Education at Secondary School for Young People in Tanzania
We are called Human Rights Watch.

We work to make sure everyone in the world is treated fairly and gets their rights.

This report is about education at secondary school for young people in Tanzania.

Tanzania is a country in East Africa.
Many young people in Tanzania want to study and do well.

But many young people cannot go to secondary school.

In 2016 we spoke to young people, parents and education and government people to find out why.

What is happening?

Education is very important.

It helps girls and boys to have a better life.

But many young people in Tanzania do not get any education or training after primary school.

And many young people do not finish secondary school if they start it.
Money

Education at secondary school in Tanzania is now free.

But other things cost a lot of money like:

- transport to school
- books
- school uniforms

Many families do not have the money to send their children to secondary school.

Many young people work in dangerous jobs instead of going to school.

This is to earn extra money for their families.

What are the problems?
Schools that are too far away

Many young people have to travel a long way to get to secondary school.

There are not enough safe places for girls to stay near their schools.

Exams

Students have to take an exam at the end of primary school.

They have to pass the exam to go to secondary school.

They cannot take the exam again if they fail.

This means that many young people do not go to secondary school because of this exam.
Problems with secondary schools

There are problems at many secondary schools, like:

- no money to buy books or other things to help students learn
- not enough teachers
- too many students in each class

Many young people fail exams and leave school because of these problems.

It is hard for young people who are not at secondary school to get more education or training.
Abuse by teachers and other adults

The law says it is OK for teachers to hit children to punish them.

For example, to hit them with a stick.

Teachers hit children very often. This causes them pain.

This needs to stop.

Problems for girls

Many schools test girls to see if they are pregnant. This makes many girls feel very bad.

Many girls are forced to leave school if they are pregnant or getting married.

It is hard for girls to go back to school after this.

For example, the school rules say they cannot come back.
Some teachers abuse girls in a sexual way.

It is hard for many girls to get help if this happens.

For example, some schools do not tell the Police.

Children with disabilities

Most children with disabilities in Tanzania do not go to secondary school.

There are many reasons for this.

For example:

- students with disabilities do not get support from teachers to learn in primary school or to pass the primary school exam
- staff may not have the right skills to teach students with disabilities
- school buildings can be hard for students with disabilities
• schools may not have the things that students with disabilities need to learn and join in

What is the Government in Tanzania doing?

The Government has agreed to make sure that all children get a good education at primary and secondary school.

The Government says education is very important.

The Government wants more young people to go to school.

But the Government needs to solve the problems in this report first.
The Government in Tanzania should make sure that:

- all students can go to secondary school
- schools have enough money for things they need, like new books and better buildings
- students can still go back to school if they fail the exam at primary school

What needs to happen now?
The Government in Tanzania should:

- try to build more secondary schools

- make sure the schools have good classrooms and good toilets

- make sure the schools are good for students and teachers with disabilities

- build more safe places for girls to stay if their schools are far away from home

- stop bullying and abuse by teachers and other staff

- change the law to make sure this happens
The Government in Tanzania should make sure that:

- schools do something if a student is abused in a sexual way
  For example, they should tell the Police

- schools do not test girls to see if they are pregnant

- girls who get married or have children can stay at school

- students with disabilities get what they need to be at school
  For example, wheelchairs, walking sticks and books that are easy to understand
The Government in Tanzania should make sure that:

- teachers have the right training to teach students with disabilities

- there is better support for teachers
  
  For example, teachers should be paid enough money for their jobs

- all students have books and things they need to learn

Other countries in the world should help Tanzania with these things too.