

Supporting Families through Inclusive Humanitarian Aid

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Thursday, 10:50-11:50



Institutions: A Global Issue

Children in Institutions: The Global Picture



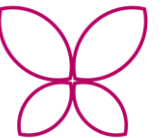
The 'orphan' myth

Causes:

- ❖ Poverty
- ❖ Lack of access to social service
- ❖ Discrimination
- ❖ Disability
- ❖ Conflict, disasters
- ❖ Migration
- ❖ Trafficking

Risks:

- ❖ Abuse
- ❖ Violence
- ❖ Malnutrition
- ❖ Heightened for children with disabilities
- ❖ Heightened during times of emergency



Humanitarian Aid and the Proliferation of Orphanages



- Children, particularly children with disabilities, separated from families
- Orphanages are a 'pull factor' for vulnerable families
- Short term solution → Long term impact



Haiti

- Orphanages in Haiti increased at least 150% after the 2010 earthquake
- 85% unregulated
- Fuelled by unprecedented aid money
- Children at severe risk





Funding Haiti's "Orphanages"



\$100MILLION =

770,000 children in school

770,000 Haitian children could be supported to go to school. One million children are at risk of being out of school in Haiti and many parents struggle to pay annual fees of \$130 to send their children to school.

= \$100MILLION 

130 x IBESR

More than **130 times** the reported Haitian child protection agency's annual budget.

= \$100MILLION 

5 x

Nearly 5 times the Haitian Ministry of Social Affairs' annual budget.



Response to Hurricane Matthew in 2016

- Documented all children in 50 orphanages in South.
- Issued warnings to orphanage directors that admissions or discharges made without involvement of social services would result in prosecution.
- Raised awareness of the harm caused by well-intentioned individuals and donors.

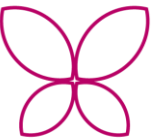


A Global Issue



- Nepal: Post-conflict, 2015 earthquake
- Aceh, Indonesia: 2004 Tsunami
- Funding does not create inclusion: Unprecedented amount of funding after disasters, but still a lack of inclusive services, exposes “*the fallacy that disabled people would be included if sufficient resources were available*” (IDDC).

Well-intended response → serious harm



Family Separation & Institutionalisation

- Children with disabilities may be separated from family vulnerable to violence, exploitation and abuse.
- Sent to institutions to remove from the situation.
- Children with disabilities at a higher risk of being abandoned.
- Parent note they do not always have capacity to take care of their children, and don't receive support.
- 61% say family is main actor providing assistance to those with disabilities; increasingly vulnerable if family members lost.
(Handicap International 2015)



Recommendations

- **Data:** to predict, prepare, plan, respond and monitor.
- **Preparedness:** to prevent institutionalization / re-institutionalization of vulnerable children.
- **Inclusion, collective action & coordination:** governments, multilateral organisations, donors, DPOs, NGOs, faith based organisations and communities.
- **Long term approach:** Needs don't disappear after evacuation and evacuation itself may bring on additional needs.
- **Educate donors**



Thank you

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