



TV

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BURUNDI: STRUGGLING TO BE FREE

VIDEO

CARINE FARMING

AUDIO

NARRATION

Carine Nkurunziza is learning a new trade but she doesn't know when she'll be able to put it to use. She is in prison for a crime that she says she had no choice but to commit. (11)

CARINE ON-CAMERA

CARINE: (In Kirundi) **M**

"Someone tried to help me by aborting the child. The same person reported me. I was caught and brought to prison." (10)

PRISON SCENES

NARRATION

At the age of 14 Carine was raped. That, indirectly is why she is in Mpimba prison on the outskirts of Bujumbura, the capital city of the central African nation of Burundi. (11.20)

(NATSOT)

People running, gunshots, chaos in the street...

NARRATION

ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE

Her parents died in a civil war that started in 1993. Ethnic conflict between the Hutus and Tutsis

raged in this country for almost 13 years. Some 300,000 people lost their lives. (16)

CARINE: (In Kirundi)

CARINE ON-CAMERA

“When my parents died, we were left – six children. I was the eldest. I started wondering how I could raise these younger brothers and sisters.” (15)

NARRATION

BUJUMBURA STREETS

She found a babysitting job with an affluent family in the city.

HOMES

But her hopes of building a secure future for her poor family were dashed when her employer molested her. (10.20)

CARINE: (In Kirundi)

CARINE ON-CAMERA

“I came to Bujumbura and worked. The man paid me. But then he turned around and raped me.” (9.20)

NARRATION

MARKET – WOMEN AND CHILDREN

In 2006, more than 1,300 cases of rape were reported in Burundi. But many more cases go unreported. Some sixty percent of all rapes are committed against minors – even as young as three years old. (16.20)

BARBARA INTRO SHOTS

One reason why so many children are raped is because of a myth says Barbara Piazza-Georgi, representative of the United Nations Population Fund in Burundi. (10.20)

PIAZZA-GEORGI: (In English) **F**

BARBARA ON-CAMERA

"There seems to be a belief running around that sex with a virgin or sex with a child is going to cure HIV and AIDS. We are seeing more and more of these cases." (9)

COUNTRYSIDE

NARRATION

Carine never reported the crime because she didn't trust the judicial system. (4.10)

INTRO TO NTAGWIRUMUGARA

Attorney and current parliamentarian, Marie Christine Ntagwirumugara, is helping victims, like Carine, to navigate the complex, legal system. (9.20)

NTAGWIRUMUGARA ON-CAMERA

NTAGWIRUMUGARA: (In French) **F**

"The authorities and the administrative leaders tend to resolve the issue amicably which means, culturally. They don't take into consideration the young girl or woman's complaint about being raped."

(16)

NARRATION

HEALTH CLINIC, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

When she found herself pregnant, Carine didn't want to keep the baby. (4.20)

NURSE

But no hospital could help her. (2.5)

BARBARA PIAZZA-GEORGI ON-CAMERA

PIAZZA-GEORGI: (In English) **F**

"Abortion is illegal in this country, even in cases of rape." (3)

REMOTE BACKYARD/JAIL

NARRATION

Her alternative plan—an illegal abortion -- got her into trouble with the law.

Carine was arrested and thrown in jail. (9.20)

CARINE ON-CAMERA

CARINE: (In Kirundi)

“When I arrived here I had no legal assistance and I did not know what to do. I spent two whole years without a court hearing. I was called three or four times. Then I was sentenced to life.”

(19)

MPIMBA PRISON/CARINE WITH
COUNSELLOR

NARRATION

UNFPA is providing counseling for young prisoners through a group called Youth Network. Eric Ndakikengurutse is the Coordinator.

(10)

NDAKIKENGURUTSE ON-CAMERA

NDAKIKENGURUTSE: (In French) **M**

“We noticed that Carine changed a great deal and showed herself as a girl who believes that life is not spoiled, even if one has aborted or is in jail.”

(14)

PRISON OFFICIALS INSIDE JAIL

NARRATION

A Presidential decree reduced Carine’s sentence to 20 years. Now a new law, targeted to help the elderly, might reduce it further. It states that if a prisoner has already served one-quarter of her sentence, she can appeal for early release.

(17)

CARINE SEWING

Carine has already served four years of her sentence. If her appeal is accepted, she will be free in just one year. (8.20)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4)