



STOP THE KILLING!

COME, LET'S THINK

Come, you young man, you young woman, come. Let us think together, let us think. Is the killing in the country not too much? Is the bloodshed not too much? In Nasarawa, in Taraba, in Benue, in Bauchi, in Plateau, in Borno: Nigerians are killing each other. People are dying every day – thousands here, hundreds there. Houses are burnt. Women and children are made homeless. Men are killed. Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, Edo, Tiv. In mosques, in churches,

in schools, in marketplaces, in the streets. No security anywhere; blood is everywhere. Is this what you want in your country, in your town, in your house?

Those behind these killings and bombings and shootings do not do these things by themselves and they do not send their own children. They send the children of poor and ordinary Nigerians – they use young men and young women like you. They use youths who are hungry, youths who are angry: angry because they cannot get jobs, even though they have searched everywhere; angry because they see the rich getting richer and fatter, and the poor getting poorer and thinner.

But killing your fellow poor and



hungry Nigerian is not the solution. The truth is this: these people who want to hire you to fight and kill for them are themselves the problem. They are the cause of the poverty and hardship in the country, because they have stolen all the money of the country. Why do you want to waste your life for them?

Come, young woman; come, young man. Let us think. The youths are angry, because we have no jobs. But do you know there are many things the government is doing to give us jobs? There are programmes to give us jobs and to give us loans to do business. But we do not hear of them and we do not get the jobs and loans. Why? Because we are not consulted about the programmes, and we are not involved in how they are operated. They do not let us know even that these programmes exist; and by

the time we get to know, they have shared out all the benefits among their friends and family. And you? You remain unemployed, so that politicians can hire you to fight for them and to kill other Nigerians like you!

It is time for this to stop. Let all unemployed youths come together and reject being used for violence and killings. Let them demand that employment and empowerment programmes at federal, state, and local government levels be open to all, that all unemployed youths – not only the family and friends of the rich and powerful – should get the benefits of these programmes.

How can you do this? Contact us at Resource Centre for Human Rights and Civic Education using the street address, the email address, or the phone numbers shown below.

STOP THE KILLING! JOIN THE STRUGGLE!!

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