Twitter Thread by Angi Yoder-Maina, PhD



Angi Yoder-Maina, PhD
@angiyo58

Instead of caning our kids can we start to understand the science of the #PairofACEs and begin to develop #traumainformed practices for our schools, our teachers and our children.

#traumainformedKE @GSNAfrica

> Magoha wants caning reintroduced in schools to tame indiscipline https://t.co/TAVmPiJrs4
>
> — Nation Africa (@NationAfrica) January 29, 2021

2/ What does it mean to develop trauma-informed schools?

Being trauma-informed in schools means being informed about and sensitive to trauma, and providing a safe, stable, and understanding environment for students and staff.

#traumainformedKE

3/ As we have listened to Kenyans stories of childhood and schooling we have heard how the #PairofACEs is a national crisis especially in our schools.

#Traumainformed schools have become essential to successfully addressing the broadening spectrum of #ACEs globally. @GSNAfrica



4/ What could #traumainformed schools look like in Kenya?

First what if all our teachers started to see young people, not as 'bad' and 'indisciplined' kids - but start to ask "What has happened to this child?" or "What kind of life has this child had?"

#traumainformedKE



5/ Not all kids have come from a traumatic home/environment. But what if we supported all kids w social-emotional learning skills?

Promoting the #traumainformed school approaches in Kenya has the greatest potential to #positively impact all students, regardless of their traumas.



6/ Adverse experiences in the lives of Kenyan children are very common.

Trauma and toxic stress impact learning, behavior, and relationships at home, in school, and in the larger community.

Caning children will only cause more trauma not reduce it.

#traumainformedKE



7/ The impacts of trauma can be pervasive & take many forms, & the way in which a child who has experienced traumatic events presents herself may mask - rather than reveal - her difficulties.

It is not what is wrong with the child but what has happened to him.
#traumainformedKE



8/ Our Kenyan schools must address students' needs in holistic ways. Taking into account their relationships, self-regulation, academic competence, & physical & emotional wellbeing.

How can a senior public officer say publically the answer to our schooling crisis is violence?



10/The loss of a sense of safety resulting from traumatic events can cause a child to disconnect from those around her. Typically, children who have experienced traumatic events are looking to those at school to restore their feeling of security & to help reconnect them w society



9/ A #traumainformed school explicitly connects students to the school community and provides multiple opportunities to practice newly developing skills.

#traumainformedKE

