

**Swahili transcript:**

Nicholaus: Tukirudi pale uliposema kuwa jamii haijalichukulia suala la ukimwi kama ni sehemu fulani ya jamii bado haijalichukulia kama ni tatizo, ni kwamba, kwamba ni mila na tamaduni jamii ilizo nazo ama ni basi ni kutokuwa na habari za kutosha?

Mtoa mada: Tunasema kuna changamoto nyingi, labda pengine kwa kulifafanua zaidi kuna changamoto, zipo nyingi ambazo zinafanya jamii isilichukue kama tatizo, kama janga. Kwa sababu tatizo la kwanza, kitu cha kwanza ni kwamba tunasema ugonjwa wa ukimwi ama virusi vya ukimwi sio tatizo tuseme kama ugonjwa wa ebola ambao ukiingia, kila mtu hapa Arusha atatetemeka. Utaangalia yule anayepanda daladala upande nae pengine ana ebola, utaangalia hapa hii nyumba pengine kuna ebola. Kwa hiyo mtu anapata virusi vya ukimwi, ataishi hata miaka saba kwa sababu tunasema inakadiriwa kuwa miaka mitano hadi saba ndio umri wa mtu tangu amepata virusi vya ukimwi hadi kufa itachukua. Kwa hiyo katika kipindi chote hicho cha miaka saba, huyo mtu atakuwa mzima. Kwa hiyo, moja kwa moja anaweza akawa anaendelea kuambukiza, kwa hiyo hiyo ni moja ya changamoto, kwa hiyo jamii haishtuki mapema, unaona? kwa sababu anakufa huyu leo, pengine huyu alikwa navyo na yeye atakufa baada ya muda fulani, kwa hiyo ule mshtuko hauwi mkubwa, aah hilo ni tatizo la kwanza, na pia kama nilivyosema kuwa tunatofautiana kati ya maeneo. Kuna maeneo ukienda Mbuguni, ugonjwa wa ukimwi ni tatizo na watu wanaogopa. Lakini ukienda eneo la Ngaramtoni hawaogopi kwa sababu kiwango cha maambukizi sio kikubwa. Na ukija, ukija hilo ni tatizo la kwanza kwamba hizo ni changamoto kwamba kunatofautiana kati ya maeneo na maeneo. Kwa hiyo kuna maeneo wameguswa zaidi na janga na kuna maeneo hawajaguswa. Hayo maeneo mengi ambayo hayajaguswa wanaona kwamba sio tatizo, kwa hiyo hiyo ni kitu cha kwanza. Kitu kingine ndio kama nilivyosema kwamba mtu anaishi na virusi vya ukimwi kwa muda mrefu bila kufanyaje? bila kuugua, akiwa mzima kabisa, kwa hiyo hilo ni tatizo la pili. Kwa hiyo watu hawaoni kama ni tatizo. Aaa, tatizo lingine, changamoto nyingine ni kwamba suala la ukimwi linahusisha masuala ya kujaamiana, na jamii haipendi kuyazungumzia masual ya kujaamiana. Kwa hiyo tunaweza kusema pengine wamefumbia jambo macho, au pengine wameona kwamba kwa sababu sio utamaduni wetu kuzungumzia masuala ya kujaamiana, kwa hiyo watu hawaoni haja au umuhimu wa kuyazungumzia kwa hiyo inakuwa kama ni kitu kipo lakini kwa kimyakimya, kwa hiyo, hicho ni kitu kingine. Na pia ni ngumu jambo lingine pia tunasema mienendo ya kingono ni ngumu kuibadilisha, yaani katika vitu kama vile tunasema mtu anaweza akaacha pombe, mtu anaweza akaacha sigara, lakini tabia, mienendo ya kingono ni ngumu sana kwa watu kuibadilisha, kwa hiyo hiyo ni kitu kingine. Kwa hiyo tuna watu katika jamii wako namna hiyo kwamba ni ngumu kubadilika, ni ngumu kubadilisha mienendo yao na vitu vya namna ile, lakini pia tunasema, pia tunasema kwamba ukimwi unaambatana na suala la unyanyapaa kwamba kwenye jamii watu wananyanyapaa suala la ukimwi, kwamba wanaona kwamba, yaani, wengi mtu ata-point kwamba lile ni tatizo la Fulani, au hili ni tatizo, kwa mfano

ukiwaambia watu, watakuambia kwamba hili ni tatizo labda la Bukoba, hili ni tatizo la Kigoma, hili ni tatizo la maeneo mbalimbali, kwa hiyo hawataona kama ni tatizo la kwao, kwa hiyo hili ni tatizo lingine lililopo kwenye jamii kwamba inakuwa kama ni kitu kigeni kwa jamii nyingi japokuwa si kitu kigeni, ni kitu kipo.

**English translation:**

Nicholas: As you said earlier, the issue of HIV/AIDS has not been well received by people. They don't see it as a problem. Do you think it is because of the traditions and customs people have or because they don't have a clear understanding of HIV/AIDS?

Presenter: We have a number of challenges. To make it clear, our society has many problems. People do not consider HIV/AIDS to be a national tragedy. First of all, HIV/AIDS is not like other diseases, such as Ebola disease. If the Ebola virus would occur here in Arusha, it will cause great concern. You would make sure when you get on a bus that the person near you is not infected with Ebola. If there is a home you want to visit, you will make sure that no one has Ebola in that house. That is because the Ebola virus kills faster than HIV/AIDS. If a person is infected by the HIV/AIDS virus, he can survive up to seven years. It is understood that a person who is infected with the HIV virus can survive five to seven years before he or she dies. However, during all those years, the person is healthy and sometimes he is spreading it to other people. That is the challenge. People don't get frightened easily, you see? Today this person dies, then after a period of time, another one who was infected with the virus dies. This is the problem. As I said earlier, the infections differ from one place to another. For example, in Mbuguni, the infection is widespread and people are afraid of HIV/AIDS. But if you go to Ngaramtoni, people are not afraid of HIV/AIDS because the level of infection is not huge. So that is the first problem. The infection differs from one place to another. In other words, there are some places where people are very concerned about infection and other places where they are not.

Another thing I pointed out earlier is that people can survive with the HIV/AIDS for many years. So people do not see that it as a problem. They do not see people die soon after being infected. Another challenge is that HIV/AIDS is related to sexual intercourse, and people do not want to talk about sex. We can say that people do not take this issue seriously. They see things happen, but it seems as if they do not really understand. Maybe it is because of cultural differences. It is not our tradition to talk about sex publicly so people do not talk about it. Moreover, we can say that it is not easy to change peoples' attitudes towards sex. It is possible to make people quit smoking cigarettes or drinking alcohol, but to make people stop having sex not an easy task. There are some people in the society who are like that, and it is hard for them to change their attitudes about sex.

Another challenge is that sometimes, the society segregates people with HIV/AIDS infections. People do not see that this is a problem; instead they point fingers and say that this is someone else's problem. For example, when you talk about HIV/AIDS, people can point out that this is the problem for the people in Bukoba, or Kigoma, or other places.

They do not see HIV/AIDS as their own problem. So this is the challenge. It seems like a new disease for the public, but in reality, it is not new.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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