

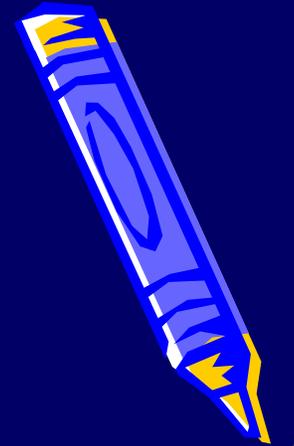
We are Family... The Global Orphan Crisis

Jini L. Roby, JD, MSW, MS
School of Social Work
Brigham Young University

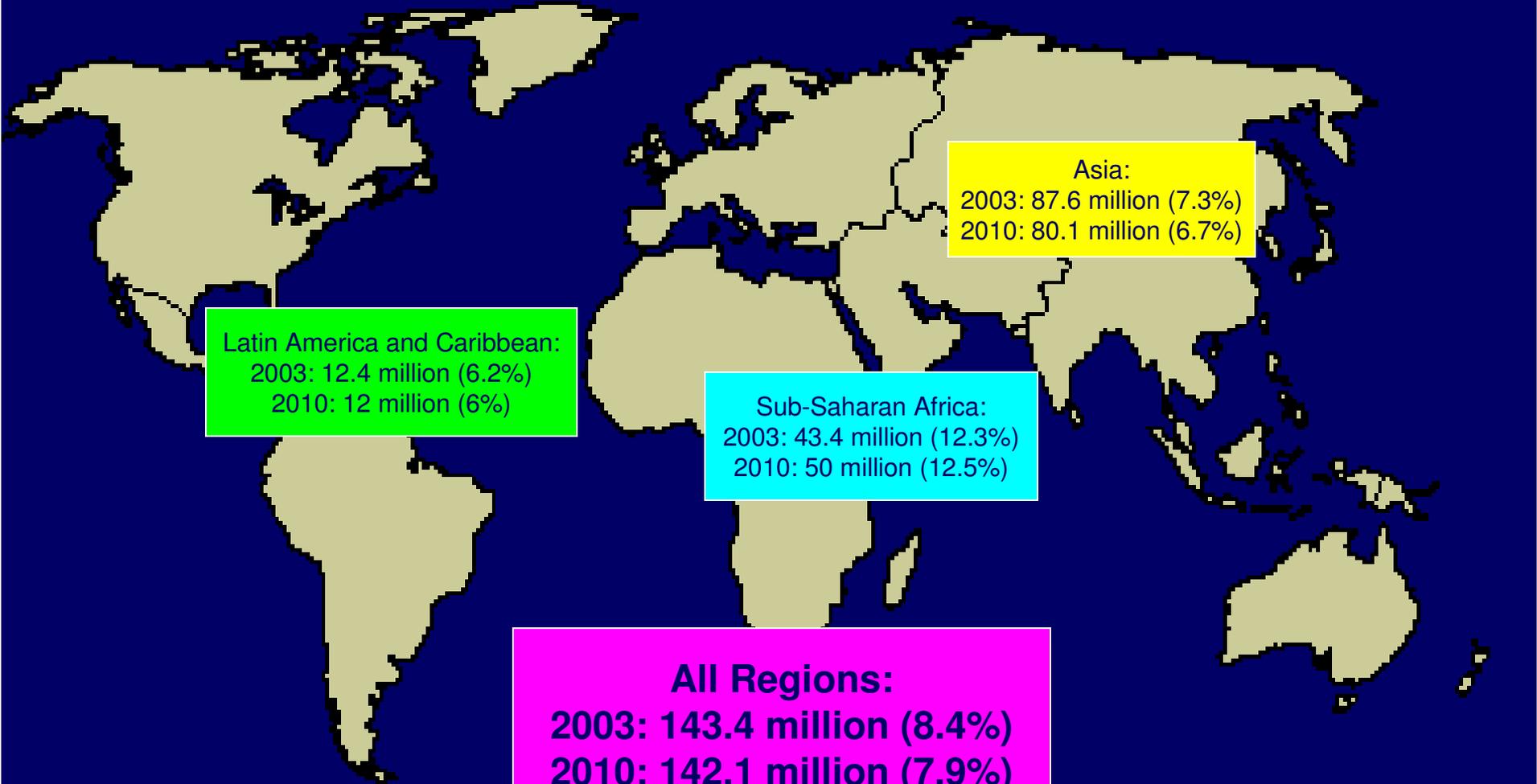
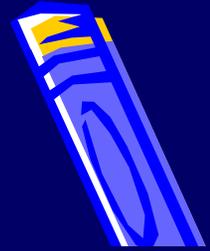


Who is an Orphan?

- Depends on national definition, but...
- **Most commonly:**
 - **At least one parent has died** and the other one is not able to care for him/her.
- **"Double" Orphans**
- One parent's death speeds the other's



Worldwide Orphan Statistics: 2003 and 2010 Projections



Latin America and Caribbean:
2003: 12.4 million (6.2%)
2010: 12 million (6%)

Asia:
2003: 87.6 million (7.3%)
2010: 80.1 million (6.7%)

Sub-Saharan Africa:
2003: 43.4 million (12.3%)
2010: 50 million (12.5%)

All Regions:
2003: 143.4 million (8.4%)
2010: 142.1 million (7.9%)

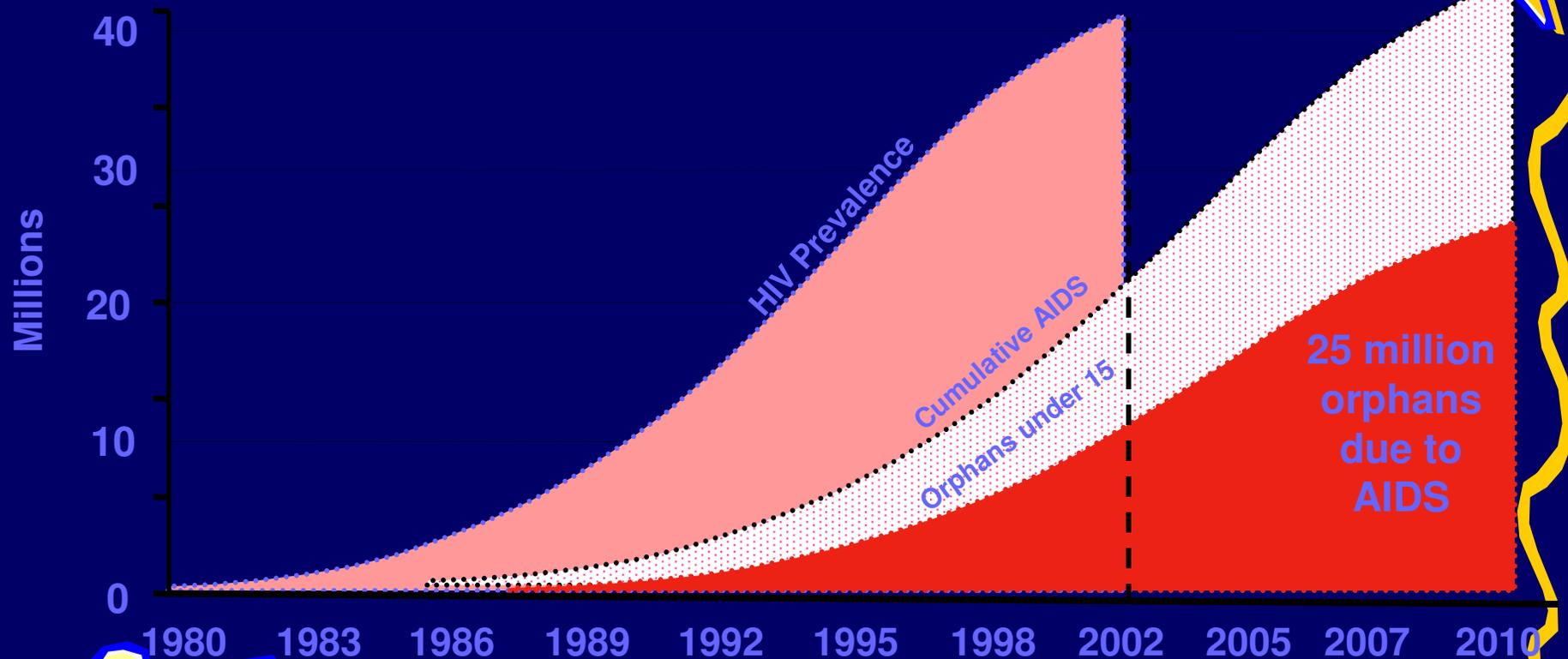


Contributing factors

- Diseases
 - AIDS (13 million orphans world-wide)
 - TB, Cholera, Malaria
- Wars, conflicts and genocide
- Famine and poverty
- Maternal morbidity/mortality
- Lack of safety net programs



AIDS infection and orphan projection

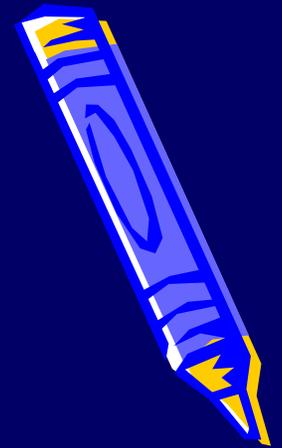


The Worst is Yet to Come: Epidemic Curves, HIV/AIDS and Orphans

Source: UNAIDS/UNICEF, 2003, adapted from Whiteside, A. and C. Sunter, 2000

Impact of Being Orphaned

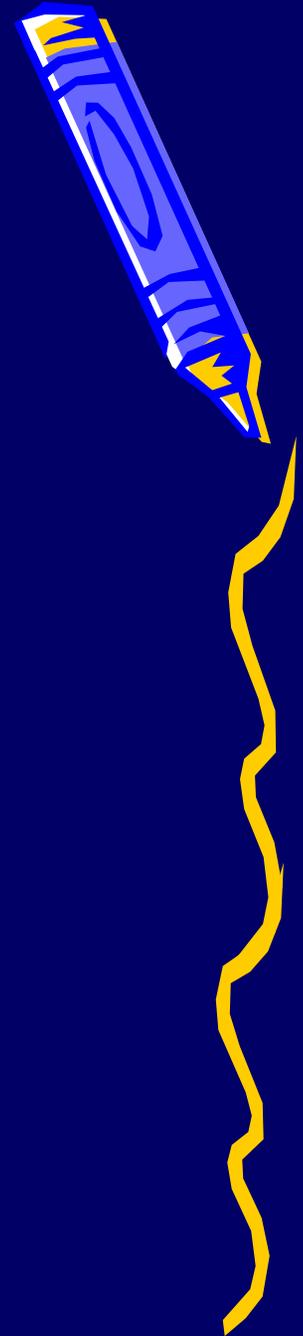
- Education
- Nutrition and Medical care
- Abuse/neglect
- Social stigma
- Psychological trauma
- Legal issues re: inheritance
- Child labor, trafficking, crimes, AIDS infection



Current Efforts

International Core Points

1. Strengthen capacity of families
2. Build community-based responses
3. Ensure access to essential services
4. Strengthen government role
5. Raise awareness

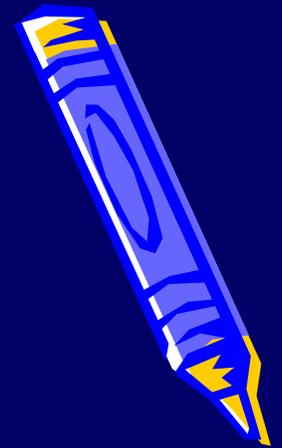




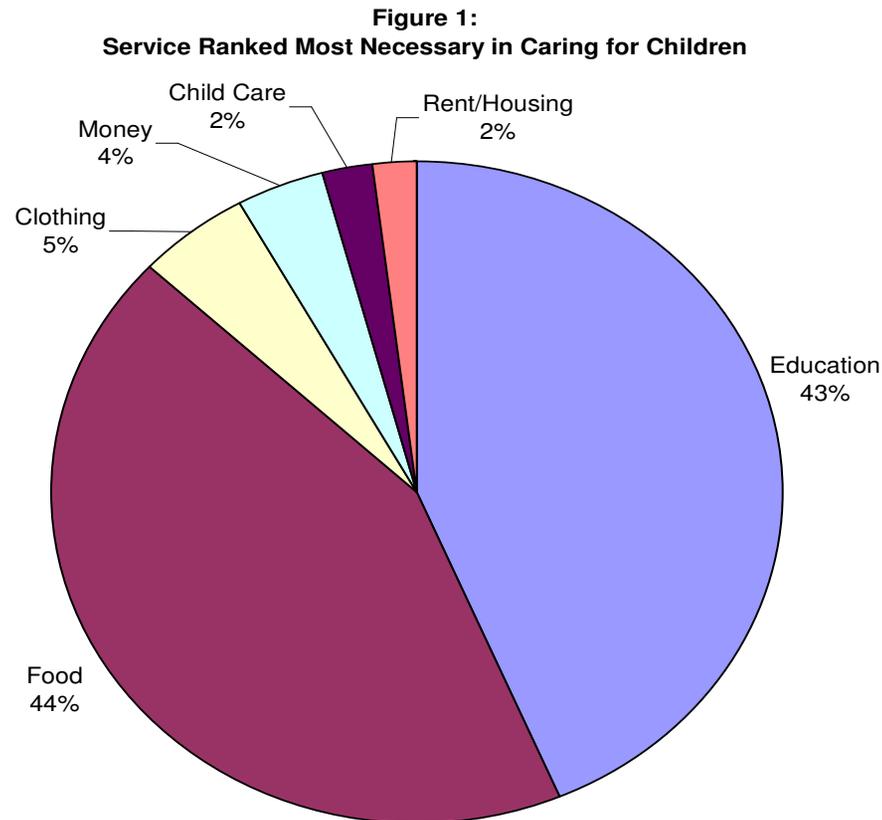
Challenges

- Extended family resources

"In the past, people used to care for the orphans and loved them, but these days, they are so many, and many people died who could have assisted them, and therefore orphanhood is a common phenomenon, not strange. The few who are alive cannot support them (Nyambedha et al., 2003 p. 306)."

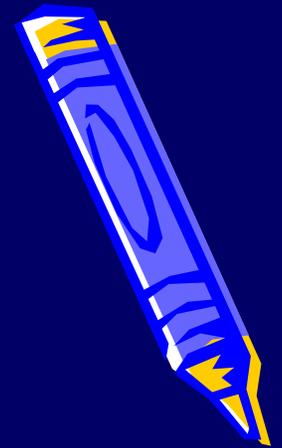
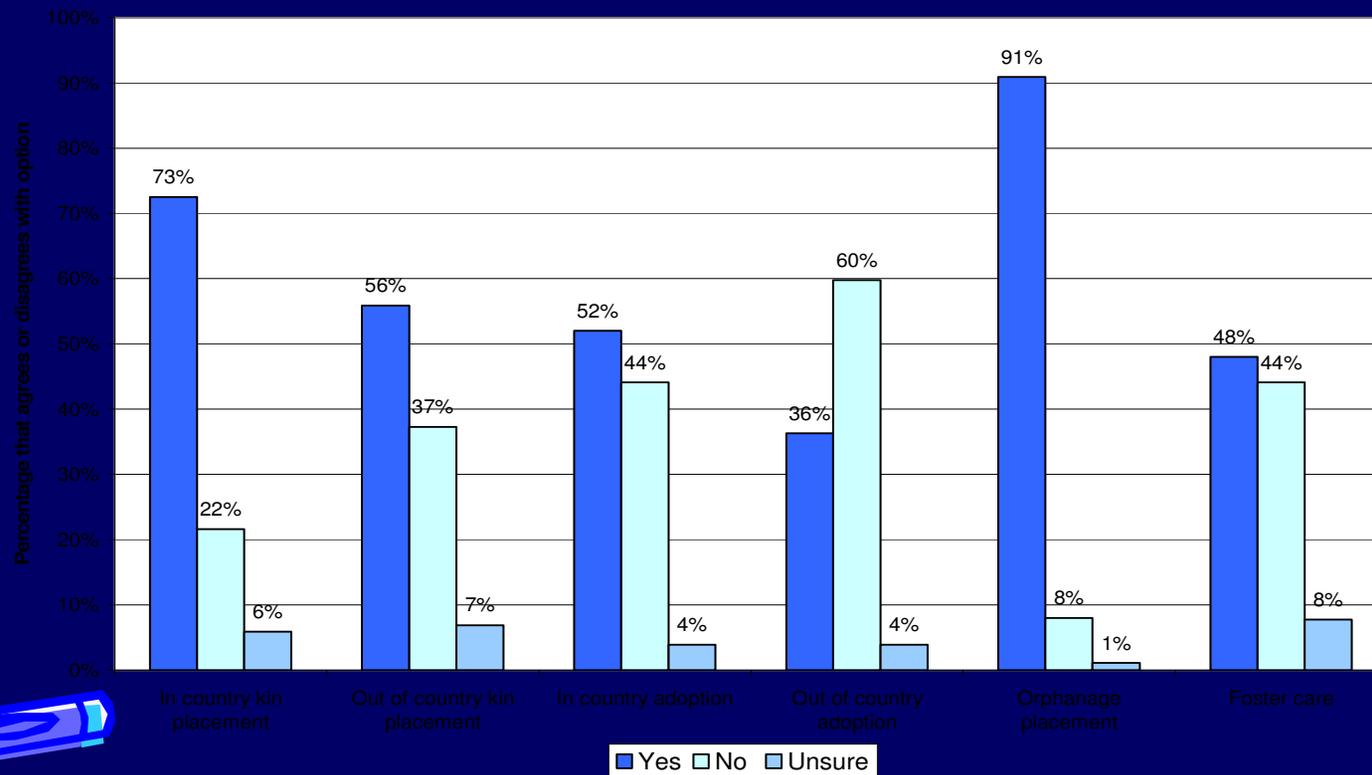


What is most needed? (Mozambique study)



When I am gone...where my children should live (Mz study)

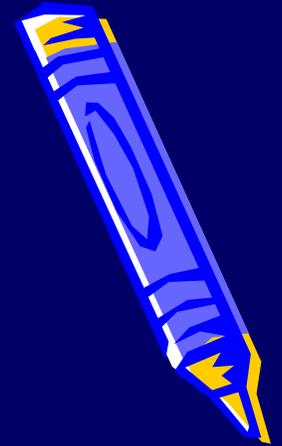
Figure 2:
Opinions on Child Care Options





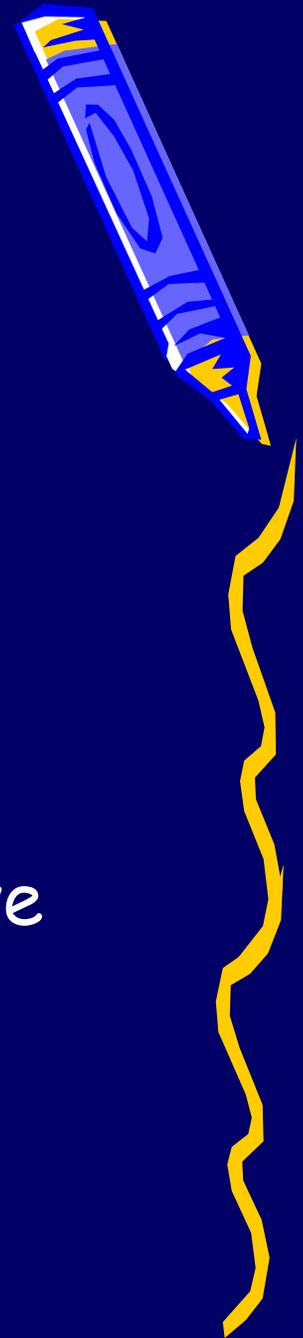
Action for Children, Uganda

- Funded by Holt International (U.S.)
- Seeks to improve 8 indicators for each family:
 - Housing
 - Food Security
 - Education
 - Income generation
 - Health and Hygiene
 - Psychosocial wellbeing
 - Community participation
 - Mentoring others



AFC utilizes programs such as:

- Grandparent Action Program (GAS)
- Community Child Care and Counseling Component (C5)
- Child helpline
- Children's Brigades
- Micro Enterprise Development Initiative (MEDI)
- Community Gardening and projects



RESULTS

- Improvement on every indicator
- More help needed: education & microcredit
- Both caregivers and children expect
 - Long term stable family life
 - Children feel secure and loved

