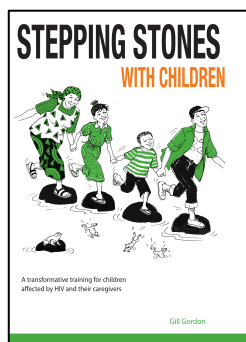


# *Stepping Stones with Children* films

## A SYNOPSIS



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This document gives an overview of the films made by participants during the *Stepping Stones with Children* participatory trainings films and manual, published by Practical Action Publishing, 2016.

It can be downloaded for free for use with this training manual from the [www.steppingstonesfeedback.org](http://www.steppingstonesfeedback.org) website. On this website there are also many other resources to support you with this training manual and the original *Stepping Stones* training manual.

*Stepping Stones* and *Stepping Stones Plus* as well as *Stepping Stones with Children* are programmes created and supported by Salamander Trust, [www.salamandertrust.net](http://www.salamandertrust.net).

*Stepping Stones with Children* was created by Salamander Trust with PASADA, funded by Comic Relief.



## Stepping Stones with Children films

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### 1. Animated film – ***Why did we develop Stepping Stones with Children?***

This brief animated film explains what challenges children affected by HIV and their caregivers face, who the *Stepping Stones with Children* programme is designed for, the topics covered by the programme and how the peer groups are formed. We recommend that you watch this first.

### 2. Documentary – ***Children First***

We recommend that you watch this short documentary film next. It follows some children and their caregivers who were involved in the *Stepping Stones with Children* training, to see the impact it has had on their lives since then.

The documentary features interviews with the trainers, caregivers and the children who were involved, as well as examples of exercises from the workshop. It is intended to give a sense of what *Stepping Stones with Children* is about and how it can support communities affected by HIV towards more safety, well being and peace.

## Participatory Films made by adults

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### 3. ***Shall We Tell Him?***

John overhears his parents talking about his HIV clinic appointment. Later, he is feeling so sad that he doesn't want to play football. His good friend, Alex, asks him what's wrong but John won't say.

Alex has seen John taking the same medication as him, medication for HIV, during the *Stepping Stones with Children* workshop. He suspects that John is feeling scared and confused about HIV, as he did before he was told the truth about his own HIV status. He asks his granny to advise John's caregivers to tell him the truth about his status.

Alex's caregivers talk to John's parents about telling him about his HIV. They're afraid but they agree to tell him, when they feel ready. They sit down with John and tell him that he has HIV in a supportive way. At first John is worried. However, his caregivers reassure him that he can go on to fulfill all of his dreams, and that as long as he is careful with his medication, he will be healthy as he grows up. They tell him that above all, it is important that he feels peaceful and happy.

### 4. ***Volcano***

A woman is finding it hard to sell her juice as she has become ill. People stigmatize her and will not buy her products.

Her husband has also been sick. When he goes for an HIV test he is found to have

HIV. He believes that his wife knew that he was living with HIV. He becomes aggressive and demands to know how she knew. A community educator from PASADA is passing by and hears them quarrelling. She intervenes to suggest that the couple attend a *Stepping Stones with Children* training.

They attend the *Stepping Stones with Children* training together. They carry out an exercise called 'Volcano' that helps them to understand and manage their feelings and control their anger. Afterwards they spend time together as a family. They share the knowledge they learned about caring for children, loving one another and managing emotions like anger with others in their community.

### **Participatory Films made by children 9 – 14 years**



#### **5. Give Her a Chance**

Yusra has been taken out of school by her parents so that she can do the housework but she can't keep up with all of her parent's demands. She is washing clothes, feeling tired and fed up, when her brother comes home from school. She feels upset because her parents have kept her home from school just because she is a girl.

Sometime later, Yusra's parents get home to find her asleep on a mat. They are annoyed and tell her to get on with her chores. She starts crying. Her brother finds her like this and promises to help her.

Yusra, her brother and their parents all sit down together to talk. The children try to convince their parents that it is a good idea for Yusra to return to school. At first, the parents worry that the chores won't get done if Yusra goes to school every day but her brother promises to help her out after to school to make sure they do.

The teacher is invited to their home to discuss Yusra's return to school. The teacher has missed Yusra and is happy to welcome her back.

#### **6. Out on The Streets**

Children go out into their communities to interview other children and their caregivers who have completed the *Stepping Stones with Children* training. They ask the participants what they learnt from the training, how the training has affected their relationships and what challenges they have faced since.

The adult interviewees report an increased understanding of how best to care for children, children's rights and how to access services for children. They have been sharing what they learnt with people such as their neighbours.

The child interviewees reported learning how to help others, to avoid fighting and about their own rights as children. One child reported that before the training she used to go to school without breakfast. Now, her caregivers give her food each day.

## Participatory Film made by children 5 – 8 years

### 7. *Kigodoro*

#### **What is a 'Kigodoro'?**

Kigodoro is a form of dance party that is popular in some areas of Tanzania, such as Dar Es Salaam and other coastal regions. These parties are held outside in residential areas. People come together and often stay up through the night. There is often sexy dancing, stripping, alcohol and drug use. Young children sometimes attend these parties. Since 2015, the Tanzanian government has tried to restrict these parties, claiming that attendees were being targeted by people involved in crime.

A child has seen his classmate, Wanda, at the Kigodoro last night, being touched by an older man. He discusses what to do about it with his classmates. They decide to tell their schoolteacher.

The teacher thanks the children for telling her. She calls Wanda's mother into the school to discuss with her how to support Wanda and to prevent her from going to any more. The teacher then holds a session about Kigodoro to explore what the children already know and what dangers they could face there. She advises the children not to attend any of these parties.

Later, one of the children tries to persuade the children to go to a Kigodoro again that night but the children refuse, after repeating what they learnt about the dangers of the Kigodoro for children.

To view all the films online: <http://tinyurl.com/StStwCDar>

To order copies of the manual: <http://tinyurl.com/PAPStStwC>

To read more about Stepping Stones, visit: <http://steppingstonesfeedback.org/>

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© Individual films – see each film for details

