





Dear Senator Coltart.

I am concerned that thousands of children and young people who were resettled at Hopley and Hatcliffe Extension under Operation Garikai struggle to learn in makeshift community schools because the government has failed to provide them with any alternatives.

I urge you to prioritize access to education for children in these settlements, which were created following Operation Murambatsvina in 2005. The destruction of homes and some schools during the forced evictions caused immense disruption, depriving thousands of children of their schooling.

The government should:

- take steps to support self-help initiatives to provide education;
- ensure that children in Hopley, Hatcliffe Extension and other Operation Garikai settlements have access to free, compulsory, primary education;
- immediately commission an independent study into the impact of Operation Murambatsvina on the right to education.

Yours sincerely,



Senator David Coltart

Minister of Education, Sport, Arts and Culture

Ministry of Education, Sport, Arts and Culture

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Causeway

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Image: Children playing at Hatcliffe Extension, Harare, Zimbabwe. March 2010. © Amnesty International

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