to pregnant mothers reduces infections in newborns
- Use of condoms
- Education
- Empowerment of women
- MSF – reduction of stigma and discrimination

Chapter 3 – “An avalanche of studies, little studying”

- Primary education
 - Right
 - Defeat poverty
 - Provides better parents
 - Improves health, nutrition, opportunities
 - Leads to economic growth of country
 - AIDS orphans have no money for school

- Lack of progress in abolishing fees for primary education
- Often hidden fees for uniforms, books, exams
- UNICEF lacks resolve; reports, documents and recommendations, but no progress

Rate of HIV infection vs. Educational Level

• Educational level	HIV infections
– None	>12%
– 1 ^o	>6%
– 2 ^o	<2%

- FTI – Fast Track Initiative
- Identifies countries for donation purposes for education
- Donors may try to influence policy
- “neo-colonial chic”
- Applicant countries have no representative on committee

- World Bank and IMF should pay for primary education as “mandatory restitution” (106) for transgressive economic policies

- Note that no African country has free secondary education
- Begs the question of what happens to the AIDS orphans who have no means of paying for school
- Cost in Kenya is \$300 and many families live on less than \$2 a day
- LFA raised \$17,000 for OI Pejeta Conservancy school for bursaries for 40 students
- Commitment for 10 years of funding

Chapter 4 – “Women: Half the World, Barely Represented

- Addresses the reasons behind the anticipated failure of the MDG goals for gender equality

- 5.7% of 191 ambassadors are female
- Men head all major UN agencies
- UNIFEM – budget 1/40th that of UNICEF; not taken seriously in the UN framework, low in hierarchical food chain
- Can't lobby for gender equality in developing countries when UN does not demonstrate it

- Already have Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) 1979
- Binding international law for 181 countries in which CEDAW has been ratified
- Requires equality for women in all areas of health, education, justice, social welfare, etc.
- Yet, UN does not enforce requirements

- Also have tremendous grass root enthusiasm
- Yet cannot surmount “monolithic walls of male authority” (115)
- Lewis accuses UN of failing to monitor and push for gender equality

- Situation in Africa is dire:
 - Women are primary care givers for sick and HIV infected
 - Takes them away from normal, agricultural work
 - Creates famine conditions
 - Famine exacerbates HIV/AIDS crisis
 - Women are also at greater risk of HIV infection
 - Creates conditions for future famine and tremendous numbers of orphans with no access to food or education

Solutions: A Gallery of Alternatives in Good Faith

- 1 – Jubilee Coalition should now lobby for cancellation of agricultural subsidies since these prohibit Africa from trading in international markets
- 2 – cancel all remaining debts owed by Africa to the Bank and IMF
- 3 – insist on year-by-year accounting to ensure that G8 countries meet goal of 0.7% of GNP for Development Assistance to Africa
- 4 – If Japan does not meet its commitments, it should forfeit its seat on the Security Council
- 5 – Create UN agency for women's issues
- 6 – increase momentum for 3 by 5 for AIDS (3 x 10⁶ people in treatment by 2005)

- 7 – address the shortfall in the Global Fund for malaria, AIDS and tuberculosis; G8 must meet commitments, particularly U.S.; obtain money from private sector: members of Global Business Coalition should “contribute 0.7% of pre-tax profits”
- 8 – create new program to distribute food in timely fashion where needed and work on agricultural development
- 9 – Millennium Village Project – experiment in 10 villages funded for \$60/person/year for five years; monitor and evaluate projects; if it works, “take it to scale” (166)
- 10 – “vaccines and microbicides”
- 11 – abolish all school fees

- 12 – address orphans (UNICEF, grandmothers, pay women for childcare)
- 13 – develop plan to deal with pandemic and community leaders
- 14 – criticism:
 - U.S. doles out \$ to countries based on political and religious agendas, not need
 - Money to Global fund is inadequate
 - Allow generic drugs for HIV treatment
 - UN condemnation of governmental practices that exacerbate poverty and AIDS
 - World expenditure for arms is $> \$1 \times 10^{12}$, but we can't get $\$50 \times 10^9$ for foreign aid for Africa.

Form

- Lectures (5 lectures in 5 cities as part of Massey Lecture series)
- Also broadcast on CBC radio
- Printed by Anansi Press
- Available to anyone with inclination to listen to read

Content - Problem

- Situation in Africa is dire
- Result of IMF and World Bank economic practices coupled with pandemic
- Lack of gender equality
- Orphans
- Lack of education
- Famine conditions
- G7 countries do not meet their aid commitments

Content – the Solution

- 1 – cancellation of agricultural subsidies
- 2 – cancel debts owed to the Bank and IMF
- 3 – insist G8 countries meet goal of 0.7% of GNP for Development Assistance to Africa
- 4 – Create UN agency for women's issues
- 5 – 3 by 5 for AIDS (3 x 10⁶ people in treatment by 2005)
- 6 – tap Global Business Coalition
- 7 – improve program to distribute food in timely fashion
- 8 – work on vaccines, microbicides
- 9 – abolish all school fees

Audience

- Canadian policy makers, government agencies, social activists, media, UN, general public

Style

- Uses personal experience (eg. visits to hospitals 52-53, homes)
- Also uses facts from reliable sources which can be verified to establish his credibility as a commentator
- Uses both emotion and abstract, theoretical approaches
 - “I’m weary beyond the definition of weariness...” (31).
 - “I found it exhilarating” (72).
 - “I live in hope....I also live in rage” (189).
 - “Immediately after the Special Session, the United Nations established the Inter Agency Task Force on Africa, specifically created to oversee the implementation of the consensus document” (11).
- Intertextual references to literary sources (Dante 137, Ionesco 7, Kafka 2), Greek mythology (Damocles 59) to convey the frustration, absurdity and nightmarish quality of the situation.

- Intertextual references to historical events (Holocaust 1, 107, Rwandan genocide 1) to establish connection between our experience and a situation we cannot comprehend
 - “ This is a different, but analogous, holocaust” (107).
- Language is largely accessible, but formal and articulate
 - “These were not vast conclaves of disputation and negotiation with little relevance to the real world” (114).
- Utilizes colloquial terms on occasion to make a point and also to make the theoretical material more accessible
 - “claptrap” (19), “Poppycock!” (18), “You son-of-a-bitch...” (9).
 - “The easy canard of course is to say that Africa is a basket-case of anti-democratic chaos” (4) or
 - “Stripped of the econometric gobbledegook and overblown ideological formulations, SAPS were Reaganomics gone berserk” (5).

- Uses parentheses to indicate a topical aside
 - “(Do you see how everything, even language, conspires against the woman)” (65),
 - Also see 72, 112
- Uses metaphor to illustrate his point
 - “...to move the sputtering engine of gender equality from neutral into high gear” (153). The metaphor of gender quality as a sputtering engine is one to which we can all relate and demonstrates his point that it is possible to have gender equality/the engine fully functional if the correct approach is made.
 - “We were taken to ground zero of the pandemic” (49). Comparing the physical origins of the pandemic to ground zero of the Twin Tower explosion shows us what a cataclysmic effect HIV/AIDS has had on Africa.

Critique

- Good at providing solutions for institutions and organizations
- Less effective in laying out solutions for individual
- However, very effective in inspiring grass roots projects (eg. Grandmothers for Grandmothers, Stephen Lewis Foundation)