

KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY United Nations Proposal

Proposal # 20

Proposed by Djibouti

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School: Pendleton Co. HS

City: Falmouth

Committee: E

Action on Proposal

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An act to promote awareness of the current lack of women's rights regarding FGM practice which still exists in many parts of the world.

Be it hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the United Nations

Justification Clause: In Djibouti as in other countries, women are victims of actions against their will such as female genital mutilation (FGM). FGM has been illegal in our home country since 1995, but it is still a critical issue with 93% of the female population still affected by it today. Currently there are no organizations or groups in place that provide protection to women who wish to avoid FGM. The statistics are alarming; 41% of females under the age of five and 95% of females under the age of ten undergo the process of FGM.

Section 1: FGM is carried out for non-medical reasons and is a highly dangerous procedure usually done in the home of the parents of the child and is performed without anesthesia or sterilization. The procedure is typically executed with scissors, a razor, knives, rocks, fingernails, or any sharpened object. No known health benefits come from the process of FGM. This deleterious operation causes immediate complications. For example: HIV, Hepatitis, fatal bleeding, wound infection, urinary complications, extreme pain and discomfort.

Section 2: We would like the UN, through The United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) and The United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC), to advocate our need for awareness of the current crisis on women's rights in Djibouti and other countries. We want to see advocacy information published online and commercialized PSA's, live media coverage, articles, and general outreach campaign. Understanding that many areas do not have access to digital media, we still believe that this advocacy will help better prepare humanitarian workers and others to work to change the practice of FGM. Education is always the most successful first step.

Section 3: This proposal will take little funding. The agencies already have the technology and the knowledge to create this advocacy campaign. We simply ask that this be a focus of their advocacy beginning this year.

Section 4: If passed, the planning of the advocacy in this proposal should begin immediately and implementation of campaign should begin by fall 2014.