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# Anexo: Os Depoimentos de Ex-Crianças Soldado

#### Afeganistão

1. We have a DDR [Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration] process for peacebuilding which is going well, but still we do not feel secure – especially women and children." [Ex-menina soldada, 14 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2007). Will you listen? Young voices from conflict zones. Nova York; p.18.

2. At the end of the war we wanted peace but there were no jobs and we did not have means of supporting our families. In such a situation, why not remain a soldier? At least it's a way of earning some small amount of money. [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte:** WESSELS, M. (2006). **Child Soldiers:** From Violence to Protection. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press; p. 155.

# África do Sul

 People, they don't know me, [and] I don't want people to have those fears: "Hey, did you kill people? Hey, you are one of those guerrillas! [Exmenino soldado].

**Fonte:** BRETT, R.; SPETCH, I. (2004). **Young Soldiers:** Why They Choose to Fight. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner; p.131.

#### Angola

1. I was in Huila when the Blue Berets [UN Peacekeepers] took us to our cantonment area in Vila Nova. In the cantonment areas we often gave fake names and sometimes lied about our areas of origin because we were afraid of being re-recruited. I received three bags of maize, a pair of trousers, a shirt, a pair of shoes, and 39 millions Kwanzas. From the

cantonment area I was taken to the church of S.Pedro, and it was a catechist [church member] who reunited me with my family. [Ex-menino soldado].

Fonte: HONWANA, A. (2006). Child Soldiers in Africa. Filadélfia: University of Pennsylvania Press; p.141.

2. I lost my time in the military and now I don't manage to study to learn a profession... Working the land without fertilizers won't produce anything. Also here in the village there is nothing to do to amuse us. The only soccer ball we had broke a long time ago... When I think of all this, my heart beats and becomes sore and I am unable to sleep at night... For the future... I want to be a good farmer, because I already lost hope of being able to study, and because I don't want to lose hope completely in my life, I would rather live, work the land, help my mother and try to get a wife. [Ex-menino soldado, 19 anos].

Fonte: HONWANA, A. (2006). Child Soldiers in Africa. Filadélfia: University of Pennsylvania Press; p.144.

## Burundi

 In the army I was not well treated, I did not get enough sleep. Now I am with my family. I am adapting to my family. I am more and more accepted. [Ex-menino soldado, 17 anos].

**Fonte:** BANCO MUNDIAL (2007). The Social and Economic Status of Beneficiaries of the Burundi Child Soldier Demobilization, Social Reintegration and Recruitment Prevention Special Project. **Dissemination Note**, No. 1. Washington, DC: Banco Mundial; p.2.

**2.** I will progress like the others. My goats are multiplying and I'll see better days". [Ex-menino soldado, 18 anos].

**Fonte:** BANCO MUNDIAL (2007). The Social and Economic Status of Beneficiaries of the Burundi Child Soldier Demobilization, Social Reintegration and Recruitment Prevention Special Project. **Dissemination Note**, No. 1. Washington, DC: Banco Mundial; p.4.

# Camboja

 I am a registered soldier – even if under false identity of an adult soldier who already died – and in theory I am eligible for the benefits promised under the demobilization programme. [Ex-menino soldado, 17 anos, sequestrado aos 13 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.69.

#### Colômbia

**1.** I want a family. I'll never tell my children about being in the ACC. [Exmenino soldado].

Fonte: HRW. (2003a). You'll Learn Not to Cry. Nova York; p.111.

2. It was wrong to give myself up to the group. Sometimes, my conscience troubles me. Now I hope to be with my family again and share things with them, to rethink, to think of a better tomorrow and to see the world with open eyes. [Ex-menino soldado].

Fonte: HRW. (2003a). You'll Learn Not to Cry. Nova York; p.111.

# Costa do Marfim

1. What I want to do is forget the way they killed and molested people in my presence, and the bad things that I did... I want to learn a trade or go to school and forget about the war. [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos].

**Fonte:** SAVE THE CHILDREN (2005). **Fighting Back:** Child and communityled strategies to avoid children's recruitment into armed forces and groups in West Africa. Londres: Save the Children; p.20.

#### **El Salvador**

1. I think that housing and education are what I need, but... for education, I would like to have a night job so that I could study in the day. [Ex-menina soldado].

**Fonte:** VERHEY, B. (2001). Child Soldiers: Preventing, Demobilizing and Reintegrating. **Africa Region Working Paper Series**, No. 23. Washington, DC: Banco Mundial; p.19.

**2.** Now they do give classes, but I won't go with those little boys. [Exmenina soldado].

**Fonte:** VERHEY, B. (2001). Child Soldiers: Preventing, Demobilizing and Reintegrating. **Africa Region Working Paper Series**, No. 23. Washington, DC: Banco Mundial; p.19.

#### Filipinas

 I am still an MILF. When [the government troops] entered the camp, we left our posts. We went to the mountains and became guerrillas. We left our weapons up there in the mountains. There's a rotation – we wait for two months then it will be our turn. As soon as we receive an order...we go to the mountain. [Ex-menino soldad, 16 anos, recrutado aos 12 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.69.

2. I won't ever neglect or abandon my sisters. Their welfare is foremost in my mind. I have learned many things here at the centre. Gardening. Construction work. And I am studying here. I now want to finish school, to have a job. I want to be a teacher. Those are things that I hope for. I realize that I can change my life. I want to lead a peaceful life.. [Exmenina soldado, 16 anos, recrutada aos 13 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.69.

## Libéria

 I am now 14. I was with the LURD for two years in 2003 and 2004. I had to tow ammunition and arms for them. They beat me. They did not feed me. I never heard about it and then it was over. I didn't participate in DD [sic] because I did not know if this was an option was for me. [Ex-menina soldado].

**Fonte:** ANISTIA INTERNACIONAL (2008). **Liberia:** A flawed process discriminates against women and girls. Londres: Anistia Internacional; p.29.

2. I was living in Foya when government troops entered. I stayed with them from 1999-2003 I was captured with other small girls. There were eight of us altogether. We were all used by this one commander who would rape

all of the eight girls. Now I have stomach problems. I am told that I have an infection but when I take medicine I don't really feel better. I was in my village seeking traditional medicine when the DDR was going on so I missed out. I am still not all right fully." [Ex-menina soldado, 18 anos, seqüestrada aos 13 anos].

**Fonte:** ANISTIA INTERNACIONAL (2008). **Liberia:** A flawed process discriminates against women and girls. Londres: Anistia Internacional; p.32.

**3.** 13-year-old Richard Jack, once an "officer" with President Taylor's feared Anti-Terrorist Unit (ATU): Holding an AK-47, he said: "I started fighting at the age of six. I decided to turn in my gun because I want to go back to school.

Fonte: BBC. Liberians Riot over Weapons Cash. BBC, Londres, 8 dez, 2003. Disponível em: <u>http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/3301277.stm</u> Acesso em: 5 Jan. 2009.

**4.** It is my first time to hold camera and take photograph of myself. I feel good about it because if I look at the photo I think and feel good over myself that this is not how I was looking before. The difference, I was not hefty like I am. I had so much worry. But now there is no worry and I have my normal body.

Fonte: Projeto Guardians of the Future. Disponível em:

http://guardiansofthefuture.org/Liberiaguardians; Acesso em: 26 jun. 2008.

5. I want to go back to school. And then I want to become a secretary.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.70.

6. I can show you my ID card that you can see that I did the DD... just a moment... I put it far away in my pocket. I don't want for others in this refugee camp to see it. I don't want them to know that I'm an ex-fighter. People in the camp don't like ex-fighters. [Ex-menina soldado].

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.79.

7. I disarm but one woman sold my ID card and run away with it. I was due to go to the camp but I could not because that woman stole my paper. I did not tell the people of the DDRR. But I told my commander and she is taking care of it. [Ex-menina soldado].

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.84.

8. Why I decided to go? I don't know... Because the people starting telling us that it will be good and two, if any thing happens in the community, they will say, oooh an ex- combatant here. If anything then you can say I disarmed. Because you can show them your ID card. I heard about the DDRR through the radio and through my mother. They said it was good to go. That's why I went.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.84.

**9.** I was involved in the first DDR. But it didn't help me. It was of no use. The people eat the money. You just had to turn in your weapon. You were not compensated. And there was also no good reintegration. And then I went fighting again. So now I'm not doing the DDRR any more. [Exmenina soldado].

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.87.

**10.** If you do the DD then they take your name and your picture and put them in the computer. If you want to travel in the future to the US or Europe then they can see in the computer that you are an ex-rebel and then they not allow you. So I didn't want to go through the DDRR. I gave my weapon to somebody else who took it to the DDRR.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.88.

**11.** I don't want to go to the DD and talk with a counsellor what happened to me, I don't think that is good for me. I just want to forget.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.89.

**12.** I stayed 5 days at the cantonment site. The camp was fine but I am frustrated about the DDRR process. They don't do what they promise us.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.95.

**13.** I went through the DDRR programme at VOA. My commander put me on the list. I disarmed ammunition. I got 150 USD. The programme was all

right. I enjoyed. When we went there the people counsel us, they say we must not fight again.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.95.

14. Now the DD is finished so now I should go back to school. But I cannot go back to school. I have no money to go back to school. They give no money to go back to school.

**Fonte:** SPETCH, I. (2006). **Red Shoes:** Experiences of Girl-Combatants in Liberia. Genebra: Organização Internacional do Trabalho; p.99.

15. After disarmament I went to a centre. There I went back to school and I learned a trade. Now, since I left the centre, one thing I really miss are the sporting activities and the sporting supplies. And I also miss some of my friends. But I wanted to go home. They told me about my family. I expected to be reunified with my father or mother because Save the Children UK told me that they had information about them. Instead they had only information about my aunt and I agreed to that because I did not want her to feel bad. But the education in the centre was helpful. It prepared me to go to the community school. And the carpentry training, it will help me in the future. It was not difficult because I am a smart boy. I was able to go to the community school because of the support of Save the Children UK. I am still going to school, for two years now. I am in the seventh grade. But I pay for my school fees myself. I am self-supporting. I did some carpentry work in the community but I do not have the tools. But mainly I help my aunt in the fields and I have my own farm. One of my problems is that I cannot always afford the school fees. I need support for my school fees. [Ex-menino soldado, 19 anos, seqüestrado aos 16 anos].

**Fonte:** LAWS, S.; PETERS, K. (2003). When children affected by war go home: Lessons learned from Liberia. Londres: Save the Children; p.13.

**16.** A number of changes took place while at the centre. There were positive changes in our behaviour and attitudes. The centre helped us to forget about our fighting life. The catch-up education, trade and recreation helped me in moving on with my life and made me to forget about my war. What helped me the most was the school and the help of the staff." [Ex-menino soldado, 19 anos].

Fonte: LAWS, S.; PETERS, K. (2003). When children affected by war go home: Lessons learned from Liberia. Londres: Save the Children; p.58.

17. After the first demobilization, I went to a trade school in Tubmanburg. But I could not complete the course. I was living on my own. I didn't have any financial support, so I dropped out of the school. [Ex-menino soldado].

Fonte: HRW. (2004b). How to Fight, How to Kill: Child Soldiers in Liberia. Nova York; p.42.

**18.** I went through the program in 1997 and received some assistance but it soon ran out. For a while, I did some small jobs around Monrovia, but there was not much to do and I couldn't afford to go back to school. So two years ago, I decided to join the LURD. I figured it was better to fight and try to get something, than hang around town doing nothing. [Exmenino soldado].

Fonte: HRW. (2004b). How to Fight, How to Kill: Child Soldiers in Liberia. Nova York; p.42.

19. I am now 14. I was with the LURD for two years in 2003 and 2004. I had to tow ammunition and arms for them. They beat me. They did not feed me. I never heard about it and then it was over. I didn't participate in DD [sic] because I did not know if this was an option was for me." [Ex-menina soldado].

Fonte: COALITION. Voices of Young Soldiers. Disponível em: http://www.child-soldiers.org/childsoldiers/voices-of-young-soldiers Acesso em: 10 Jan. 2009.

20. I heard about disarmament from my friends. I couldn't disarm though because I didn't have any ammunition. I have friends that were able to disarm." [Ex-menina soldado, 13 anos; desempenhou funções de cozinheira e lavadeira].

Fonte: COALITION. Voices of Young Soldiers. Disponível em: http://www.child-soldiers.org/childsoldiers/voices-of-young-soldiers Acesso em: 10 Jan. 2009.

**21.** The DDR is good, but they train us and send us to work in communities who do not trust us. The people give us no jobs, so some of us sell our tools to live. They should address trust in our communities." [Ex-menino soldado, 19 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2007). Will you listen?: Young voices from conflict zones. Nova York; p.18.

**22.** I did not get any benefit when I was forced to join. My time was wasted. I did not get to go to school. Therefore, no matter how bad my situation gets, I must advance myself to become one of Liberia's leaders. [Exmenina soldada, recrutada aos 10 anos].

**Fonte:** SAVE THE CHILDREN (2005). **Fighting Back:** Child and communityled strategies to avoid children's recruitment into armed forces and groups in West Africa. Londres: Save the Children; p.21.

#### Mianmar

 My life would be very different. If I hadn't been arrested maybe now I'd be a good person. Instead I'm a bad person. It makes me sorry. If I hadn't been a soldier I would have continued and finished high school, then university, and I could have found many good jobs." [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 13 anos].

Fonte: HRW. 2002). My Gun Was as Tall as Me. Nova York; p. 160.

2. I am angry at the SPDC. First because they took me away from my family, and second because life as a soldier was very hard for me. If I hadn't joined the army my life would be more comfortable, because I would have an income and my sisters would support me. I'd like to go to school and be educated, and once there is democracy in Burma I'll go back to my mother. I'd like to be a medic. A civilian medic, because I don't want to be a soldier anymore." [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 11 anos e escapou aos 14].

Fonte: HRW. 2002). My Gun Was as Tall as Me. Nova York; p. 160.

## Moçambique

1. They promised us many things... They said that when the war was over they would give us money because we were good fighters...now they are taking everything for themselves and leaving us out... we were better fighters than many of them. [Ex-menino soldado]. **Fonte:** HONWANA, A. (2006). **Child Soldiers in Africa**. Filadélfia: University of Pennsylvania Press; p.139.

2. There is no work for me. I have few skills except using a gun and it's easy money...I used to be FRELIMO, then joined RENAMO, then joined FRELIMO. I have played war for both. Now I work for myself and my group...We try not to kill people, but accidents can happen during confusion. [Ex-menino soldado, 19 anos].

Fonte: AIRD, S.; EFRAIME, B.J.; ERRANTE, A. (2001). Mozambique: The Battle Continues for Former Child Soldiers. Youth Advocate Program International Resource Paper. Washington, DC: Youth Advocate Program International; p.6.

#### Nepal

1. I'm not sure if my community will easily accept us back because they still hate the Maoists a lot. [Ex-menina soldado, 15 anos].

Fonte: IRIN. Nepal: Challenges of reintegrating former child soldiers. IRIN,Guleriya,31dez,2007.Disponívelem:http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=76040Acesso em: 5 Jan. 2009.

 School is important if I am going to do something in life. [Ex-menina soldado, seqüestrado aos 13 anos pelas guerrilhas maoístas].

**Fonte:** SAVE THE CHILDREN. Henang's Story. Disponível em : <u>http://www.savethechildren.net/alliance/what\_we\_do/rewritethefuture/voices/hena</u> <u>ng.html</u> Acesso em 30 Jan. 2009.

#### Papua Nova-Guiné

1. When I was fighting I never thought about being educated. Now I'm enjoying it. I want to become one of the successful people in life. I want to become a doctor. [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 11 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.67.

 I've changed my way of thinking now and want to complete my education. Fighting would be my second priority. [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 8 anos]. Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.67.

**3.** I'm glad I became a fighter. But I won't fight any more. I've had enough. I want to continue my education. Now I'm in Grade 9. I want to help develop my village and have a small business buying and selling coca beans. [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 11 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.68.

## República Centro-Africana

1. I feel so bad about the things that I did. It disturbs me so much that I inflicted death on other people. When I go home I must do some traditional rites because I have killed. I must perform these rites and cleanse myself. I still dream about the boy from my village that I killed. I see him in my dreams, and he is talking to me, saying I killed him for nothing, and I am crying. [Ex-menina soldado, 16 anos, após a dsmobilização].

Fonte: COALITION. Voices of Young Soldiers. Disponível em:

http://www.child-soldiers.org/childsoldiers/voices-of-young-soldiers Acesso em 10 Dez. 2008.

## República Democrática do Congo

 I have killed many people, I think, but I don't know. I don't count. It is better to forget those things. If I could speak to my recruiters now, I would tell them to study and learn, not to become soldiers. I suffered very much"... "All the suffering, I have bad dreams about the things I've done". [Ex-menino soldado, menor de 15 anos].

Fonte: LONDON, C. (2007). One Day the Soldiers Came: Voices of Children on War. Nova York: Harper Perennial; p. 165.

2. One day, I was just sitting at our camps, and the commander cane and took my gun and said I was too young. They sent me here to be demobilized, but I don't like it here. I want to leave. Right now I want to find my family or study. I would like to join the army again, but because I'm too young now, I can't. One day I will again". [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos, seqüestrado aos 12 anos].

Fonte: LONDON, C. (2007). One Day the Soldiers Came: Voices of Children on War. Nova York: Harper Perennial; p. 180.

**3.** When I came here, I had wounds, but ASO gave me the drugs I needed and I got well. I've been coming here to ASO for the past two years. We've had problems in this centre, like when armed bandits took everything we had. They wanted to take us to Rwanda to kill us, but we managed to escape. I have learned how to sew, bake bread, make ham and make a living. Now, I'm living with my maternal grandmother. I'm the head of a family and I'm responsible for my two children and my grandmother. She helps me. She brings all the money she earns and I do the same. I'm a porter. They pay me for that. Sometimes, I take small loans which I pay back, and we survive on what I earn". [Ex-menina soldado, 19 anos, sequestrada aos 16 anos].

**Fonte:** BEAUCHEMIN, E. Francine's story: Personal account of a child abductee and soldier from the DRC. **Radio Netherlands Worldwide**, 3 dez. 2007.

Disponível em: <u>http://www.radionetherlands.nl/specialseries/women-war/rape-</u> <u>rebels-congo</u> Acesso em 26 Jun. 2008.

**4.** When there was the demobilization, some were alreadSudãoy adults, so they went to the army. Almost all the soldiers are former child soldiers. The army, it's the only job here, so you stay in the army to stay alive. [Exmenina soldado].

**Fonte:** BRETT, R.; SPETCH, I. (2004). **Young Soldiers:** Why they Choose to Fight. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner; p.99.

5. In 1997, there was an order of release, in order to return to school [...] but I wanted to do something else in order to secure my future; there are two younger ones after me, so I have to do something. [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte:** BRETT, R.; SPETCH, I. (2004). **Young Soldiers:** Why they Choose to Fight. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner; p.131.

6. Currently, it's destabilization; what I want to say, it's that in the army, I suffered, but I had a home, a place to stay; I could organize myself, I ate. It's not like where we are now... I would like to flee, you know, some children fled so as not to be demobilized... some stay a month here, and then they run away. [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte:** BRETT, R.; SPETCH, I. (2004). **Young Soldiers:** Why they Choose to Fight. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner; p.134.

7. If our parents are dead what will we do, and then what will we do when we'll be back home? They are going to leave us over there without anything, without work. [Ex-menina soldado].

**Fonte:** BRETT, R.; SPETCH, I. (2004). **Young Soldiers:** Why they Choose to Fight. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner; p.135.

**8.** Now after disarming I'm going back to my family to begin a new life and to beg my neighbors, the people in my community, for forgiveness. [Exmenino soldado, 14 anos].

Fonte: SINGER, P.W. (2006). Children at War. California: University of California Press; p.191.

**9.** One day, I was just sitting at our camp, and the commander came and took my gun and said I was too young. They sent me here to be demobilized, but I don't like it here. I want to leave ... Right now, I want to find my family or study. I would like to join the army again, but because I'm too young now, I can't. One day I will again. [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos, se alistou aos 12 anos].

Fonte: LONDON, C. (2007). One Day the Soldiers Came: Voices of Children on War. Nova York: Harper Perennial; p.180.

10. When I was in the militia I was used to be alone and being independent. It's hard to go back living with parents after that. I didn't like living with my parents. I'm child, yes, in age, and in size I am still small, but I know so many things about the world that nobody can joke with me or tell me what to do. I prefer to die a soldier. I want to go back to the bush to fight. If you die a soldier, your parents will be proud because you died on their behalf. Even your friends will be proud. If you die a civilian, you die in the hands of a machete in your home. That's a stupid pointless death. [Exmenino soldado].

Fonte: ALJAZEERA (2007). Children of Conflict. República Democrática do Congo: Rede Aljazeera.

**11.** For all the children in Congo I say we should come together and go back to school and rebuild our country. [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos].

**Fonte:** ALJAZEERA (2007). **Children of Conflict**. República Democrática do Congo: Rede Aljazeera.

# Ruanda

 When we were fighting in the DRC, our commanders used to tell us that none of our former neighbors had survived," he explained. "I think I have a promising future because I have been transformed into a different person." [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte:** IRIN. Rwanda: Turning ex-child soldiers into able citizens. **IRIN**, Kigali, 30 set, 2008. Disponível em:

http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=80668 Acesso em: 5 Jan. 2009.

#### Serra Leoa

1. The main thing for our reintegration to be better is for school materials to be issued to us to further education and if there will be any support like microcredit to our parents and for scholarships to those that... That is the main thing that can help the reintegration to succeed. [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte:** BRETT, R.; SPETCH, I. (2004). **Young Soldiers:** Why they Choose to Fight. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner; p.130.

2. Before, I was stigmatized and feared as a rebel and bush wife. Because of the [reintegration] program, I can be like other girls, am a respected worker, and provide for my daughter. [Ex-menina soldado].

Fonte: WESSELS, M. (2006). Child Soldiers: From Violence to Protection. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press; p. 155.

**3.** I was so happy once I had my card. Then I knew I was going home and no one would come after me. [Ex-menino soldado após receber o cartão de identidade no programa de desmobilização].

**Fonte:** WESSELS, M. (2006). **Child Soldiers:** From Violence to Protection. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press; p. 159.

4. We are not like others girls, because we were taken in the bush. Our minds are not steady, and we cannot eat off the same plates as our families. People call us bad names and do not accept us. They call us bad names.

How can they do that? We worry about where we will get money to live and feed our babies. Our hearts are heavy even after the war. [Ex-menina soldado].

**Fonte:** WESSELS, M. (2006). **Child Soldiers:** From Violence to Protection. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press; p. 195.

**5.** Because of DDR, I wore nice shoes and new clothes. I was very grateful because I could neve have come out of the bush in the state I was in. But other youths had no nice shoes and clothes. I became stigmatized for a different reason. [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 16 anos].

Fonte: WESSELS, M. (2006). Child Soldiers: From Violence to Protection. Massachusetts: Harvard University Press; p. 205.

**6.** Agriculture was not offered as part of the reintegration support in Kono [the district where the ex-combatant actually disarmed], but many of the ex-combatants preferred that one. [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte**: PETERS, K. (2007). Reintegration Support for Young Ex-Combatants: A right or a Privilege?. **International Migration**, Vol.45, No.5, p.50.

7. As I know, education is the key. It is better than silver and gold."[Exmenino soldado].

**Fonte:** COALITION (2004). **Child Soldiers Newsletter**, No. 11, p.9. Londres, Coalition.

**8.** You cannot be fighting and at the same time be in school. [Ex-menino soldado].

**Fonte:** SAVE THE CHILDREN (2005). **Fighting Back:** Child and communityled strategies to avoid children's recruitment into armed forces and groups in West Africa. Londres: Save the Children; p.20.

## Sudão

 I joined the SPLA when I was 13. I am from Bahr Al Ghazal. They demobilized me in 2001 and took me to Rumbek, but I was given no demobilization documents. Now, I am stuck here because my family was killed in a government attack and because the SPLA would re-recruit me. At times I wonder why I am not going back to SPLA, half of my friends have and they seem to be better off than me. Fonte: COALITION. Voices of Young Soldiers. Disponível em:

http://www.child-soldiers.org/childsoldiers/voices-of-young-soldiers Acesso em: 10 Jan. 2009.

 We were promised clothes, food and education, and we haven't got those". [Ex-menino soldado].

Fonte: COALITION (2004). Child Soldiers Newsletter, No. 11, p.7. Londres, Coalition.

3. It is good; I am free from fighting and back with my parents

Fonte: COALITION (2004). Child Soldiers Newsletter, No. 11, p.7. Londres, Coalition.

# **Timor Leste**

 Sometimes others at school accuse me of being a militia and this makes me very sad – I had to stay with the militia. Sometimes I think people are talking about me and I feel very sad. I am afraid that the militia will come back here. We want to continue our studies but sometimes it is difficult – sometimes there are people who don't like us. I think the militia leaders should go before a tribunal. [Ex-menino soldado, recrutado aos 16 anos].

Fonte: UNICEF. (2003). Adult Wars, Child Soldiers. Genebra; p.69.

# Uganda

1. Returning home is hard. "I went through a traditional cleansing ceremony and then my family and neighbours welcomed me," he explains. "I hope the war ends soon. I think it will take two or three years before things become good for me and my family." [Ex-menino soldado, 18 anos, sequestrado quando tinha 13 anos].

Fonte: SAVE THE CHILDREN. John's story. Disponível em :

http://www.savethechildren.net/alliance/what\_we\_do/rewritethefuture/voices/john .html Acesso em 7 Jan. 2009.

2. I feel pain from the rape, as if I have wounds inside, and I am afraid to have a disease. I would like to get tested but there is nobody to help me. I was tested in the reception centre in Gulu, but I was never told the result.

The doctor said that it is better not to know the result." [Ex-menina soldado, 17 anos].

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.

**3.** There is a big difference to the time before I was abducted, especially regarding my health. I used to be able to work hard in the garden but now I'm no longer strong and work looks so heavy for me. I can't perform better yet I have to work hard to earn a living. I really feel weak and sickly, especially in my back and chest." [Ex-menino soldado, 18 anos].

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.17.

4. Other children insult me and when I try to fight them they run to the teacher's office. The teacher says "If your head is confused because you were abducted, don't come and disturb others". Then the teacher beat me up. I went back with my parents and now it's a bit better." [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos]

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.16.

**5.** They always break my suitcase and take things from me, and then they tell me I shouldn't complain because I get all my things for free from agencies." [Ex-menina soldado, 16 anos].

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.16.

**6.** After escaping the Lord's Resistance Army, I was trained as a carpenter. I hoped to earn enough money from digging to rent a place in town, but the digging makes barely enough money to feed and clothe my family, and often I trade onions for other goods instead of money. Now I don't believe I'll ever get to live in town and sell my chairs. [Ex-menino soldado, 17].

Fonte: SINGER, P.W. (2006). Children at War. California: University of California Press; p.206.

7. What I need you people to understand is I got to get to school. [Ex-menina soldado, 14 anos].

**Fonte:** MCKAY, S.; MAZURANA, D. (2004). Where are the Girls? Girls in Fighting Forces in Northern Uganda, Sierra Leone, and Mozambique: Their Lives

during and after War. Montreal: International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development; p.85.

8. I felt I didn't want to continue, I just wanted it to be over. Just kill me and let me rest." As the months at Gusco [centro de reabilitação] passed, his mood changed to one of optimism for the future: "I realise education is extremely important and that's a big step, a lot of people don't get that chance." [Ex-menino soldado, 17 anos, recrutado pelo Exército quando tinha 7 anos].

Fonte: THE INDEPENDENT. Return of the child soldiers: Open your eyes. TheIndependent,Londres,8dez,2007.Disponívelem:http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/return-of-the-child-soldiers-open-your-eyes-763809.htmlAcesso em: 8 Jan. 2009.

**9.** I thought if I were to go to the reception centre I would put myself into more trouble. I was also afraid because some rebel collaborators told us that if you escape and you are caught for the second time then you will be killed. [Ex-menino soldado, optou por não participar do programa oficial de desmobilização].

Fonte: ANNAN, J.; BLATTMAN, C.; HORTON, R. (2006). The State of Youth and Youth Protection in Northern Uganda: Findings from the Survey for War Affected Youth. Uganda: Unicef; p.65

10. (...) I don't know what I will do, now: I would like to go back home but it is still unsafe, and I fear the rebels coming again. I am learning bicycle repair here, but when I must leave I fear having no tools. I do not know how I will support myself. [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos].

**Fonte:** HRW. (1997). **The Scars of Death:** Children Abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda. Nova York; p. 52.

**11.** As for me now, I am very happy here for the time right now. I would like to go home and continue a normal education, but there is nobody to support me. There is nobody to care for me. I pray to God to help. [Exmenino soldado, 13 anos].

Fonte: HRW. (1997). The Scars of Death: Children Abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda. Nova York. p. 53.

**12.** I don't know what I will do in the future. Since I've been here [at the trauma counseling center], I haven't seen my family, and am sad that they

haven't come. I don't know anything about them – I have no news. I can't go home. I'll be re-abducted and killed straightaway. At least here, I feel safer than at home. I dream at night of being re-abducted, or that I am still a captive, walking somewhere. [Ex-menino soldado, 14 anos].

**Fonte:** HRW. (1997). **The Scars of Death:** Children Abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda. Nova York. p. 53.

**13.** It is good because they trace your family. If you come home directly, you may not find them. [Ex-menino soldado]

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.24.

14. They counsel you until you settle your mind. [Ex-menino soldado]

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.24.

**15.** There are professional people who counsel you. You are very aggressive when you come home and your parents cannot help you. [Ex-menino soldado]

**Fonte:** COALITION (2008b). **Returning Home** – Children's perspectives on reintegration. Londres; p.24.