

Some kids feel very good at church and believe in God. Others do not go to church and worship Vodoo. Others do not believe in God at all.

Religion

**Joab: Kenya**  
He lives in the largest slum, without running water of sanitation. He is 15 and in the 6th grade. His in position 8 out of 61 children. His teacher believes he will make it in live and be a great man. He believes he cannot achieve his dreams without going to school. He started 1st grade at age 10. In Kenya awhile ago there were not fees to go to school, and Joab and many other children came to school after this. His mother believes that when he goes to school he will improve and be able to get her out of there. After the first visit his mother died at the age of 28. Rumors spread in the community that she died from AIDs. This gave the family a bad name, and Joab said that nobody wanted them around. He dropped out of school and disappeared for a month. His teachers went looking for him. Now he goes to school again and told them he would not let them down. In 2009 his father has remarried and moved in with his new wife, leaving Joab and his siblings to fend for themselves. He takes care of his brother and sister and food is hard to come by. None of this has crushed his determination to work towards education. The school chose him and his siblings for a food aid program. The school wants parents to know that the food is for the children only and not them. His father comes and takes some of their food anyway. Joab wishes it was his mother who survived.

75 million kids around the world cannot go to school

Time For School 3 Part 2

When students saw videos of other students they were very interested in how people lived in nother parts of the world. They went back and forth asking each other questions about their lives. Some of the conversations among some are very different than those among others.

**Raluca: Romania**  
She is 13 years old. Her country is going through many transformations. Romania is the newest member of the United Nations. She wants to be someone. She likes to write, and wants to learn Japanese. Her school is 45 minutes away. At 7 years old she was making this commute entirely on her own because her parents had work. Many of her classmates came from well to do families, causing her parents to feel the need to compete. Her parents know she wants to do something with her life. In her parents time it was not how smart you were, it was who you knew. Her parents want to give Raluca many opportunities that they never had. They work very hard to offer her everything she needs to become someone. They are very invested in her success and so are her grandmother and great-grandmother. She goes to her grandmother's after school, eats, takes a nap, then works on homework. Her grandmothers and others have helped her to even like some things such as reading and writing poetry. After some time she switched schools and now goes to a very very intense school. She caught up and is now one of the good students. She wants to be one of the best. All her spare time is busy. She studies Japanese for fun. The marks she gets in her new school determine whether she will go to a good high school or a bad one. She has a big math test to take and is worried about how she will do. God gives her strength and confidence to do well on her test. She got an 8 on this test. She is still a year away on the test to get into high school.

Perspectives

**Nanavi: Benin**  
She is 14 years old and worships Vodoo. Vodoo was born in Benin. Girls here are to be prepared to be initiated into the cult and be married, instead of marriage. Only one girl from each family is allowed to attend school now. Half the girls in Benin have had no formal education. One woman travels around villages to spread the idea of sending girls to school. She believes that for the country to develop, more people need to be literate. Nanavi's father is one of the few who is supportive of girls education. The girls who go to school learn about hygiene and math. Older students become mentors and look after the younger students. When they returned in 2006 they discovered that Nanavi's father had died, making life very hard for the family. Nanavi was needed on the farm, but her father requested before his death that she stay in school and work hard. It got harder for her to go to school. In 6th grade she takes classes such as french, Physics, and Math. After six years of education she is in the elect 11%. Even with just six years she has learned so much and grown c ompared to someone who was never in school. Margaret is Nanvi's mentor and continues to look after and help her with education. They each walk two hours to and from school. Nanavi's mother does not let her hang around the village or go around dressed up, because then she might want to get married and forget her education. She does not have any friends who are boys nor does she talk to any. Many girls her age are getting married. She loves being in middle school, and she wants to be a doctor. She wants to continue going to school until she can be something great.

The are many pressures to drop out of school. Many children know that and education is their only chance for a better life.

Famous woman who is a singer from Africa who got an education. Her parents made sure all their kids went to school. The parents were both educated, and made sure their kids did too. She says education exposes you to see the world differently outside your little box. Then you can take that education and use it in the world. This woman's mother was educated, therefore she knew to get her kids vaccines. She sees being a famous daughter of Africa as a responsibility. She is a singer. She promotes education among underdeveloped countries. She knows people want to see proof that education works. "If it's one child at a time, I'm doing it."

**Celestial:** The Lord had told us that getting and education is very important. We are to learn all we can and to continue learning throughout all our lives. It is sad to think that some children would do this only if they could. Because of where they live they cannot receive a good or any education. We are taught that getting an education will be extremely worth it, and I think this kids who put so much effort into going to school and learning can attest to that. I think it will be high beneficial to them as they go through their lives. With an education they can get out of bad situations and maybe even come back and solve those problems some day. These children know that an education leads to a better life, not just in terms in where they will live, but because of the things they will know and they people they will be because of it. The Lord has let us know the importance of education, and through these children and their efforts we can see all good an education can do for a person and a country.

**Traditional:** The traditions in Nanavi's country, Benin, have woman not going to school. Traditionally in her country woman are to get married at a young age and then to have children. Then they stay in the home to take care of their husband and children. Nanavi's mother and father were untraditional because they wanted her to go to school to receive an education. Her mother does not let her hang around the village or get dressed up and walk around the village. This could lead her daughter to meet a boy and want to get married, and forget her education. Nanavi does not have any friends who are boys, neither does she talk to any boys. Girls her age are doing this and will be getting married soon, which is normal to the traditions of the country. But Nanavi does not do this.

**U.S.:** I think a lot of people who have grown up in the U.S. do not value and appreciate their good education they receive enough. There are a lot of bad schools in America, but at least there are schools. At least everyone here can go to school, including girls. In Nanavi's case only one girl from each family can go, and for her and Joab's countries many children do not go to school. Many students complain about school in America, when across the world there are 75 million children who are not even given the chance to do such a thing. Plus those children who do get the chance to go school in other countries face more trials because of it. Nanavi has to walk two hours each way to school, when here in America kids take a short ride on the bus to and from school. Raluca faces great pressure to do well in school. If she doesn't she will not go to a good high school. In America you can go to a good high school whether you have done well previously or not. In America we need to not take for granted the good we have in our schools and our opportunities for going to school from preschool on up to college. I am guilty of falling into this as well, but we need to realize how lucky we are to go to school. Going to school everyday is not normal for others from different countries, but they wish it was.