

## **Problem-Solution Speech Outline**

**By: Phillip Baucom**

**General Purpose:** To persuade

**Specific Purpose:** To present the problem of illiteracy in Africa and a solution.

### **Introduction**

I. **Open With Impact:** Political Analyst Ezekeil Pajibo states in Ledgerhood Rennie's 2007 article from BBC News, "Without an educated people who have skills, who are healthy, we can never begin to talk about prosperity in this country," (Liberia).

II. **Thesis:** Illiteracy is the worst kind of disease that any human can face.

III. **Connect with Audience:** Everyone in America has had the chance to get a 100% free education. That is not the case in Africa.

IV. **Preview:** Today I will inform you about illiteracy in Africa, what the government and the United Nations can do, and why my solution would be effective.

### **Body**

I. **Main Point:** Illiteracy in Africa

A. According to Books for Africa approximately 40% of Africans over the age of 15, and 50% of women over the age of 25 are illiterate.

B. Illiteracy is a cause for people not to participate in certain things, like working. Have you ever gone to work and did not have to read? These people are not smart enough to work because they cannot read.

C. Approximately 40 million school-aged children went without school this year.

(**Signpost:** Now that you know illiteracy is a problem, is there a solution to this problem?)

II. **Main Point:** Solution-What can the government do?

A. One of the solutions to this problem is the government to these countries in need, must step up and help this problem. When these countries can't afford to implement literacy programs then the United Nation needs to step in.

B. According to Peter Wadri from the website, In Africa, published in July 2004, the Ugandan government is starting to offer incentives for children to go to school. One of these examples is a free meal. Instead of these children working

in the fields all day for the money for food. They can go to school to learn and still get a meal.

C. It costs parents a full months pay to send one child to a FREE school. Also the teachers make about \$100 USD a month.

D. If a student wants his or her own textbook they have to purchase it. Otherwise it is shared by 6 students.

**(Signpost:** Now that you know what African governments can do, What can the we do?)

**III. Main Point:** What can the United States and the United Nations do?

A. According to The New York Times in an article printed in January 2005, The United Nations called for a proposal that would call for rich countries to increase foreign aid to Africa by 0.7 percent of GDP (gross-domestic-product).

B. This would give a lot of money to African governments to put into the school system.

C. President Bush supported this plan to donate 0.7 percent of our GDP to African Aid.

**(Signpost:** Now that you know what America and The United Nations can do we need to support all the effort going in to solving this problem.)

### **Conclusion**

**I. Summarize:** To highlight

A. Illiteracy and education is a really big problem in most African countries

B. The African governments have the necessary materials and are starting to help solve the problems of illiteracy.

C. The US and the UN have also started to help with these issues.

**II. Close with Impact:** People in Africa are suffering because they can't read. As the future leaders of the world we need to make sure this problem gets solved.

### **References**

Abuja, J. (2007). *Nigeria: The politics of model secondary schools*. Retrieved November 7, 2007 from, <http://allafrica.com/stories/200711070333.html>

Rennie, L. (2007, January 16). *Liberia: A year of slow progress*. Retrieved November 7, 2007 from, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/6266155.stm>

Wadri, P. (2004, July 24). *A look at Uganda's educational structure*. Retrieved November 7, 2007 from, <http://livinginafrica.blogspot.com/2004/07/illiteracy-is-africas-most-virulent.html>