

Provide sanitary pads to school girls

EDITOR: While girls continued to show great competitiveness against boys in Primary Leaving Examinations results, high levels of dropouts emerged as a major challenge. Some results, for instance, of the 535,933 students who registered for the Primary Leaving Exams in a year; 19,917 did not sit, majority of whom were girls.

Critics attribute the high school drop-out in Uganda to the hidden cost of Universal Primary Education (UPE) on the parents. Under UPE, parents still have to contribute towards school requirements among which are sanitary pads. Since the parents can't afford to cater for the costs, the affected girls end up dropping out of school.

With the introduction of reusable sanitary towels, we can address this problem. It doesn't have to be only female activists to get involved. These reusable pads are cheaper, easy to use and affordable. Why should a girl dropout of school because of sh5,000?

***Charles Natuhamya,
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Govt must honour