

Human behavior



Human Behavior Introduction Human behavior is a range of behaviors observed in humans. These behaviors are influenced by emotions, culture, attitudes and genetics. In this range of behaviors, some behaviors are common, some acceptable and others are outside the acceptable limits. In reference to Ishmael Beah's book, *A long Way Gone*, we are able to observe that human behavior is greatly influenced by specific factors like culture and attitude. Ishmael was recruited as a child soldier during the war between the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and the Sierra Leone Armed Forces. He and other young boys were recruited by the Sierra Leone Armed Forces when the RUF started attacking the camp where they had gone to seek refuge. As a result, Ishmael and his friends were exposed to violent activities. These activities had a negative impact on the child soldiers whose attitude towards mankind changed to a violence nature. Their behaviors were as a result of the killings and torturous activities in the surroundings. As a result, they started abusing drugs while they were still young. This was also as a result of the change in their emotions.

In 1996, the children were taken by representatives from UNICEF where they were rehabilitated. Despite the hostile condition the children displayed to the volunteers, a nurse called Esther took more interest in Ishmael. Several counseling sessions caused Ishmael to change from his violent self thus resulting to the healing of the mental wounds.

Conclusion

Ishmael's life story gives a clear conclusion that human behavior is greatly affected by different factors such as culture, emotions and the activities one is exposed to in the surroundings.

Work cited

Beah, Ishmael. *A Long Way Gone*. Farrar Publishers, February 13, 2007.