

# **Knowledge is Power Workshop**

**BY**

**GIRL CHILD CONCERNS**

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## **ACTIVITIES:**

The opening of the workshop starts with a meeting at about 10.am. it started with opening prayer by Muslims, it was attended by parents of the students beneficiaries of the scholarship scheme. The guest speaker was Alhaji Yusuf Hamisu Abubakar popularly known as Mairago who is the Sole Financier of all the girls who are on scholarship under the female students scholarship scheme (FSSC). In his speech he emphasis the urgent need to invest in the education of girl child who are the mothers and leaders of tomorrow. He appealed to parents not to withdraw their children from school, he also pointed out that marriage doesn't stop any girl on continuing her education, a girl can get married and can as well be going to school because education is very important in every human lives. He gave an example of his two wives who are all lawyers that while he was out of the country for couple of months, due to some political Crisis it was his wives who took over his business activities. Mairago promise to support the best students under the FSSS to University level, and the best intelligent student to continue with her university education in a good school abroad.

The parents expressed their appreciation to the organisation and Mairago for his commitment to the promotion of education of the less privilege. The founder of Girl Child Concerns, Dr. Mairo Mandara in her Speech also stressed the need of girl child education. She also appealed to other successful dignitaries to support the FSSS so that they can also give back to their communities. The meeting was then closed with prayers by Christian.

## **DAY ONE:**

The first session at Q. A. C. was facilitated by Dr. Mairo Mandara and Hajiya a Bilkisu Yusuf it starts with an open space discussion after the opening prayers. The participants came out with issues they decide to discuss, they choose different topics which includes:-

1. The danger of H. I. V. AIDS
2. How can we stop child trafficking?
3. How can we stop lesbianism?
4. How can we improve in our science subjects?
5. Importance of girl child education
6. How to eradicate poverty.

The participants were then divided into groups to discuss topics of their choice each group choose a chairperson to guide the group discussion and a rapporteur to take notes and report back to the plenary. It was already 6.30pm the facilitator instructed the participants to leave the presentation for tomorrow morning. The girls went for prayer and dinner.

### **DAY TWO:**

The second day starts with the presentations by each group on the topic they choose and the facilitator, Dr. Mairo Mandara contributes more on each topic and point out the solutions to their problems.

Anuty Larai was among the role models, she is an old girl of Queen Amina College and it happened that the hostel where the girls were camped was her hostel when she was a student of the collage, (yellow house) Anuty Larai retired as a deputy Director of the Central Bank she told the girls how hard she worked to bring up her children with a good quality education after her husband died. She pointed out the importance of education to the participants. They ask her different questions about central bank e.g the importance of central bank to the country. After that then they went for lunch break.

Abimbda T. Fashoyin from the centre for Development and population Activities continued with the evening session, on **reproductive health**, which the gave the girls lecture on how to avoid unwanted pregnancy how to keep themselves clean during and after menses, even danger of H.I.V. Aids different ways to avoid H. I. V Aids and also the issue of bad friends.

After prayer and dinner there was a film show on ku Saurara which was shown to the participants.

### **DAY THREE:**

The morning session starts a bit late at about 10.am, the participants gave a recap of the previous day the lessons they learnt from the film show, and anuty Hauwa Contribute on how to be free with their parents and they should always be free to open up to their parents on issues disturbing them.

The principal of Queen Amina College Dr. Madina Shehu was among the role models of the day, the topic of the discussion was **the importance of education in human development**. She emphases to the girls to concentrate well on their studies

so that they can one day be independent. She also gave them an example of herself, how hard she worked, for her to get to where she is today, she told them how she struggle to train nine children up to university level after her husband died.

The participants also received a visitor from abroad, Miss Salome, an Ethiopian and the project officer from Global Education, a us based NGO working in the development of education. She told the girls why she left Ethiopia for U. S. A. and the problem she faced even on learning their language (English) also how hard her mother worked to make sure that she attended good schools. She asked all the participants to introduce their selves and to tell her what they want to aspire to be in life. Many of them said they wanted to be medical doctors like Dr. Mairo, some teachers, police officers, lawyers etc. Then they went for lunch break.

The second session was facilitated by those from youth service organisation (YSO) the participants also shared with them what they have learnt from the film show.

Hajiya Bilkisu Umar from National Teachers Institute (NTI) was also among the role models, she gave a lecture on **EDUCATION AS A LIFE LONG STRUGGLE**. She talked about the importance of education. She pointed out to the participants that even after marriage and having children one can still pursue her educational career. She gave an example of herself that despite her age she still want to go back to school.

#### **DAY FOUR:**

After the recap of the previous day with Dr. Mairo, participants were divided into different groups, they were asked to organise a drama with title of their choice and each group will come out and play on stage after lunch break.

Anuty Hauwa introduces Mallam Shehu Makarfi, the provost of Kaduna State Collage of health technology, and the issue of discussion was **VALUE AND SELF IDENTIFICATION**.

The girls were asked what they understand by the word value and the things they value most they were able to mention the following: - education, health, religion good character, self control, honesty development etc. they were later divided into groups then the facilitator asked every group to write own values based on their discussion and what they all agreed on then at the end of the session they all agreed on the following:-

1. Education
2. Health
3. Religion
4. Behavior

The evening session was continued with drama of different titles as follows:

1. Education is the key to success
2. Trust on one
3. Children of now a days
4. The students and the bad teachers.
5. Early marriage
6. Son Kudi Yafi karatu

### **ON THE LAST DAY**

The boys and girls were brought together to share experience of what they learned during the workshop. The students were ask to organise a drama to reflect their they learning points. The two groups of boys and girls were asked to select two facilitators for the last session.

The boys came up with a drama on how to prevent the influence of bad friends while the girls developed a drama on the dangers of withdrawing Yong girls from school and denying them education.

The workshop was closed with Muslim and Christians prayer. Transportation expenses was being refund to all the participants before they leave.

### **Constraint:**

- Almost half of the girls students (beneficiaries) were absent.

### **Recommendation**

- Invitation letters should be sent early to all participants