

An 11-year old school girl, ‘forced into a dog sexual defilement’ in Sengerema, Mwanza, Tanzania. April 2008

“Should the government fail to take heed of our outcry over the inhuman act against the school girl, we will continue with the protest in the streets” The youth emphasized in their statement to the Mwanza Regional commissioner.

Over **1000** Activists, Primary and Secondary school students on 22 April, 2008 marched to the Nyamagana District Commissioner’s Office protesting against a dog sexual defilement committed against an 11 -year old primary school girl in Sengerema district, Mwanza , Tanzania.

Three employers of the Barrick Exploration Africa Limited (BEAL) mining site forced the standard –four girl from Sota Primary School situated at Igalula village, Ngoma ward, in Sengerema district of Mwanza Tanzania to be defiled by a dog on March 21, 2008.

It is alleged that, Annicet Edward Ndege (30) Job Murama (30) and Shija Madata persuaded the school girl from a neighbor house, sent her to the Nyanzaga Mineral exploration centre, tied her hands, undressed and forced her to be defiled by a dog for more than one hour. They finally paid the fateful girl Tshs 1, 000 equivalent to 1 \$ as instructed by a foreigner owner of the dog.

The activist demanded punitive measures against the culprits and the owner of the dog believed to be a foreigner to pay for life long medical expenses for the girls including an order to leave the country. In her statement the acting director for Kivulini MS Yusta Ntibashima, highlighted that, for the Tanzanian culture, norms and laws, it is totally unacceptable for dog defiant act to any human being. She demanded for urgent police investigation to the Barrick Exploration Africa Limited (BEAL) Company which believed to own the dog and if found guilty measures to be taken.

Furthermore, she called for immediate action to be taken to avoid the possibility of corruption which will deny the victim her justice. In his remark the acting Regional Commissioner, Mr. Samwel Kamote said, Tanzania is governed by rules of law, he appealed to the community members to be calm & patient while the government measures are being taken. Additionally, he ordered the Sengerema district Commissioner to form a special committee to ensure punitive measures are taken to every one involved. The march was facilitated by Kivulini to uncover the matter to government attention.