

APRIL 2010 NEWS LETTER

## *Protecting the girl child from sexual abuse is fundamental for women's prosperity.*



*Mountains of hope is a Christian-child focused, orphanage, and Advocacy Non-Government Organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome challenges facing orphans, and injustice in Uganda.*

*Child sexual abuse and early marriage violate children's rights which rank among the major factors responsible for perpetuation of poverty in Uganda currently estimated to be 31% of the total population. The inadequate systems and institutions to protect the rights of the girl child continue to undermine women's rights to enjoy decent livelihoods, especially those from rural areas. From our field experience, child sexual abuse and marriages greatly undermine the process of especially the girl child's development into descent womanhood.*

*For girls to be empowered and become equally productive future citizens, they need to be protected. Protecting the girl child from sexual abuse is fundamental for women's prosperity. Our overall goal this year is to contribute towards elimination of child sexual abuse and marriage by putting in place appropriate legal and policy frame-work that will guarantee Child well being in Mpigi and Uganda. This year the specific objectives are as follows;*

- 1. To raise awareness among the public that sexual abuse and early marriage is child rights violation that impacts on prosperity for women.*
- 2. Mobilize children and parents to raise issues of sexual abuse and early marriages for the attention of policy makers and implementers*
- 3. To provide a platform for policy makers to listen to issues on child sexual abuse and early marriages for policy action to remedy the situation.*

