

Warning: DOMDocument::loadHTML(): Unexpected end tag : p in Entity, line: 3 in /home/gender/public_html/plugins/content/image/emogrifier.php on line 63

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In Zambia, as in other countries in the region, tens of thousands of girls--many orphaned by AIDS or otherwise without parental care--suffer in silence as the government fails to provide basic protections from sexual assault that would lessen their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS. Through girls' own testimonies, this report shows sexual assault of girls in Zambia in the era of HIV/AIDS to be widespread and complex. It documents several categories of abuse that heighten girls' risk of HIV infection, including (1) sexual assault of girls by family members, particularly the shocking and all too common practice of abuse of orphan girls by men who are their guardians, or by others who are charged to assist or look after them, including teachers, (2) abuse of girls, again often orphans, who are heads of household or otherwise desperately poor and have few options other than trading sex for their and their siblings' survival, and (3) abuse of girls who live on the street, of whom many are there because they are without parental care.

Article can be accessed on-line [here](#) .