



alzheimer's
dementia
namibia

AIDS DEMENTIA NAMIBIA



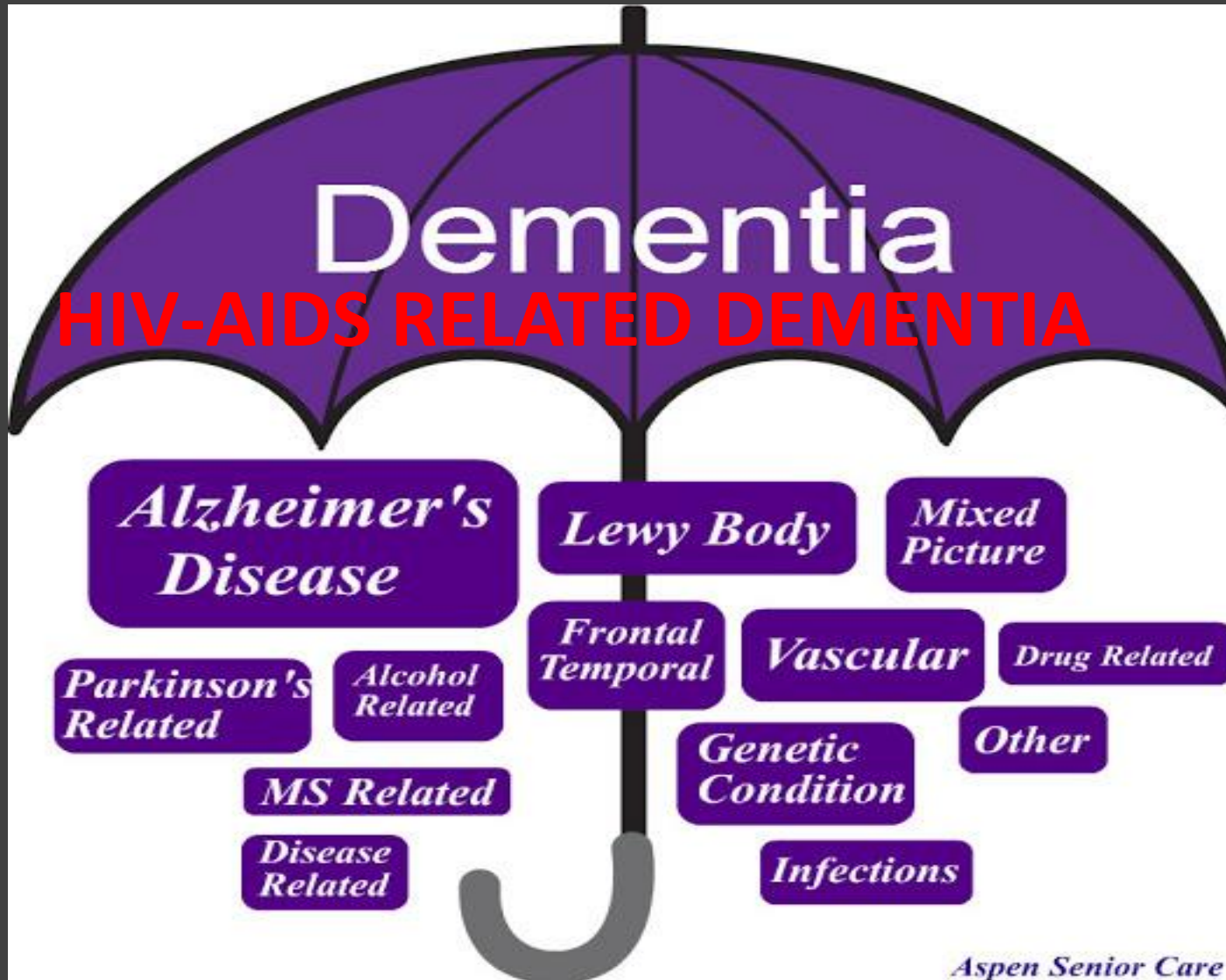
Demystifying **Dementia** and **Harmful** practices of Witchcraft

WHAT IS DEMENTIA ?



Dementia is a **terminal** condition of the brain caused by different diseases:

These diseases causes *PERMANENT* and *PROGRESSIVE* damage to the brain.



Sub Sharan Africa

Population 1,078 Billion

25,7 Million People Living with HIV-AIDS

- 90 90 90
- 6,970 Million high risk to developed Aids Dementia Complex or living with Dementia.

NAMIBIA

Population 2,5 Million.

210,000 People Living with HIV-AIDS

- 96 96 96
- 24,205 high risk to developed Aids Dementia Complex or living with Dementia.

Witchcraft

African Social Sciences.

ADN make a difference between witchcraft believes that play a role in managing the day to day life and health, specially in rural Namibia on the one hand and on the other hand:

What is the problem?

THE LINK BETWEEN

Harmful practices of Witchcraft

AND

PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA



Witchcraft Explain

Unexplainable of:

- Misfortune
- DISEASES
- DEATHS



WITCHCRAFT EXPLAINS

Death, Diseases, Misfortune [Draught, Poverty, Unemployment, Lost of Stock , ex]

Either because:

- YOU ARE BEWITCHED
- YOU ARE A WITCH



Bewitched [grandson] by a Witch [Grandmother]



PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA ARE PERCEIVED AS WITCHES/WIZARDS

*“BELIEVE IN WITCHCRAFT CAUSING FEAR OF
PERSONS WITH DEMENTIA”*

There is a great need for education both among healthcare workers and the populace.



FEAR RESULTS INTO:

- STIGMATIZATION
- DISCRIMINATION
- LEADS TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
- ISOLATION/OSTRACISE/BEATEN/BURNT AND EVEN KILLED.



Pay a *visit* to *WITCHDOCTORS*



ENRICH THEMSELVES

FEAR/JEALOUSY/MISTRUST



What is current being done to address this?



Awareness/ Education on different Levels about Dementia/HPW

Community/Traditional Leaders/Civil society

Presentations & Training

- AWARENESS
- EDUCATION
- DEMENTIA/HARMFUL PRACTICES OF WITCHCRAFT/RELIGION.



From a culture of Witchcraft to a Career in Caring for People living with Dementia



Awareness and education via:



- Radio broadcasting: NBC/Hitradio/Kosmos/Channel7
- TV Station: One Africa
- Printed Media: Republikein/ Namibian/Namib Times
- Social Media: fb page [adn]/ whats app groups/blog



AWARENESS RURAL NAMIBIA

UNDER TREES

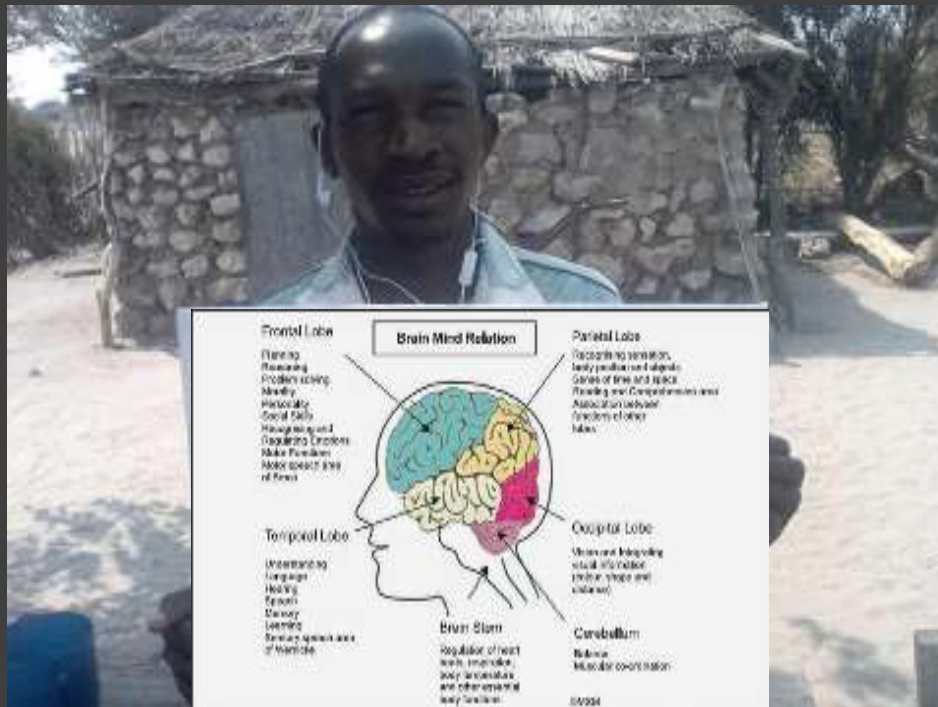
&

IN HOMESTEADS

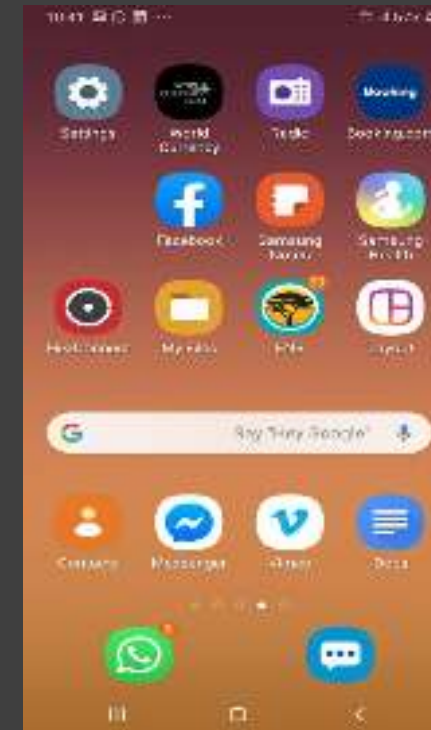


AWARENESS TOOLKITS

FUNCTIONS OF THE 4 LOBES



Smart Phones APPS/FUNCTIONS



10 Signs & Symptoms

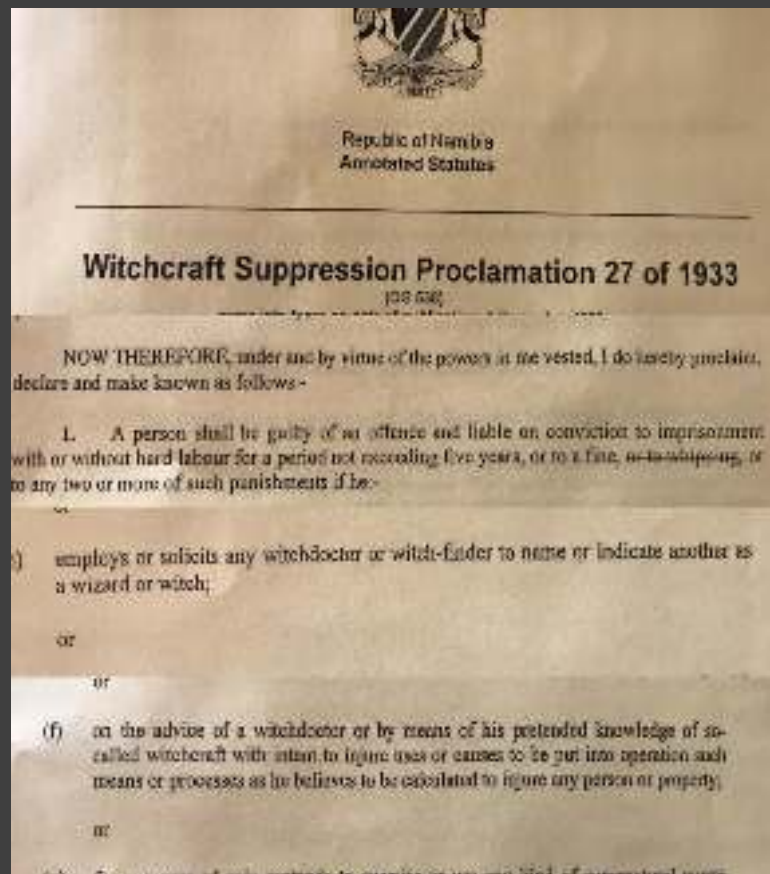




Human rights Awareness and education

WITCHCRAFT SUPPRESSION LAW

Constitution of Namibia



CULTURE (Article 19)

All people have the right to their own culture, language, traditions and religion, but no one can use this right in a way that interferes with the rights of any other person or with the national interest of Namibia.

FAIR TRIAL (Article 12)

Anyone charged with a crime has a right to a fair trial by an independent and impartial court. An **independent** court cannot be told what to decide by anyone, not even by a government official or the President. An **impartial** court will not consider a person's race, sex, ethnic origin or political beliefs. It will look only at the facts of the case and the law.

Laws can't change a culture but it can change attitudes and changed attitudes change culture



Saving lives and Reconciliation of Victims of **Harmful** Practices of Witchcraft



10 Years efforts to get the Governments attention/support by:

- Sending letters to DIFFERENT Ministries
- Health/Education/Poverty eradication/Justice
- To the Office of the President/Vice-President
- The Law Reform Development Commission



International Contacts

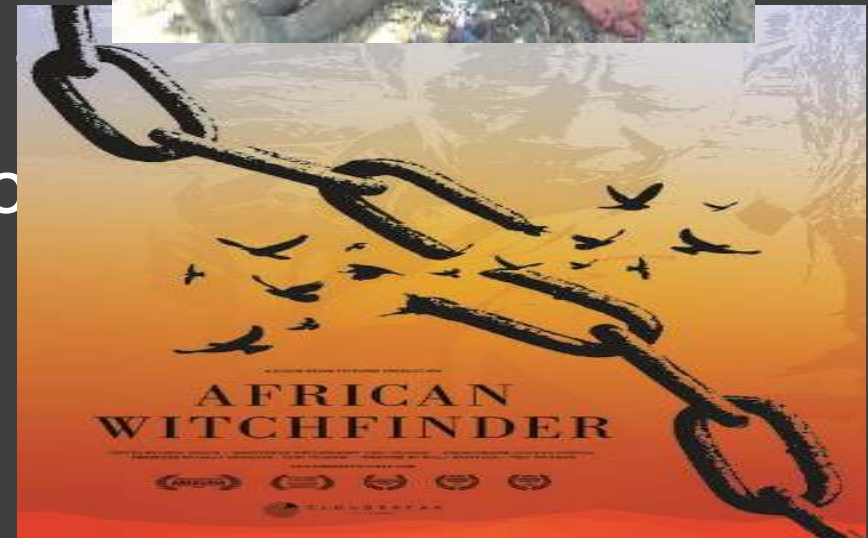
- Cloud Break Pictures /Edinburgh Scotland
- University of Tasmania [Wicking/Dementia Research & Education Centre
- Witchcraft and Human Rights Information Network [WHRIN]
- ADN is a Member of Alzheimer Disease International [ADI]



Awareness: Performing arts



- Variations on a blue bench: Dementia
- Breaking out of Human Rights Violations
- Documentary: African Witchfinder



What more needs to be done and how can it be achieved

One Country but 2 Rulers

- Democratic Elected Government
- Traditional Authorities



Both need awareness & education regarding:

- Dementia and the link with
- Harmful Practices of Witchcraft/religion



How to reconcile 2 Legal Systems

- Common Law & Constitution of Namibia
versus
- Customary Law



One Country 2 different approaches regarding Health

- Western Medical Science
- Traditional Healers/Medicine [part of Witchcraft believe]



Practicing Western Medicine and Traditional Medicine must collaborate as equal partners

- Medical awareness and education
- 1. Doctors/Traditional healers need to explain the disease and treatment.
- 2. Doctors/ Traditional healer need to explain what they want to achieve and/or side effects of western medication and traditional medication.



ANXIETY...anti-psychotics



ANXIETY
DREAM

HYPERTENSION
STROKE



How can it be achieved?

HOW...?

- EDUCATION – LEADERS OF TOMORROW
- CONSTITUTION OF NAMIBIA.
- NO COMPLAINT....NO LAW



*" Thank you for attending, hopefully
we've left our mark in your heart "*

" improving lives together "

adn

TM

alzheimers
dementia
namibia

