

Should I Stay Or Should I Go?

Objectives :

- To understand the situation regarding health care in Sierra Leone.
- To empathise with Jariatu and the many health professionals in Sierra Leone in making difficult choices.

You will need:

- Copies of 'Jariatu's Story'
- Copies of the 'Reasons Statements' cut up (one set for each group).

Time: 45- 60 minutes

Instructions:

- Read Jariatu's Story to the children and clarify any words or ideas they don't understand.
- Divide the pupils into small groups. Give each group copies of 'Jariatu's Story'. Ask them to make a list of all the reasons why Jaraitu should stay in Sierra Leone and all the reasons why Jariatu should come to the UK.
- Ask each of the groups to give one reason for staying in Sierra Leone and one reason for coming to the UK (make a list on the flipchart / board).
- Ask the children what they would do if they were Jariatu.
 - Would they stay at home or come to the UK?
 - How would they feel about their decision?
- As an extension to the above activity and discussion each group could be given a cut up set of 'Reasons Statements' and asked to sort them into two piles:
 - **Reasons for Jariatu to move away from Sierra Leone to the UK**
 - **Reasons for Jariatu to stay in Sierra Leone.**
- When they have finished dividing up the Reason Statements' ask the groups to feedback and discuss their choices.



Reasons to Leave Sierra Leone and Come to UK

Pay unreliable and small compared to UK	More choice in the kind of work available
Better pay and working conditions in the UK	Fewer people die unnecessarily, (Mortality rates lower)
Can do further training and get promotion	London is exciting
Centres of medical excellence/good hospitals	Earn more money and send some home for the family
Better equipment and more medicines available	Frustration at not having the things you need to treat patients
Health care funded better in UK	More nurses on the wards to care for people (better patient /nurse ratio)
Fear of more fighting between government and rebels in Sierra Leone	

Reasons to Stay in Sierra Leone

There is a great need for nurses in Sierra Leone	Staying at home and with people and things that are familiar
Investment has been made by Jariatu's sister	You enjoy the work you are doing
Effects of the war on the people and country	You care about your patients
You can use your skills to be part of the re-building of your country	You will be lonely and miss your family and friends
London has more expensive living costs	You will have to use English which is not your first language though you speak it well
You might suffer from racist behaviour in UK	Your family needs you to support them with your salary