Developing communication strategies to addressing sorcery accusation related violence

Learning Together - Understanding Impact

Kup Women for Peace, Kafe Women’s Association, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation, Kedu Seif Haus University of Goroka, Queensland University of Technology
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAUSES</th>
<th>IMPACTS</th>
<th>SOLUTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorcery accusations linked to tribal fights, or family obligations/jealousy</td>
<td>Impact on children, education, families and women who are trying to support their families, some resulting in self-doubt and suicide attempt</td>
<td>The use of support networks and the support of an organisations, in particular women's networks, family support and functioning community support systems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unexplained death</td>
<td>‘Sanguma tag’, stigma, discrimination and abandonment that people experience</td>
<td>Speaking out, in particular defending women, protection of human rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Witchdoctors or glassman/glassmeri and the disruptive effects they can have on a community</td>
<td>How by-standers feel and strategies what someone can do to provide positive support</td>
<td>Restorative justice and mediation in the community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fear around sorcery and the negative impacts of gossip</td>
<td>Experiences of repatriation and the challenges associated with it</td>
<td>Seeking justice and utilising the legal system, not accepting compensation</td>
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<td>Peer pressure among young men</td>
<td>Children and youth being accused of sorcery</td>
<td>Call for education in communities, with a focus on health education</td>
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<td>Targeting people with vulnerabilities</td>
<td>Loss of resources and leaders in a community</td>
<td>Transformation of perpetrators who have experienced someone close to them being accused, male advocates</td>
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<td>Wanting access to resources</td>
<td></td>
<td>The value of counselling in dealing with trauma</td>
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<td>Dismantling or challenging power structures within a community</td>
<td></td>
<td>Effective police response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unexplained death</td>
<td></td>
<td>Young people making a difference in their own communities</td>
</tr>
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<td>Witchdoctors or glassman/glassmeri and the disruptive effects they can have on a community</td>
<td></td>
<td>Standing up for others and protecting others and thinking of positive representations of a community</td>
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</table>
I felt very sad, because innocent people are being hurt. I never knew that this pointing fingers at someone as being a sanguma will cause pain to them.

(Female, 34, Simbu Screening, 2018)

I learnt something about the law and how it is there to resolves peoples conflicts in the community. I also learnt that it is wrong to accuse someone of being a sanguma because we have laws that protect people.

(Male, 28, Simbu screening, 2018)
Screenings in Goroka

Umba Peter
Kafe Urban Settlers’ Women’s Association Goroka
Summary – What we are learning together

• Ongoing community engagement processes and support networks
• Storytelling provides a space to share experiences and provide a variety of ways for people to identify with
• Perpetrators and communities reflect on their actions (empathy)
• Understanding access to services and to organisations, increased request for services
• Audiences welcome and ask for more information around the law
• Sharing stories for government engagement and lobbying
• Ensuring ongoing reflection and sharing through action research
Digital Stories

Explore personal stories from human rights defenders in Papua New Guinea. They share their own experiences around sorcery accusations and violence. Their stories highlight some of the causes, impacts and solutions to sorcery accusation related violence.
Get Involved

Do you feel passionate to address sorcery accusation related violence in Papua New Guinea or do you have your own inspiring story to share?

If you wish to participate in the Yumi Sanap Strong initiative, we would love to hear from you!

- Would you like to screen the Yumi Sanap Strong digital stories in your organisation or community?
- Would you like to share your own story?
Communicating the Law Toolkit

COMMUNICATING THE LAW
A PARTICIPATORY COMMUNICATION TOOLKIT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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