



Let us support youth in the fight against stigma

A new move where youth living with HIV are using their beauty and intelligence in the fight against the pandemic is worth applauding.

The youth are assuring their colleagues that there is light at the end of the dark tunnel. It is also a reminder to everyone that no one deserves to be stigmatised for living with HIV. This calls for accommodating those living with HIV.

Everyone has a duty to fight HIV stigmatisation.

HIV-related stigma and discrimination refers to prejudice, negative attitudes and abuse directed at people living with HIV/AIDS. In 35% of countries with available data, over 50% of people report having discriminatory attitudes towards people living with HIV.

Stigma and discrimination also makes people vulnerable to HIV.

Those at risk continue to face stigma and discrimination based on their actual or perceived health status, race, socio-economic status,

age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or other grounds.

The onus is on everyone, to ensure that the children in our custody and those living with HIV should not be stigmatised.

However, the best way to send the message is by using the youth themselves. They are leading by example in the fight against HIV. You too can!

Conan Businge

cbusinge@newvision.co.ug

Opinion