

# **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SHOW # 77**

SHOW OPEN, GRAPHIC AND MUSIC (25')

## **INTRO:**

Hello and welcome to this special edition of 21<sup>st</sup> Century which focuses on the impact of HIV and AIDS on children.

I'm Daljit Dhaliwal

More than 16 million children have lost their parents to HIV and AIDS. A staggering 14 million of them live in sub-Saharan Africa. Alcides Soares from Mozambique was forced to become an adult before his time when this deadly disease claimed the lives of his parents, ripping his family apart.

But life for Alcides took an amazing turn when a filmmaker gave him a video camera. Growing up alone as an orphan, he documented his quest to find a home and reunite with his brother. (52'')

## **MOZAMBIQUE – HOME IS WHERE YOU FIND IT**

### **VIDEO**

SHOTS OF KIDS...

SHOTS OF KIDS AND ALCIDES  
FILMING  
IN MARKET

### **AUDIO**

#### **Narration**

In Mozambique, there are nine million children under the age of fifteen.

According to the United Nations, more than half a million of them are orphans whose parents died of HIV and AIDS. (14.5')

#### **Alicides** (In PORTUGUESE)

ALCIDES LOOKING AT  
PHOTOGRAPHS OF HIS FAMILY

My name is Alcides Soares. I made this film. I am 16 and I am an orphan. My father and my mother died of AIDS. I have a younger sister who lives nearby and I have a little brother. I don't know where he is. My dream is to find my brother. I haven't seen him in 10 years. (28')

INTERIOR VOVO'S HOUSE  
VOVO WASHING CLOTHES

This is where I live now, with Vovo. I call her my grandmother, but she is really not. Vovo and I are like a family now. (10')

VOVO ON CAMERA

Vovo (In PORTUGUESE)

I felt that I needed to help you. Because my children are in South Africa and I don't know who is helping them. So when I saw you and how you came to me with a delegation from the church and they told me your situation and they knew that I was by myself. That's when they brought you over here, and I love living with you. Because I don't know who'd helping my children in South Africa so I had the feeling that I could to help you. (33')

VOVO AND ALCIDES WASHING  
DISHES

ALCIDES FILMING VOVO

VOVO ON CAMERA

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE))

My day to day life when I wake up in the morning, maybe 3 or 4 o'clock, I go to her room and help her pray. I sweep the outside the way she taught me. I do the dishes. She comes out of her room, and then she goes outside to sell things. The neighbors give her candy to sell. (33')

ALCIDES NEXT TO VOVO AT  
BEDSIDE

VOVO STRUGGLING TO GET  
OUTSIDE THE HOUSE

I am lucky to have Vovo. She took me in after

ALCIDES PUSHES VOVO IN  
WHEELCHAIR

everything happened. I cook and I clean and I  
push her to church everyday and she gives me  
a place to live. It is a mile and a half to church.  
(17')

ALCIDES PUSHING VOVO  
OUTSIDE CHURCH

Vovo (In PORTUGUESE)

When he gets married how are we going to  
live? I don't know, only God knows. Today's  
girls, most of them don't want to live with the  
old people. Me and you, we understand each  
other. But when you get a wife one day I think  
she's going to change your mind in the way you  
think of me. (25.5')

ALCIDES WITH FRIENDS AT THE  
REENCONTRO CENTRE

Alcides (IN PORTUGUESE)

These are my friends. We met at Reencontro.  
It's an organization that helps AIDS orphans.  
It's run by a woman named Olinda. Some  
photographers from America came to  
Reencontro. They gave us cameras and they  
taught us to take photographs of our lives. My  
friends took all of these pictures. (26')

KIDS WITH CAMERAS

PHOTO MONTAGE WITH MUSIC

They also gave me a video camera and taught  
me how to shoot. The camera opened my eyes  
to our world. I never paid much attention to all  
of the people in the marketplace, to all of the  
sights and the sound of my city. (18')

ALCIDES FILMING THE CITY  
MARKET PLACE GVS

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

I don't like to tell anyone that I am just an AIDS  
orphan. People think that all AIDS orphans are

PHOTO MONTAGE

HIV positive. People, you know, they discriminate against you. Not all orphans have someone to live with, to take care of them, but that's what we all want. Some live in shacks, some live on garbage dumps. (30')

PICTURES OF WASTELAND

This is my friend Irenio. His backyard is the dump. (3')

INTRODUCING IRENIO

Irenio (In PORTUGUESE)  
My mother was sick and died this year in March. March 25, I believe. Six years after my dad. What can I find for my siblings to eat?

IRENIO ON CAMERA

That's what I think about at night, and when I wake up. So sometimes when I don't have anything to do, I just don't want to even stay here at home. When I wake up in the morning everybody looks at me waiting for me to do something. I feel so bad that I am responsible for five people. It's very difficult. (54')

IRENIO LOOKING IN FRIDGE FOR FOOD

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

SIBLINGS EATING

Irenio tries not to show the stress and difficulties that his family is facing to his little brother so that way he doesn't realize they are having so many challenges and I really like that.

IRENIO WITH HIS SIBLINGS

(sound up: kids dancing)

Irenio (In PORTUGUESE)

My greatest fear is to discover that I am HIV positive. I'm always thinking about that. So even now that's going to be...that's giving me a huge headache. (15')

IRENIO AT CLINIC

IRENIO HAVING BLOOD TEST	<p>If I find out I am HIV positive, it will be very difficult for my sisters. When I was sitting out there my heart was pumping so fast waiting for the test results. So when we went into the room I almost fainted. When they told me I was negative, what a relief. (22')</p>
JEREMIAS ON CAMERA	<p><u>Jeremias</u> (In PORTUGUESE) My name is Jeremias Cossa. I am thirteen</p>
OLINDA TAKING JEREMIAS TO THE CEMETERY	<p>years old and I am in the sixth grade. And I am a small photographer. (11')</p>
CLEARING GRAVE AREA	<p><u>Alcides</u> (In PORTUGUESE) Jeremias is a friend I met at Reencontro. Olinda</p>
STANDING OVER THE GRAVE	<p>takes him to the cemetery to visit his parents' graves. He dreams of having a family again. (11')</p>
ON CAMERA	<p>What do you remember of your parents? (2')</p>
MONTAGE OF CHILDRENS' PARENTS	<p><u>Jeremias</u> (In PORTUGUESE) My mother, she would take me to meet her family. My parents would take me places. (5')</p>
	<p><u>Narration</u> So many of Alcides friends have lost their mothers to HIV and AIDS (4')</p>
ON CAMERA	<p><u>Orphan 1</u> My mother died when I was very very young. I was two years and few months old. And my brother, my younger brother was one week a few days old. (11')</p>
ON CAMERA	<p><u>Orphan 2</u> (In PORTUGUESE) The last thing I remember about my mother – she was so affectionate. She would give me advice on how to live my life. Because she</p>

	knew she was going to die. (12')
ON CAMERA	<u>Orphan 3</u> (In PORTUGUESE) I loved my mother. I used to like to take her picture. My mother loved me. (6')
ON CAMERA	<u>Orphan 4</u> (In PORTUGUESE) My mother she would wake me up in the morning. We would go into the fields and plant things. (7')
PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALCIDES FAMILY	<u>Alcides</u> (In PORTUGUESE) My parents divorced when I was six. My sister and went to live with my father. My mother took my baby brother Alex who was only three. That was 10 years ago. (10')
PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALCIDES MOTHER	After they divorced I never saw my mother again. She moved to a village very far away. I heard she died of AIDS several years ago, but I am not sure where she is buried. I don't know what happened to my little brother. (15')
VICTORIA WASHING DISHES	This is my sister, Victoria. She doesn't live with me. She lives with another family. But she often comes to visit. (7')
ALCIDES SITTING WITH VICTORIA	<u>Alcides</u> (In PORTUGUESE) If you could do anything in the world, what would you like our life to be? (4')
VICTORIA ON CAMERA	<u>Victoria</u> (In PORTUGUESE) I would like the three of us to live together, to go to school...and just be a family. (4')
HOLDING VICTORIA	

ALCIDES ON CAMERA	<p><u>Alcides</u> (In PORTUGUESE)  (to sister) "Don't cry don't cry" (2')</p>
	<p>The way my sister reacted when I told her our father died of AIDS she cried a lot. She didn't know. (6')</p> <p>I was sad. I could not cry with her because I had to be strong for her because I have to care for her. And I have to care for my stepmother. She's too poor for me to live with her. (12')</p>
ON CAMERA	<p><u>Stepmother</u> (In PORTUGUESE)  One day your father came home, and he had something to tell me. He decided to tell me he was HIV positive. (9')</p>
FILMING STEPMOTHER	<p><u>Alcides</u> (In PORTUGUESE)  So are you HIV positive?</p>
ON CAMERA	<p><u>Stepmother</u>  Yes I am. (CRIES) (1')</p>
	<p><u>Alcides</u> (In PORTUGUESE)  Don't cry don't cry. (2')</p>
ALCIDES WALKING AROUND HIS FATHER'S HOUSE	<p>This is the house where my father died 15:34  Here's where I lived for a little while. I would carry water and fill this container. I would come here to watch movies and sitcoms. The porch is where my father used to sleep when he was sick. That's where my father slept. (25')</p>
WALKING OUT OF THE HOUSE	<p>After my father died I got tested. I am HIV</p>

negative. (6')

PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALCIDES  
FATHER

ALCIDES ON CAMERA

If my father was here, I would tell him that I am so proud of him despite the circumstances that we lived in and all the struggles. I would say even though he went to school and worked as a security guard I am so proud because he fought for our future (cries) (26')

VOVO AND ALCIDES SITTING ON  
STOOP

ALCIDES CRIES  
VOVO COMFORTS ALCIDES

Vovo (In PORTUGUESE)

You told me you have a brother who lives far away, and you haven't seen him for a long time. You didn't know how he is, so that touched me, but there was nothing I could do. I could say go and bring him to come live with us, but I don't know how. He's far away. You don't know if he's in Zambezi or if he's in Beira. So I left things alone because I didn't know what to do. (33')

ON CAMERA

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

It's like this. Reencontro is going to help me. I am going to call my Uncle Nando to get the information. To know where he is - if he's in Beira or Zambezi. And my sponsor is going to give me the money to go and bring him here. (21')

VOVO ON CAMERA

Vovo (In PORTUGUESE)

If it's like that I would love it, and I would be so thankful that you could be near him. To be together with him. (7')

ALCIDES PRAYING  
GETS IN BED

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)



ALCIDES AT THE AIRPORT

After many weeks of searching, Reencontro found my brother. He lives with my grandparents in a village very far away. (7')

TRAVELLING IN CAR

Woman's voice

Don't be discouraged, be calm. We're just about to get there.

MEETING GRANDMOTHER

MONTAGE OF PRAYING  
WEEPING....FAMILY

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

I'm trying.

My best moment is where I saw my grandparents and my brother again. SO that is the best moment – to meet again with my family. (17')

ALCIDES BROTHER LOOKING AT  
PHOTOGRAPH

Alec (In PORTUGUESE)  
Is this a photo of mama? (2')

WALKING TO THE GRAVE

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

I want to see my mother's grave. (2')

TENDING CEREMONY

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

My brother is leaving the only life he has ever known. He is coming to live with Vovo and me. (5')

BACK AT HIS HOUSE - SCENES  
OF MEAL IN GARDEN

Narration

Six months later, Alcides and his brother are enjoying life as a family with Vovo. (5')

Alcides (In PORTUGUESE)

My family (1')

PHOTO MONTAGE

Narration

Alcides Soares is now studying at the African Leadership Academy in South Africa. After graduation, he plans to attend college and become a filmmaker. (9')

Irenio joined a gang and is serving jail time for robbery. (3')

Jeremias is in school and wants to major in photography. (4')

**CLOSE:**

That's all for this edition of 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY. I'm Daljit Dhaliwal. We'll see you next time. Until then, Goodbye. (9')

**CREDITS (54')**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century # 77**

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**MOZAMBIQUE: HOME IS WHERE YOU FIND IT**

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