

Sustaining Women's leadership





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Life is full of exclusive mysteries. I am Viviane Nkusa, a 22-year-old junior environmentalist at ministry of water and environment. Despite my talent and dedication, before joining the ministry I volunteered with some forestry agency however, I often felt overshadowed by my colleagues and this made me struggle with self-doubt. I had Ideas that could help out but since I was a self doubtful person with no confidence and potential. I would be looked down on.

My life basically became disgusting and annoying and at one point I hatred for myself. Surprisingly, one day, my friend asked me to take part in training with MEMPROW which was about women engaging in leadership, I realized that my challenges weren't unique and that many successful women had faced similar problems.

"MEMPROW being a feminist organisation, I thought that it basically teaches women to hate men not knowing it brings together girls and young women to provide the skills and knowledge that they need to become successful, confident and self-reliant individuals."

And since then I continued to keep up and training myself to be courageous and have confidence in whatever I do. So as time went on I volunteered to be a counsellor at some primary school at home and thereafter I continued to with my studies. In the long run I happened to be one of participants who attended the Sexual Reproduction health rights boot camp where I got knowledge on sexuality, psycho social resilience, enhancement of life and relationship and in turn this knowledge helped me gain more confidence, embrace myself and make my own decisions as a lady its part of me now. Basically this has helped me a lot in that now I can freely tell my story and it inspires the others with challenges like mine. The knowledge I get from MEMPROW I use it during my training sessions with fellow youth like my siblings both male and female even during field trips i always teach them on how life is meant to be taken.

I am an inspiration within my community and place of work proving that with determination and self-belief, I would break barriers and lead with impact.

Thanks to MEMPROW for helping me know who l am and the ability of what I can do.

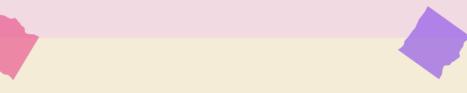
Viviane Nkusa

Junior Environmentalist, Kyoga water management zone , Ministry of water and environment My name is Byanyima Winnie. I live in Mengo Bulange. I am a medical student in my third year.

I attended the Women Feminist Conference by organized by MEMPROW, which was held in Entebbe from 29th to 31st January, which focused on various critical issues affecting women today. The conference covered many topics such as women's rights, women reproductive health, family planning methods, domestic violence, education rights, HIV infection awareness, inspiring personal stories, and strategies to avoid early pregnancy. It also emphasized the importance of encouraging women to return to school and provided guidance on how to advise parents on protecting their children from these challenges. The discussions included overcoming obstacles faced by women in society and highlighted the importance of community support in addressing these issues.

The insights gained from the Women Feminist Conference have significantly influenced me in my academic journey, personal development and community practice. As a medical student, understanding women's health issues, family planning method and HIV/AIDS awareness has become paramount in my studies, and future practice by spreading awareness in the community including my fellow students and friend son the complications associated with the above issues. The knowledge about domestic violence and its implications has made me more empathetic towards patients who may be experiencing such situations, and how to handle teenage pregnant mothers on how to support their feelings by counseling them and giving them possible solution, that they may do after birth which can help to improve their future example going back to school for further education, joining tertiary education for hand skills work and how to take care of the child. Additionally, learning about family planning and education rights has inspired me to advocate for these causes within my community and among my peers. Personally, I feel more empowered to engage with social issues affecting women and contribute positively through volunteer work or awareness campaigns in the community.

Through my engagement with MEMPROW, I have witnessed and done several positive changes both personally and within my community. I have become more active in promoting women's rights and health education initiatives among fellow students and local community. My participation has also encouraged others to join discussions surrounding women's empowerment, leading to increased awareness of critical issues like domestic violence and early pregnancy prevention for example the last debate we had at school rotaract club and at the fellowship were I was given the chance to present on the women health topic and how we can do outreach to spread the family planning method and HIV/ Aids awareness to the neighboring community during the school week of awareness both internal and outside the school. Additionally, I have developed skills in advocacy and public speaking that enhance my ability to communicate effectively about these important topics. Generally, MEMPROW has been helpful in modeling my perspective as a future health care provider committed to supporting women's health and rights.



My name is Anzoa Diana who resides in Makerere, Kikoni during the semester and my home is in Bweyogerere, Kazinga.

I am currently a final year law student at Makerere University. I am also the President, FIDA Makerere University Students' Chapter; the General Secretary Makerere Law Society Brains' Trust; A MEMPROW Girl and an alumni of Girls for Girls Uganda.

I have attended the SRHR Boot Camp organised by MEMPROW. The training gave me very valuable insights on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and how it encompasses the different spheres in our lives. This gave me the desire to learn more on the topic so I took a short course with Afya na Haki on Advocacy for Reproductive Justice in Africa, which is a part of the discourse.

Additionally, as a MEMPROW girl and President of the FIDA Makerere Students' Chapter, together with my team, we are trying to figure out how to bring these trainings to university students on a larger scale so that our colleagues can benefit from this information and make informed decisions about their lives.

MEMPROW has been instrumental in my life. I first learnt about MEMPROW in 2019 as a Senior Five student at Bishop Cipriano Kihangire SSS (BCK) and since then I have been a part. From the patrons of MEMPROW at BCK, to it's senior members, the talks, the marches, dinners and trainings I have attended, MEMPROW has taught me so much about leadership, self-esteem, feminism.

As a result, I have felt confident enough to take up leadership positions and advocate for women's rights with knowledge that MEMPROW has equipped me with. To put it shortly, MEMPROW has played a big part in the woman I am today.

My Name is Watsemba Immaculate. I am currently located in Masaka. I am a youth leader, Gender Specialist, SRHR advocate and also founder and Executive Director Restoring A Smile Initiative -RASI. I work directly with the youth and women from marginalised communities. I am also currently working with OKOA Rehabilitation center, working directly with children having multiple disabilities.



I have been trained in areas of SRHR advocacy and Leadership by MEMPROW Uganda. I have been equipped with knowledge and skills to make informed knowledge about my Sexual Reproductive health and rights.

My current engagements include:

- Advocacy Youth from marginalized communities, providing guidance and mentorship
- Women from disadvantaged backgrounds, empowering them to break cycles of inequality
- Children with disabilities at OKOA Rehabilitation Center, promoting inclusivity and accessibility



Hello, I am MUDONDO MARY SHARON, currently staying in Kansanga and a student at Kampala International University, and also a Proud MEMPROW girl. I am thrilled to share my life changing story with MEMPROW training programmes which have had a profound impact in my life. Particularly in areas of SRHR, advocacy, movement building, emotional intelligence, personal hygiene, leadership skills, family planning, gender equality awareness, and personal conduct as a girl child among other areas.

The training empowered me with the knowledge and confidence to advocate for my rights and make informed decisions about my body and health. I developed essential leadership skills enabling me to take charge of my life and inspire others to do the same. I learnt effective advocacy techniques allowing me to champion gender equality and social justice issues. I gained deeper understanding of family planning methods enabling me to make informed choices about my productive health. The trainings heightened my awareness of gender equality issues inspiring me to promote fairness and equity in all aspects of life. I also developed emotional intelligence allowing me to navigate complex relationships and situation with empathy and wisdom.

As a girl child, I learned the importance of self respect, self care, standup and speak out for my rights, setting health boundaries. The trainings have transformed my life in countless ways, as I have become a confident, informed, and empowered MEMPROW girl equipped to navigate life's challenges with grace and resilience. I am now a passionate advocate for gender equality and social justice, inspiring others to join me in creating a more equitable world, and sustaining women's leadership. I am forever grateful for the MEMPROW training experience which has had positive impact in my life and recommend this program to anyone seeking, personal growth, empowerment and deeper understanding of gender equality and social justice

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Date: 05 / 08 / 2024

my appreciation is going to all the memprow mentors. I would like to say a word of thanks to all your team that due to your coming to us peop young girls of Pakwach has brought for 'us alot of changes due to the first meeting up to now. Through the exercise we have been passing true I have learnt how be to be on my own I have learnt alot from about pregnancy us to A know if am pregnant first is musing mentration period secondly selection of goods, body becomes soft, passing frequent urine, my request is if possible a help me provide for me something to help me stand on my own like sarani. Thanks.

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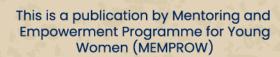
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Sustaining Women's leadership





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HEAD OFFICE



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