The Health and Social Implications of Child Trafficking in Ghana

ERIC OPOKU AGYEMANG

Over 70 children in the Senya fishing community in the central region of Ghana are trafficked, both domestic and international, to serve their masters in the fishing industry every year. Parents often sell their children to traffickers due to poverty and several other reasons. This presentation will discuss the root causes, effects, socio-cultural problems, and the health challenges faced by returned trafficked children in Ghanaian fishing communities. This would be a case study of 3 fishing communities in the Central region of Ghana.

Eric Opoku Agyemang is a social Entrepreneur and community youth leader in Ghana. He is an Alumni of President Obama’s Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) and has participated in several leadership fellowships and national development efforts in Ghana. As a passionate leader in national development, he founded Patriots Ghana and the Cheerful Hearts Foundation to promote youth leadership, active citizen participation, and the fight against human trafficking in Ghana. Aside helping to rescue over 450 children from labour & trafficking, he is working on providing sustainable and alternative income for over 3000 poor women along the fishing communities through financial literacy, skill training programs, and income generation projects. While starting his Master’s in Social Work at the University of Washington in Fall 2016, Eric currently holds a degree in Business Administration and Management and an Associate degree in General Agriculture and Rural Sociology.