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THE MODERN GIRL

The life of a 21st century girl is definitely not a bed of roses: the city girl struggles with physical appearance- whether her eyebrows is drawn right, her peach sundress matches the 2-carat diamond earrings she got for half-price at a thrift shop or if her slight belly-fat is showing under the crop-top she has on. Being a village girl may seem easy until there is no water in the house and the river is a few kilometers away or the milk to be sold has not yet reached customers or the chief's son (whom you are sure has eyes for you) is back from campus and the green dress your cousin borrowed from you is yet to be returned. I'm the latter- the scars from falling on the rocky hills of Seme can attest to the difficulties of growing up in a society where teenage pregnancy is no big deal and getting through to campus childless makes you a village heroine.

For a long time girls have been deemed vulnerable and very gullible. The responsibility of safe sex is left to them and if 'a mistake' as it is referred to as where I come from happens then it's their role to take care of the child leaving her with no education, no job and in the long run- a disempowered, destroyed woman. It's the role of the empowered woman to lift her fellow women by not only organizing educational forums for them but also living a life that reflects the power of strength of a woman in order to motivate the trampled-on woman that life as a woman who knows her rights and how to live right is the new pretty.