



Left(Kemgang Apollinaire), middle(imprisoned orphaned girl), Right(“sponsor 200 female orphans” Project leader)

A YOUNG GIRL IN PRISON

A young girl of about 15 years old has been caught and detained at the Fundong Central Prison after the succession of her late father was poorly managed. The girl who's Boyo community Radio cannot disclose the identity was caught by the police after she has stolen pepper to sale, get some money to join the mother somewhere in the South West Region. Before being caught, she has been living in abandoned houses, in the nature as she and her mother were thrown in the street by an unscrupulous successor who locked their house and took the key away. The mother who could not cope with life migrated to the coast asking her daughter to go and stay with the aunt. The aunt refused to welcome her. Without any relative to stay with, the girl child became homeless, nothing to eat, nowhere to sleep, victim of circumstance, she has to find her way out. This situation has come once more to expose the violation of the rights of women be they young girls or widows. This pathetic story calls for an urgent change in our community. The young girl rather than enjoying the summer holiday with other children of her age found herself in a prison where she has nothing to do. It is time for the powers that be to take action and eradicate these shameful practices that do not honour all of us. People should promote child's rights especially that of the girl child and women's rights especially that of the widows rather than rendering them more vulnerable and exposing them to all sorts of social ills.

For BCR, Kemgang Apollinaire