

By [João Da Cruz Cardoso](#) on FB, 20 June 2021

Food for thought:

While Euro 2020 (2021) is taking place, debates on the issue of sexual abuse against children in Oecusse are also heating up. This time, the debates revolve around which children actually tell the truth! In any case, before we make any argument, it is important to know: what ideal; and who we fight for. These two questions enable us to answer why we take up a fight.

In this particular case, if our fight is to protect the children from any kind of abuse (including sexual abuse), then as adults, we have the responsibility to protect all the children who are at risk of being abused. We cannot say that we fight for the children if we use the interview of children who do not experience sexual abuse to justify that other children who experience such heinous crime are not telling the truth. It is even worse when we put them in danger by exposing their identity. Also, although the children stay at the same place, their experience differs due to the nature of the crime, which relates to various factors including opportunity afforded to perpetrators.

Usually, abuse against children is committed by adults who know the children (including family members) and adults who hold a position of authority or respected by the community. Also, there have to be at least two existing conditions for these adults to commit such crime: a) a guarded environment where the adults have the opportunity to carry out the crime; and b) targeting the children from the vulnerable families since they do not have much means to fight.

Whatever our reasons, isn't ensuring the safety of our children worth fighting for? Whichever God we pray for, shouldn't we pray for the safety and wellbeing of our children? But then, I can't speak for you if your fight is for different purpose.

Hanoin simples:

Durante Euro 2020 (2021), debate kona-ba abuzu sexual hasoru labarik sira iha Oecusse mos komesa manas. Debate ne'e hare liu kona-ba labarik ida ne'ebé mak fó sai lia loos! Maibé, molok ita halo argumentu, importante tebes atu hatene ita luta ba ideal saida no ba sé! Buat rua ne'e mak sei klarifika tansa mak ita luta.

Iha kazu ida ne'e, ita-nia luta atu proteze labarik sira hosi kuálker abuzu (inklui abuzu seksual), tanba ne'e hanesan adultu, ita iha responsabilidade atu proteze labarik sira ne'ebé iha risku ba abuzu. Ita labele hatete katak ita luta ba labarik sira kúandu ita uza intrevista hosi labarik balun ne'ebé la hetan abuzu hodi justifika katak labarik sira ne'ebé esperiénsia abuzu ne'e la hatete buat loos (bosok). At liu tan mak ita tau sira iha perigu nia laran hodi publika sira-nia identidade. Ita mós tenke hatene katak maské labarik sira hela iha fatin hanesan, sira iha esperiénsia diferente tanba natureza krime ne'e rasik, ne'ebé liga ho fator oi-oin inklui oportunidade ne'ebé iha ba autókrime ne'e rasik.

Dalabarak, abuzu ba labarik sira komete hosi adultu ne'ebé koñese labarik (inklui membru familia) no adultu ne'ebé iha pozisaun autoridade ka hetan respeito hosi comunidade. Iha kondisaun rua ne'ebé bele halo adultu ida komete krime hanesan ne'e: a) fatin seguru ne'ebé fó oportunidade ba sira atu halo krime; no b) target labarik sira ne'ebé mai hosi familia vulnerabel tanba sira laiha meu atu kontra.

Saída deit mak sai ita-nia razaun, merese ka lae ita luta hodi garante katak ita-nia labarik sira seguru? Bainhira ita reza ba Maromak, merese ka lae ita reza hodi husu atu ita-nia labarik sira nafatin seguru no hetan isin-diak? Maibé, hau labele koalia lori ó-nia naran sé ó-nia luta ne'e ba buat seluk.