

The right to health



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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

FOREWORD

The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being. Yet millions of people have no access to health-care or even basic sanitation. Faced with this reality, people living in poverty often feel powerless. Unaware of their human rights, they are resigned to the fact that health services are too far away or cost too much. Those lucky enough to access health services are often treated badly. All this has to change. People need to be more aware of their rights so that they can take more control over their lives. Only then can effective action be generated to hold governments, and other powerful actors, accountable.



WHO is pleased to issue this publication as a contribution to the UN Decade on Human Rights Education (1995-2004). I hope it constitutes a step in the direction of making the right to health more widely known and understood as an instrument to empower those most in need.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Gro H. Brundtland".

Gro Harlem Brundtland
Director-General WHO
Geneva, September 2002

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THE RIGHT TO HEALTH



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



DRAW YOUR FAMILY



NOW COME AND MEET MY FAMILY...

TOGETHER WE'RE GOING TO EXPLORE THE RIGHT TO HEALTH...



THE RIGHT TO HEALTH IS ONE OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS.



EVERYONE HAS HUMAN RIGHTS, CHILDREN AND ADULTS ACROSS THE WORLD.



ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL

TODAY WILL BE FUN! WE ARE GOING TO TALK ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

BECAUSE HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERN EVERYONE EVERYWHERE, WE'VE INVITED OUR FRIENDS FROM EVERY CONTINENT.



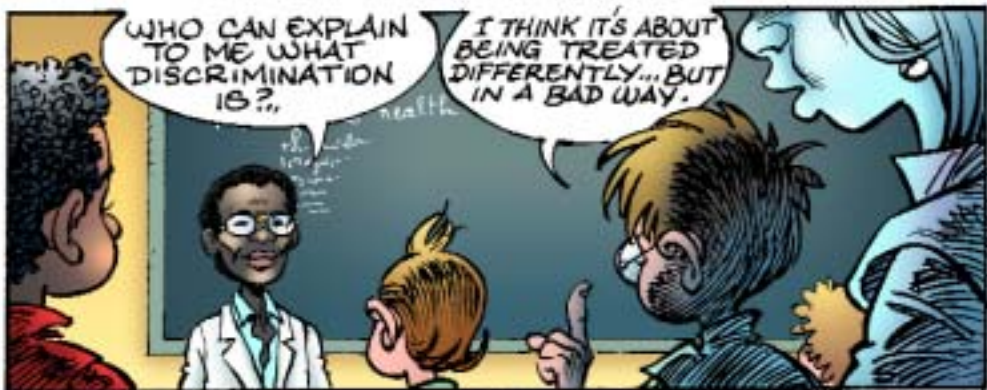
GOOD, YOU'RE HERE. NOW WE CAN BEGIN.



WELCOME ALL OF YOU THAT HAVE COME SO FAR, FROM ASIA, AFRICA, THE AMERICAS AND EUROPE.







LIKE A BOY IN MY SCHOOL WHO NO ONE WILL PLAY WITH BECAUSE EVERYONE SAYS HE'S CRAZY...



SIR, I'VE SEEN
SOMETHING LIKE
THAT WHERE I
LIVE TOO.

TELL US
WHAT YOU
SAW.



WE LEARNT
FROM THE
VILLAGE HEALTH
WORKER THAT
MY NEIGHBOUR
WAS INFECTED
WITH H.I.V...



... HE LOST
HIS JOB AND HE
AND HIS FAMILY
WERE EXCLUDED
FROM VILLAGE
LIFE.



THE DOCTOR SHOULD
HAVE RESPECTED HIS
RIGHT TO PRIVACY, AND
HE SHOULD NOT HAVE
BEEN DISCRIMINATED
AGAINST BECAUSE HE
IS LIVING WITH H.I.V.



AND NO
DISCRIMINATION
EITHER BECAUSE
OF SOMEONE'S
- SKIN COLOUR
- RELIGION
- ...

AND REMEMBER
WOMEN AND MEN ARE
EQUAL SO WE MUST
NOT DISCRIMINATE
BECAUSE OF A
PERSON'S SEX.



WOMEN AND
MEN HAVE
THE SAME
RIGHTS ALL
THEIR LIVES.

SO THAT MEANS
THAT GIRLS AND BOYS
HAVE THE SAME RIGHT
TO GO TO SCHOOL.



YEAH, AND THAT WOMEN AND MEN BOTH HAVE THE RIGHT TO DECIDE IF THEY WANT TO GET MARRIED AND TO CHOOSE WHO TO GET MARRIED TO.



WOMEN HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS MEN TO DECIDE IF THEY WANT TO HAVE CHILDREN...



...WHEN...

ONE DAY?

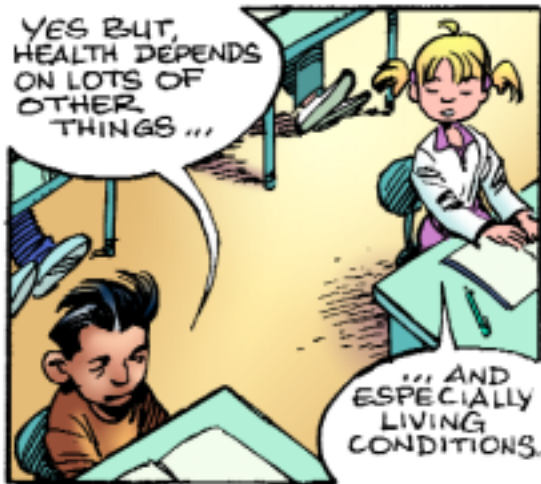
SOON?

NOW?



...AND HOW MANY.





THE WATER IS DIRTY IN MY VILLAGE AND SO WE ARE OFTEN ILL.



THE RIGHT TO HEALTH ALSO MEANS HEALTHY LIVING CONDITIONS.





... AND THAT
WHERE YOU ARE
CARED FOR YOU
SHOULD BE TREATED
WITH RESPECT.



DON'T
FORGET
THAT YOU
CAN ASK
QUESTIONS
AND
EXPECT
AN
ANSWER
...

YOU SHOULD BE
LISTENED TO
BECAUSE IT IS
WHAT IS BEST
FOR YOU THAT
COUNTS.



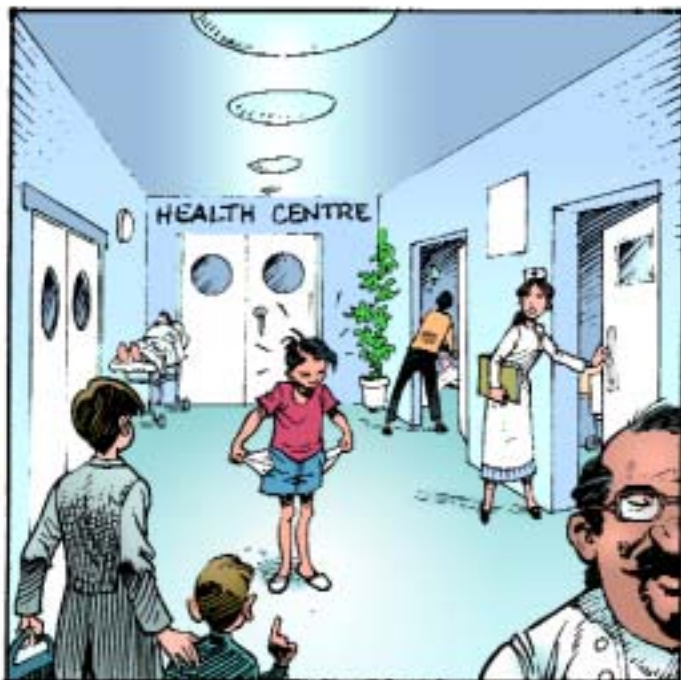
BLA BLA BLA
BLA BLA
BLA --



ALSO, YOUR GOVERNMENT SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT HEALTH SERVICES ARE AFFORDABLE FOR EVERYONE.



BUT THAT MEANS THE RIGHT TO HEALTH COSTS A LOT FOR GOVERNMENTS.



HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THE FIRST PRIORITY IN DECIDING HOW MONEY SHOULD BE SPENT.



GOVERNMENTS SHOULD WORK WITH OTHERS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THEIR COUNTRY...

AND RICH GOVERNMENTS SHOULD HELP POOR GOVERNMENTS.





BEFORE YOU GO OUT FOR A BREAK TRY THIS GAME: MARK WHICH BOXES ARE TRUE AND WHICH ARE FALSE.

1



HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ONLY FOR MEN



2



HUMAN RIGHTS ARE FOR EVERYONE... WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION.



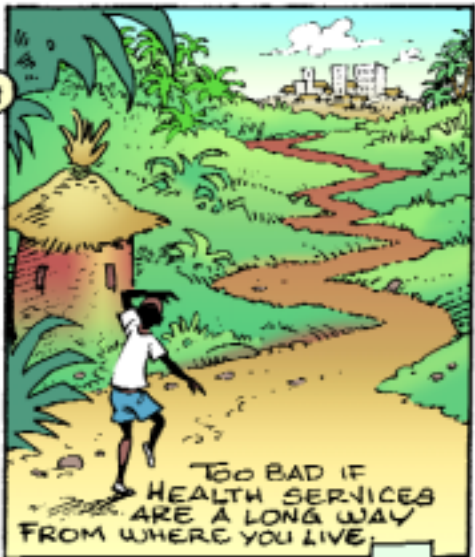
3



HEALTH SERVICES MUST BE EASY FOR EVERYONE TO GET TO.

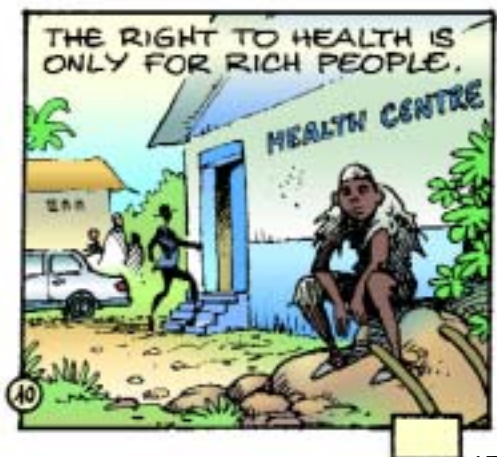
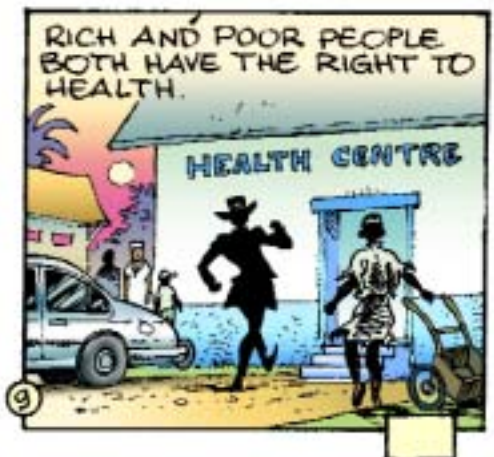
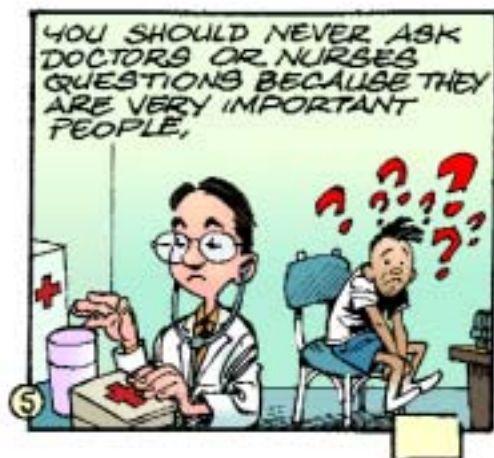


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TOO BAD IF HEALTH SERVICES ARE A LONG WAY FROM WHERE YOU LIVE.





HAVE FUN OUTSIDE ON YOUR BREAK, BUT REMEMBER...

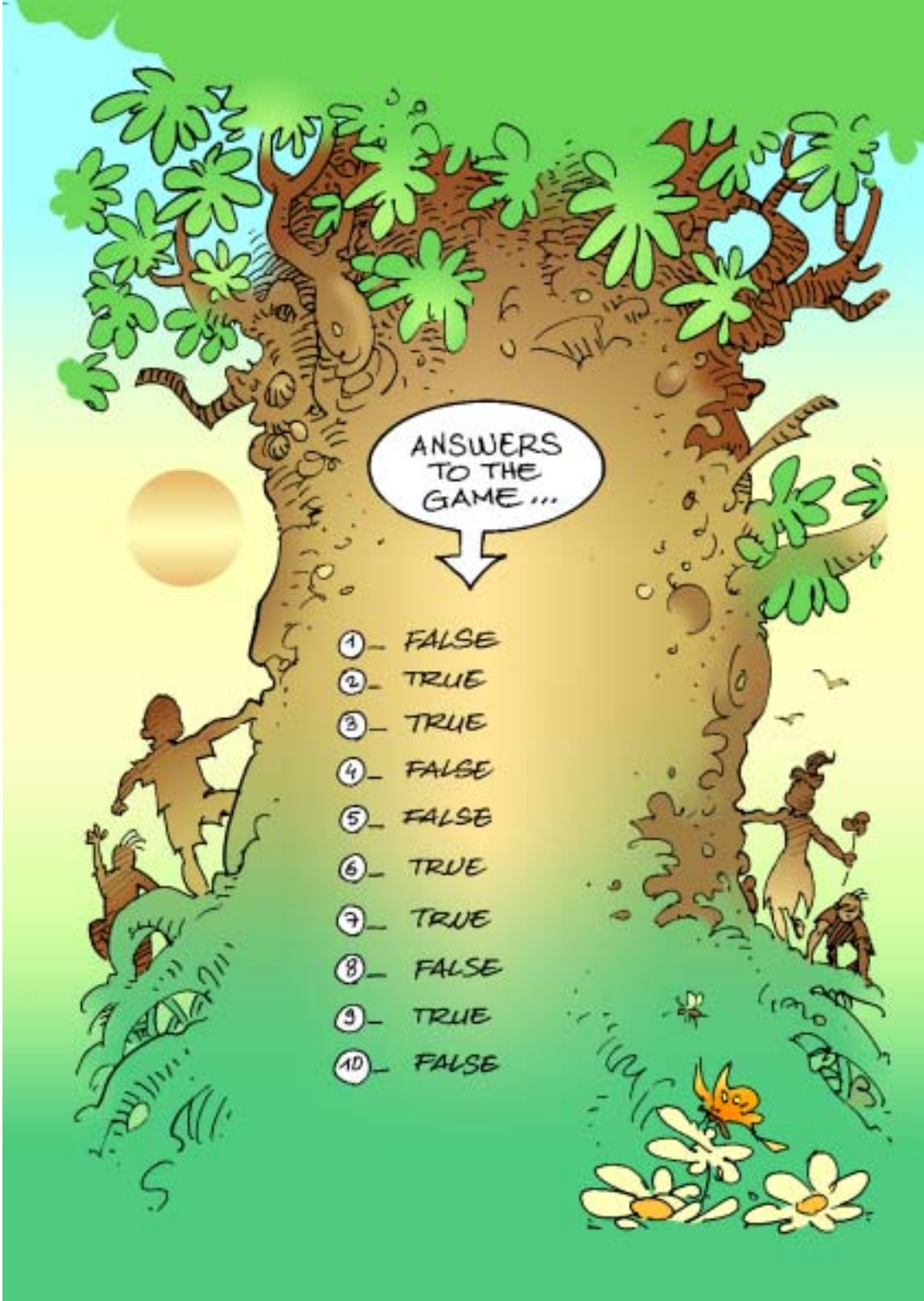


HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUR GOVERNMENT.



GOVERNMENTS FROM ALL COUNTRIES, RICH AND POOR, MUST DO THEIR BEST WITH WHAT THEY HAVE AND HELP EACH OTHER ...



A cartoon illustration of a large tree with a face, a sun, and people in a forest. The tree has a large, smiling face on its trunk. A speech bubble points to a list of answers. In the background, there is a large sun. In the foreground, there are people, a dinosaur, and flowers.

ANSWERS
TO THE
GAME ...

- ① - FALSE
- ② - TRUE
- ③ - TRUE
- ④ - FALSE
- ⑤ - FALSE
- ⑥ - TRUE
- ⑦ - TRUE
- ⑧ - FALSE
- ⑨ - TRUE
- ⑩ - FALSE



This book belongs to:



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