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Global Care of Orphaned and Vulnerable Children

Rachel M. Kuiken
Cedarville University, rmkuiken@cedarville.edu

Lauren Gamberdella
Cedarville University, laurengamberdella@cedarville.edu

Meredith Wood
Cedarville University, meredithwood@cedarville.edu

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Global Orphan Care

Meredith Wood

Rachel Kuiken

Lauren Gamberdella

OVC Population

- Orphans
  - Children under 18 who have lost one or both parents
- Vulnerable Children
  - Children affected by HIV/AIDS
  - Children in households headed by children, youth, women, or elderly people
  - Street children
  - Children in institutions
  - Children with disabilities
  - Refugee children

Cardoso, 2010

Orphan Care
Philippines
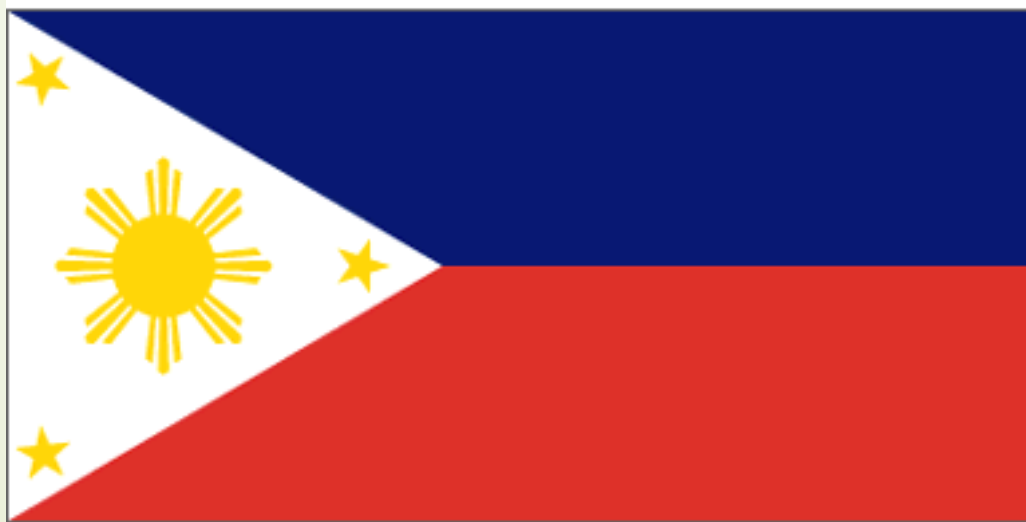
Demographics

- 7,000 islands with only 2,000 inhabited

- 1.8 million orphans in the Philippines

- 12th most populated country in the world

- Average income $4,600 dollars (206,000 pesos.) The Average American Family makes around $51,300.

Causes of Orphanhood

- Natural Disasters
  - Typhoon Yolanda- Thousands orphaned

- Family Size & Family Planning

- Overseas Work (2.2 Million)

Philippines Statistics Authority, 2013;
Cerojano, 2013;
Tillery, 2013;
Philippine Statistics
Authority, 2013

Harmful Life Styles

- Starvation & Hunger

- Drug Usage & Gang Violence
  - Rugby
    - Destroys liver

- Sex Trafficking & Domestic Violence leading to harsh/forced labor

Nation Master, unknown;
Unicef, 2011

Education

- Lack of Education

- Cycle Continues

Government's Role

- Domestic Workers Act and the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act (2012)

- Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012

- Department of Social Welfare and Development

- Non Government Organizations
  - Naomi's Heart Mission

Naomi's Heart Mission, 2014;
Philippine Statistic Authority, 2013

Orphan Care in Mozambique

Background of Mozambique

- One of the poorest nations

- 1.6 million orphans post-civil war

- Government was not equipped to handle the orphan crisis

Roby & Cochran, 2007

Scope of the Problem

- 1.4 million orphans
    - 12% of the children (0-17)
    - 670,000 due to AIDS
    - 96.4% of orphans live with biological relatives
    - Some live in over 140 residential institutions
- Child Headed Households
- Number of orphans is increasing

Shibuya & Taylor, 2013; Roby & Cochran 2007

Negative Effects

- Emotional stress
  - Social isolation
  - Lack of parental support
- Inability to meet basic needs
- Lack of access to education and medical care
- Lack of food inhibits learning
- Exposure to abuse and exploitation

Cluver & Gardner, 2007; Shibuya & Taylor, 2013;
Roby & Shaw, 2006; Roby & Cochran, 2007

Current Conditions

- Scarce support to families
  - Increased from 5.5% in 2004 to 22% in 2008
- Institutions
- Care centers
  - The Creche
  - 32% in 2004 to 77% in 2008
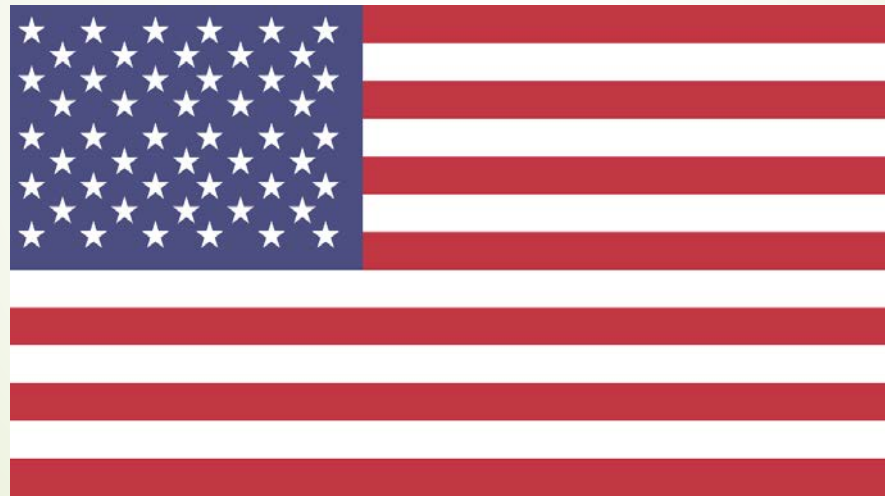- Foster families

Roby & Shaw, 2006;
Shibuya & Taylor, 2013

Government Actions

- 1994-Convention of the Rights of the Child

  - Children have the right to have basic needs met

- National Strategy for Basic Social Security for 2010-2014

  - Ministry of Women and Social Action

Roby & Cochran, 2007; Shibuya & Taylor, 2013; Mausse & Cunha, 2011

Orphan Care in the United States

Statistics

- Foster care
  - 400,000
- Abuse, neglect or abandonment
  - 123,000
- Aging out of the foster care system
  - 20,000
- Homeless
  - 1/5 by 18

Nance& Jordan, 2013; News Internet Ventures, 2006; The Orphan Coalition, 2008, Wall, 2012

Springfield, Ohio

- Children living homeless or in poverty
- Poverty under 5
- Single mom salary
- Free Lunch System

Riley, 2012; Wall, 2012

Negative Effects this has on Children

- No motivation to go to school

- Generational cycle of poverty

- Children's parents talk down to them

- 76% of parents do not enjoy time with children

Letcher& Slesnick, 2007;
Riley, 2012; Stewart, 2012

History of Orphanages

- In 1850 there were 71 to 77 Orphanages
- The Civil War gave demand for 600 more by 1880
    - Religious groups started to fund them to the response to the wars
    - Some of them were defined for genders or age
- In the nineteenth century the majorly of Orphans had one parent living
- Over crowded, horrible conditions, staff not taking care of children
- Baby Farms/ Baby Warehouses

Duplantier, 1996; Zmora, 2008

The Origins and Effects of being an Orphan

▶ Most parents could not take care of children

▶ Children became orphans for different reasons

▶ Mental and Physical developments

Kardashian, 2010; Tarko, 2006

Orphanages to Foster Care

- Charles Loring Brace helped in bringing diversity to the children

- Almost all Orphanages are called Foster Cares or Residential Treatment Centers

- 1909 at the White House, Roosevelt called a Meeting to discuss Child Welfare
  - 200 Social Workers

- 1920s orphanages started to close and foster care agencies started to grow

- 1950s foster care developed care for disabled children and those that were dependent upon themselves

- The Anti-Institution movement of the 1960s closed most of the orphanages that were left

Zmora, 2008

Policies put in Place

- 1000 to 1300 Ohio foster youth that will "age out"

- Programs in 25 states want youth in foster care until 21

- Fostering Connections Act of 2008

- Programs of Independence
  - Providing youth with housing and jobs

Price, 2014

What can be done to help the Children

- Social and Rehabilitation Services
- Helping families stay together
- Agencies offering services to youth that are "aging out" of the system
  - Choices-Dayton
  - Oesterlen-Springfield
- Drop in centers in different U.S. areas
- Builds trust and gives them hope
- Faith-Based Organizations or Communities
  - My Church

Letcher& Slenick, 2007; Nance& Jordan, 2013; News Internet Ventures, 2006

Why should we care?

"Orphan" [Fatherless] appears 41 times in the Bible

➡ Deuteronomy 10:18

    ➡ God defends the cause of the fatherless

➡ Psalm 82:3-4

    ➡ "Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

➡ Matthew 12:40

    ➡ Least of these

Davis, 2011

Conclusion

Ndeshi Friis states:

"We need to do more, and give more of a voice to the orphaned and vulnerable children themselves…the children need access to more platforms so they can tell us their needs, [which can] influence policy."

Roby & Cochran, 2007

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