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Form 4

A GREAT NATION

There are many I know who have done good things but what my neighbor did was incredible considering her age and situation she was passing through. My neighbor Grace is the fifth born in a humble background in Kisumu and soon relocated to Kibera where they thought life would be normal and easy than like in Kisumu. In Kisumu not all the people acquired education. Only the well to do families acquired education because they had money, food was also very difficult to find as many people looked for food and shelter. The education in Nairobi was of a high standard than that of Kisumu, since in Kisumu people acquired education from their teachers who were not really skilled.

In Nairobi Grace started her education in Olympic primary school and all the teachers warded her because she was the most obedient and respectful girl in the school. Her performance also surprised all the teachers and students .As she always says handwork pays Grace was a hardworking girl and was promoted to be a class prefect in their classroom .She succeeded well in academics for she was focused and determined .In eight grade Grace was well known for her bravery and success in education and she joined a very expensive national school in Kikuyu land. Grace was humble and her mother acquired a scholarship in one of the organizations called Dreams for only girls. She was called to a very good school and there in Kikuyu, she met with very rich and well families. She tried to fit in but because of her poor background people rejected her and told her not to go close to her .The schoolmates were like her enemies and she thought they would be friends.

Grace tried to fit in but she was rejected and abused because she was from a poor village and the school mates regarded Kibera as a slum and the people living there were thieves .Grace was so confident that even if she will not fit in she came to make her background better than it was. Grace was sure of one thing even if they were not rich at that time, she will one day be rich and well known all over the world.

Grace accepted herself as she was. “Yes I am from the slums, but I perform, “she said to herself. In the 10th grade Grace received an award of being a good football player and her performance kept every teacher in shock .How can a poor girl defeat this entire rich people in school. Grace was indeed a special girl because she never gave up in times of difficulties and kept her mind with positive information in order to succeed.

Grace listened to her teachers and paid attention in class .She respected her parents and never engaged in the evil that the slums brought upon her. She was not disrespectful,she was hardworking she never used drugs like most youths in the slums she was God fearing and never engaged in slum, early sex life that has led many girls to have many diseases like Hiv/Aids ,STDS and early pregnancy. Grace always attended church and prayed for God to keep her and her family safe and sound. Grace was good and everyone wanted to be like her she was very kind and a role model to many girls in her school. People started realizing her as one of the smartest girls and they started living with her like a family.

Grace was now in 11th grade and remained with an year to finish her education .Her sponsors bought her a phone because they realized she was a hardworking student .Grace started accounts in facebook,instagram and whatsapp.Suddenly her behaviors started changing ,she was no longer in education but an addict in the internet in as much as the internet is a good platform for communicating and learning ,it is also high addictive .Internet addiction is described as an impulse control disorder and is very similar to pathological gambling. Individuals, children or adults can get addicted to the internet and this has an effect on their lives as well as relationships with other people.

Grace started showing signs like rising more time spent on the internet, time management problems, problems in her school work life such that she experience difficulties in doing everyday lives such as studying, health problems like lack of sleep, Grace started arising conflicts with her family members and sponsors as they were easily irritated when not online or when they feel their online activities are being interfered with. She had, more priority on cyber world than real world hence she depended more online relationship. Grace felt depressed when internet use is reduced .She started being defensive when this was mentioned, and think they are not addicted.

Grace met with other friends who were also addicted to the online and their friends were doing online sexting .Her online friends convinced her to join the sexting so as to acquire money to do her shopping's .But she refused, then Grace started avoiding her online friends but they cyber bullied her and threatened to tease her and blackmail her .Grace was so confused and decided to report the bullies, using a child helpline on 116.

Although reporting her friends was one of the biggest tasks Grace was proud of what she did although she was called a snitch .That made Grace lose all her online friends .Grace is now an inspiration to many and she has started her own foundation called Online Activist. Where she guides the children on online protection and online safety. She says, "Protecting children online is a global problem that requires concerted efforts of parents, guardian's, government , organization's that are children centric among others. Children are vulnerable group and have to be protected to have a great nation ".

She inspires me most because of her confidence to stand strong as a woman and fight for children empowerment .It is not easy to find somebody who can sacrifice and lose her friends because she cares for children online safety .I pray for the world to have many people like her.