

Our mission is to improve the future of children by meeting their educational, emotional and physical needs in a biblically based environment.

The purpose of this paper is to present the reader with a brief history of Liberia and Serve the Children.

History of LiberiaPage 1

History of Serve the Children.....Page 6

Contact information:

Dr. Doug Collier
4423 Pt. Fosdick Dr. NW, Suite 202
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
phone: 253.851.1794
fax: 253.851.3997

HISTORY OF LIBERIA

Liberia’s history as a country began in the United States. In 1817, a group of influential Americans led by James Monroe (5th United States President), Francis Scott Key, Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson and others formed the American Colonization Society for the purpose of sending freed American slaves to Africa. They had mixed reasons for forming the Society. The slave holders wanted to remove freed slaves from the United States out of fear. They were afraid that freed slaves would influence other slaves with their ideas of freedom, which could lead to a revolt similar to what the French experienced in Haiti. They were also concerned about potential economic ruin, since their farming economy was based on slavery.

Other members, mainly Quakers, wanted to evangelize Africa. Their goal was to send freed slaves back to Africa so they could lead the heathen there to a saving knowledge of Christ. However, the Quakers did not consider the reality of the situation. African slaves came from many different areas of the continent and the freed slaves were more American than African. Most of them were born in America and had no knowledge about life in Africa. They were also no longer immune to some of the African diseases that their parents were.

Nevertheless, a ship carrying seventy seven former American slaves left the United States for Africa in 1820. It arrived on the west coast of Africa in what is now the country of Sierra Leone. The freed slaves were not used to the tropical climate or the diseases and many succumbed to malaria. They decided to move to a more hospitable area and sailed south. They eventually landed on an island on the west coast of Africa, naming it Providence Island. They later moved to a neighboring island in an attempt to escape the mosquitoes. This they named Bushrod Island after George Bushrod Washington, the nephew of George Washington, who was a Supreme Court Justice and President of the American Colonization Society.

Eventually, with a \$100,000 grant from the United States Congress, they purchased land on a hill overlooking a small harbor across the river from Bushrod Island. They named the city they built there Monrovia, after President James Monroe. Monrovia eventually became the capital of Liberia.

Many of the transported slaves considered America to be their home, not Africa, since the United States was the only home they had known since birth. The influence of their American heritage still exists in Liberia. There are many southern style homes, as well as names for places that are very familiar to us, such as Maryland County, Mississippi and Louisiana in Sinoe County and the James River.

In addition to the freed slaves from America who settled in Liberia, the United States and British Navies diverted captured slave ships to Liberia and unloaded the Africans there. These freed Africans were called Congos. Unfortunately, many of the Congos became indentured to the American Liberians.

Liberia became an independent country on July 26, 1847. It is one of the only two countries in Africa that have never been colonies of a European nation. Britain and France recognized Liberia as an independent country immediately, but the United States did not recognize Liberia until 1862. Congress was not ready to give that much recognition to black men until President Abraham Lincoln (a member of the American Colonization Society) signed the law recognizing Liberia and allowing a Liberian ambassador to come to Washington DC.

Liberia used the US dollar as its currency until 1985. The US dollar is still the currency of choice when purchasing anything. Liberian currency only has \$5, \$10, \$50 and \$100 bills. It traded at approximately 62 to 1 against the US dollar as of December 2007.

During World War II, Liberia was an important ally for America, allowing the United States to establish an air base there. Planes flew from Florida to Brazil, then to Liberia and onward to Egypt and India. The United States also operated a large hospital in Liberia which served Americans wounded in the African campaign.

Liberia was a large supporter of United States operations against the Soviet influence in Africa during the cold war as well. The country was the main base for CIA operations in Africa and allowed construction of the Voice of America radio station for African broadcasts. The radio tower still exists in Liberia today.

The Liberian economy relied heavily on the mining of iron ore and on the export of natural rubber prior to the civil war. Liberia was a major exporter of iron ore on the world market. In the 1970s and 1980s, iron mining accounted for more than half of Liberia's export earnings. Following the coup d'etat of 1980, the country's economic growth rate slowed down because of a decline in the demand for iron ore on the world market and the political upheavals in Liberia.

For a few years in the 1970s, Liberia's per capita income was equivalent to that of Japan. Liberia is now ranked by the World Bank as among the very poorest countries in the entire world. Liberia needs peace and stability, not only to protect human rights and make a better life possible for its citizens, but also to allow economic progress to take place.

The origins of Liberia's civil war date back to its inception. Liberia was founded with the slogan, "The love of liberty brought us here." But the love of liberty was not consistent with the settlers' treatment of the native Africans who lived in what was to become Liberia. The freed American slaves that arrived settled mainly in groups on the coast. Most of them had a basic education. According to Stephen Ellis, a senior researcher at the Afrika –Studiecentrum, Leiden University, these

"...elite families were intensely proud of their Christian heritage and the American-style institutions of government and culture which marked them out from the despised "country people" or "tribal people," the name generally applied to Liberians of non-American origin."

“Country people” were not allowed voting rights or other privileges of citizenship until 1951, even though Congos were. It was injustice like this that opened the door for the first war lord of Liberia, Samuel Doe, to seize power in 1980. Doe was an illiterate sergeant in the Liberian army who led the coup which resulted in the murder of the elected president, William Tolbert. Doe declared himself a type of Christ and was the first leader of Liberia who could not trace his heritage to America. He began an aggressive purge of all descendents of American-Liberians and members of the Liberian tribes that did not support him. This further aggravated hostilities and led to a horrific civil war.

In December 1989, a small group of armed men trained in Libya and led by Charles Taylor crossed the border into Liberia from the neighboring country of Ivory Coast. Charles Taylor was a Liberian with American ancestry. He worked in the Doe administration but fled to the United States when he allegedly was caught diverting funds for his own use. In the United States, he was arrested as a thief and was being held in jail when he escaped and eventually made his way to Libya.

When Taylor and his men entered Liberia that December, it marked the start of the fourteen year civil war that destroyed Liberia. Doe, Taylor and other war lords looted the natural resources of Liberia (diamonds, timber, iron ore and rubber) to finance their war efforts and enrich themselves. They destroyed the infrastructure of the country, terrorizing and massacring anyone in their path.

Liberia no longer has basic utility services such as running water or electricity. The telephone system no longer works (cell phones are the only system of communications available), a postal system does not exist and buses and trains no longer run. There are no fire or ambulance services, few medical clinics or hospitals are operating, 75% of the schools have been destroyed and the road system has not been maintained for over fourteen years.

Almost 43% of Liberia’s estimated 3.2 million people are under fifteen years of age. These children have known nothing but war. For fourteen years, Liberians had to be ready to run away from their homes at a moment’s notice when armed bands charged through, killing and looting. Over 250,000 Liberians, most of them civilians, died in the war. More than one million people (over one third of the population) have been displaced from their homes.

Many families have been torn apart, and there are people who still do not know the fate of their loved ones. “Abductions, torture, rape and other human rights abuses have taken place on a massive scale.” It is estimated that 10% of the children in Liberia were recruited or forced into militias, and also that 10% of the children have suffered the horrifying trauma of seeing their families and friends assaulted, tortured and murdered. –CIA World Fact Book, 12/9/07 -United States Agency for International Development (USAID), 6/8/2004.

In 1997, after more than a dozen peace and power sharing deals failed to end the war, Charles Taylor was elected President of Liberia. His campaign slogan was basically, “I killed your ma, I killed your pa, a vote for me is a vote for peace.” Liberians were tired of war and they were afraid that if Charles Taylor, who was the biggest war lord and controlled over half of the country, was not elected president, he would go back to fighting. He won the presidency in a landslide, but the fighting did not stop for long.

Taylor purged the country of anyone that opposed him. He closed all radio stations and shut down any newspaper that did not support him. A group of rebels calling themselves LURD (Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy) invaded Liberia from Guinea in 2000. They stated that their only goal was to remove Charles Taylor as president, but they were soon trafficking in diamonds, timber and other resources to finance their war machine and enrich themselves. In 2003, another group calling itself MODEL (Movement for Democracy in Liberia) invaded Liberia from the Ivory Coast.

I was in Liberia in July 2003 on a mission trip when the two rebel armies encircled Monrovia. My colleague and I barely made it to the United States embassy to catch the helicopter that took us out to a French frigate, The Orange, where we spent three days before landing in the Ivory Coast. Many Liberians risked their lives to help us to safety.

LURD controlled the port that served Monrovia and MODEL controlled the ports south of the capital and the airport. Many Liberians were trapped by the fighting in Monrovia and were starving to death. Warehouses full of food sent to Liberia by the United Nations were located in the Port of Monrovia. A lot people attempted to swim across the river that separated the capital and the port only to drown, since many of them were too weak from hunger to swim the half mile wide river.

The fighting reached its peak in August 2003, when the rebels encroached on Monrovia from two sides. Thousands of civilians were killed in the conflict or died from starvation, disease or lack of medical care. Liberians call this period in their history World War III.

President George Bush told Charles Taylor that he must step down as president. Taylor fled to Nigeria, where he lived until he was arrested while trying to flee to a neighboring country. Charles Taylor is an indicted war criminal and is currently being tried for crimes against humanity at the world court in The Hague.

In 2003, the United Nations finally stepped in with 15,000 peacekeeping troops. 15,000 troops still remain in Liberia today and it is one of the largest United Nations forces presently deployed in any country in the world, according to the Reuters Foundation AlertNet. In addition, Liberia was a protectorate of the United Nations for two years.

In 2005, the first female president in Africa was elected to lead Liberia. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is a graduate of Harvard University and worked for the World Bank and the United Nations before returning to Liberia to run for the office of president. There have been three assassination attempts on her life since she assumed the presidency in 2006.

She has a huge task before her. According to the CIA World Fact Book (December 2007), over 80% of Liberia's 3.2 million people live in poverty, 35% are malnourished and up to 70% are illiterate. The estimated unemployment rate is 85%. There are few medical personnel and little safe drinking water, sanitation or electrical services. Liberia's children have been killed, traumatized, orphaned, and used as child soldiers during fourteen years of war. Most Liberians cannot afford education for their children, even if enough schools existed to serve them.

In a speech on October 17, 2006 at Georgetown University, President Johnson Sirleaf said, "Across Africa and around the world, we must show that freedom can deliver prosperity and peace. Failure to do so will be more costly than we can contemplate and in Liberia that failure could be catastrophic." She went on to emphasize that Liberia's own recent past makes the country acutely aware of the suffering of neighboring civilian populations, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Darfur region of Sudan. She argued that the international community must act to restore peace and security in regions of conflict. "Civilized nations must not be indifferent to any conflict – internal or external – regardless of the factors that fuel it," she said.

Painting a graphic picture of Liberia, where the basic infrastructure was damaged or altogether destroyed by civil war, Johnson Sirleaf said the people of Liberia are beginning to regain hope as efforts to rebuild are underway. "Our children are beginning to smile again with faith in the future," she said. "I tell you there is one thing that bores down on us very, very hard and that is a sense of urgency. We have got to deliver fast to be able to keep that hope alive and to have that hope build on a solid foundation."

Johnson Sirleaf outlined some of the accomplishments her administration has achieved in the past nine months, including renewing security and law enforcement agencies, returning electricity and water to parts of Monrovia, repairing roads and bridges, resettling displaced people, rehabilitating health clinics, and improving government accountability and transparency. She acknowledged that although some strides have been made, the international community must work in conjunction with Liberia and other countries in Africa to make issues such as foreign aid distribution more streamlined and responsive. She also emphasized that Liberia needs more help from the international community to achieve debt relief. “The poorest people of Liberia – some of the poorest people in the world – must not pay the price for the lack of accountability in which they played no part and had no responsibility,” Johnson Sirleaf said.

The groundwork for peace and stability has been laid. Now Liberia needs help to move forward. Christians have the opportunity to help Liberians lay a firm moral foundation and work toward economic recovery by making an impact with holistic based short term mission teams.

HISTORY OF SERVE THE CHILDREN

Christians have a unique opportunity to work in a country that needs so much help to rebuild. Serve the Children already has an organization in place that can carry out holistic short term missions and help meet some of the huge educational, economic and spiritual needs in this war torn African nation.

Purpose of Serve the Children

Serve the Children (STC) exists to improve the future of children by meeting their educational, emotional and physical needs in a Biblically based environment. STC provides tuition free education, one meal a day, basic medical care and counseling to needy children in the West African nation of Liberia. In central India, STC gives poor children from villages too small to have a public school the opportunity to attend a school in a larger village. They stay at a children's home during the school year, where they are provided with free room and board, school supplies, clothing and medical care. STC also supports a few orphaned children in Indonesia. They accept private donations for Christian children that want to go to college who would not otherwise have access to a higher education.

The public education system is not free in Liberia and India. The children are required to wear school uniforms by law and the cost might be more than the total earnings the family makes in a month. Add to this the testing fees, school supplies and books, and a family earning from eighty cents to one dollar a day cannot afford to send their child to school. Because of subsistence living, they cannot afford to lose a productive member of the family for the sake of an education. For example, a ten year old child in India can earn one dollar a day working in the fields instead of going to school. That dollar pays for food the family would not otherwise be able to afford.

Liberia - All Gods Children Schools

The groundwork for Serve the Children began in 1996 when a Tacoma area photographer who was covering the civil war in Liberia returned home during a break in the fighting. He met with his brother and me, telling us stories about the estimated 30,000-40,000 war orphans in the capital city of Monrovia. These orphans had no opportunity to return to school because the educational system had been destroyed. The only option left to these children was to return to fighting.

The two brothers and I decided to create a 501(c) (3) organization in Tacoma, Washington and raise money to finance a free school for war orphans, ex-combatants and other children who were too poor to pay for school. The organization was named All God's Children. The first All God's Children school was opened in the capital city of Monrovia in 1997, and served 125 children. Almost all of these children were ex-combatants. The vivid accounts told by these children are the kind of stories that people write books about and make into movies.

In 1999, three additional schools were opened in rural areas of Liberia. A \$100,000 grant was received from ADRA (Adventist Relief Agency) out of Sweden, which was used to build one site, remodel another, and rent two buildings. These funds were also used to pay for the staff and all of the supplies. Almost 4,000 children who had no other access to education were served during this time, receiving education, counseling and food.

The schools stayed open except when they were forced to close due to fighting and looting. One of the rural schools was destroyed when fighting broke out in the area in 2000. Most of the staff except for one teacher were lost and STC never heard what happened to the children, only that they fled into the jungle. Another school was overrun in 2003, and when the conflict neared the capital in June of 2003, the remaining two schools were forced to close.

The schools were looted numerous times during the first six years of operation. The children used pieces of slate for their lessons, since paper was so hard to get and too expensive to buy. Slate also allowed for a portable school strategy in some very basic places when they had to move due to armed fighting.

After the war ended in August 2003, two schools were reopened. One school is in the Sinkor District of Monrovia, located on the beach of Atlantic Ocean. It has a three story building with approximately 1,500 square feet per floor, one small outbuilding with a couple of lean to additions, a latrine building, a well and a generator for electricity. Water for the school is drawn from a well located on the school grounds by a hand pump.

The classrooms are on the first two floors of the main building. The third floor has dormitory style bedrooms, two bathrooms and a dining room, and is used to house visiting mission teams. The kitchen and laundry area are both in lean to additions and the compound is surrounded by a fourteen foot wall. The classroom windows do not have glass in them. The windows had to be covered with bricks to help secure the school to prevent looting. The classrooms receive some light through slots in the bricks, but they are still very dark. Learning is difficult when trying to read in a dark environment and STC has plans to provide electric lighting when they have a consistent supply of electricity.

Two maximize space utilization; there are two sessions at the school in Monrovia. Both sessions combine to serve over 650 children. The morning session has children from pre-school through the sixth grade. Children through the ninth grade attend the afternoon session. Most of the classes have forty students.

There is also a rural school located at Gate 15 of the Firestone Rubber Tree Plantation. Firestone allows STC to use the building rent free, however it is very small. There are three classrooms that meet in a bamboo outbuilding and there is also a covered cooking area, a well and a latrine. Over 350 children are served at the 15 Gate School. There is no electricity or running water. 15 Gate is a crossroads about thirty miles from of Monrovia. This school is the only one in the area and some of the children walk three hours one way to get an education. The school's staff estimates that there are 250 more school age children living in the surrounding community who have no access to education.

In 2006, two acres of land was purchased near the 15 Gate school. In 2007, plans for a building to house a larger school, a church and a medical clinic were prepared by a team of engineers from eMi. Volunteers from eMi fly to various countries and donate their time and skills to organizations such as STC that need building and site plans. STC is currently trying to raise \$150,000 to fund the construction of this compound to better serve the people in the 15 Gate area.

The Mahn Bahn Civic Compound School had to close due to the fighting in 2003. It was located in a very rural area of Liberia where there had never been a school. During the fighting it became too dangerous for the staff to go there.

I visited the site of this school in 2004 with an escort from the United Nations, since the area was not yet considered secure. The building had been completely destroyed. So great was the desire for education, however, that five classes were still meeting. They were found in a one room church of about 800 square feet. Over 100 children were crammed into this room, with separate blackboards for each of the classes. They had no supplies and the teachers did not have any textbooks. The teachers gathered their classes around a blackboard and the children memorized the lesson from the board. The teachers were the only hope that these children had for an education. It was a very emotional moment for me, as well as for the United Nations personnel.

STC recently received a \$30,000 grant from a Belgian organization to rebuild this school. The school will be a small building consisting of 6 classrooms, offices for the teachers and principal, a well and a latrine. The local people donated the land and will help in the construction. They want to be involved in their children's education.

The two existing schools serve over 1,000 children, with forty paid Liberian staff members. Approximately 1,000 children are on the waiting list for the All God's Children Schools. The Liberian Ministry of Education has rated the teachers as some of the best trained instructors in the country. They make around \$85 US per month. There is also a full time Christian counselor on staff to help the children at both schools deal with the trauma they experienced during the war.

Many of the children witnessed atrocities against their families and friends. Some are ex-combatants who committed atrocities themselves. Since the fighting lasted fourteen years, most of these children have never experienced anything but war during their lives. Their bright eyes and smiles hide a lot of fear. They like to have visitors hold their hands and hug them. I enjoy making them laugh and just sitting with them. The older kids love to ask questions about life in the United States. Many of them go to a Liberian version of a movie theater, which is simply a darkened room with a television and a DVD player. For a small price, they can watch American movies.

It is sad that these children learn about America from Hollywood's point of view. Their ideas of America are far from reality. They call Liberia 'Little Hell,' but America is 'Little Heaven.' The children see America as their only hope for a better life and many of them base this view on the Hollywood image they have of the United States. Through everything they do, it is STC's goal to give these children hope for a better future for their lives in Liberia.

There is a full time nurse on staff to provide basic medical needs for the children and staff. The children need to be de-wormed regularly and thirty to forty children suffer from malaria each month. Several students die from malaria each year. Unhappily, there is no hope for a staff person or a child that has a major medical problem. Liberia does not have a functioning hospital that can handle surgeries, so the staff member or child dies if they have a major medical problem.

School children in Liberia are required by law to wear uniforms. Almost all of the children have only two changes of clothes; their school uniform and one other outfit. They have one pair of shoes, and they use these for school. Some of the children in the morning session share their shoes with children in the afternoon session. A few of them have one or two toys at home. They sleep on a mat on a mud or cement floor.

The children and staff members receive one meal a day at school. This might be the only meal the children eat that day. STC receives a type of wheat from the World Food Program which is supplemented with some fish or chicken for a more nutritious meal. The children are on their own to find food on the weekends. They eat whatever their families can provide, and some do not eat at all on weekends.

The schools operate with over forty Liberian staff which includes a principal at each school. The Country Director for All God's Children Schools is Sackie Kwalalon, who is a Liberian national that has worked for STC since 1997. He is responsible for the operation of the schools and reports to the STC Board of Directors.

STC has achieved many things since operations began in Liberia in 1997. However, they must continually plan ahead. The government of Liberia is emphasizing education as their top goal. It is hoped that a free public school system will soon be in place inside the capital city of Monrovia. STC needs to start looking at moving outside the capital where the needs are just as great, or transitioning toward a vocational education system.

Previous short term mission teams have made a huge impact in the lives of the staff and children. Here are some of the accomplishments STC can build on as they look to the future in Liberia.

- Reconciliation workshops - teaching staff and children that they do not have to use force to get what they want
- Hugs and holding hands - these children need to be shown love and are starving for physical affection
- Their presence - someone in the world cares for the children enough to travel two days just to be there
- Attention - reading books, walking home with them and playing games with them give these children hope
- HIV/Aids workshops
- Teacher training

India - Ankoor Children's Home

In 2004, All God's Children combined operations with Serve the Children Coalition, a ministry for village children in India. The organization's name was changed to Serve the Children while keeping the name All God's Children for the Liberian schools. In India, STC partners with Hosanna Ministries and operates as the Ankoor Children's Home (ACH).

The Ankoor Children's Home is based in Lasina, which is located in central India. It is a very small village with two barbers, a couple of small one room stores, two tailors and a small elementary school. Yavatmal is the nearest town of any size and is located about twenty miles away, with a population of about 125,000 people. The nearest large city is Nagpur. The STC mission team flew to Nagpur from Bombay and drove 4 hours to get to Lasina when they visited in October 2007.

On the ACH campus, there is a guest house, boys' and girls' dormitories, a kitchen, a multipurpose room, a well, a water tank and a pump for running water. There is limited electrical power that does not operate on a regular schedule. ACH does have a small battery back up system for electrical needs when required. ACH is located on five acres that was donated to Hosanna Ministries by Kiron and Nalini Gaikwad, who operate the home.

At ACH, free housing, meals, medical care, school supplies and clothing are provided for children from villages too small to have a school. The children live at the home during the school year so they can attend a free public school in Lasina. Kiron, Nalini, their daughter and four other adult staff members run the home and care for the children, giving them spiritual guidance and training for life. Nalini is a nurse at the local government hospital in Yavatmal and she provides basic medical care to the children and staff. Many times Nalini has taken a very sick child to the hospital and they have treated the child without cost. The hospital has also donated medical supplies to ACH.

The children come from villages as far as 6 hours from Lasina by walking and riding a bus. They come from the lowest Hindu castes in India or from very poor tribal villages. Most of their homes are one room mud huts with tin or thatched roofs. When they first arrive at ACH, they are malnourished and covered with lice. Many are infested with intestinal worms and all of them need to be loved. Many of the children come from homes where both parents work all day in the fields to support their families. When the parents return home at night, they are tired and do not have time or energy to show their children affection or play with them.

At ACH the children's day begins at 5:30am with some amazing devotions, eat breakfast, then do their chores and study. They attend school from 10:30am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday and on Saturday morning. Many other activities are provided

for the children to help them develop into well rounded adults with life skills. These activities include games, singing and skits, and lessons in sewing, haircutting and gardening.

The ACH children return to their villages and tell their parents that they only want to have one God worshipped in their mud huts. They are witnesses to their families and their friends. Some of their teachers at the local Hindu public school are anti-Christian, but they have told the STC mission team members that the children from the Ankoor Children's Home are the best behaved and strongest academic students at the school.

The children keep their entire store of belongings in small metal footlockers. They might have two pairs of flip flops, an extra pair of pants and shirt or dress (other than their school uniform) and possibly one toy. It is depressing to look into these footlockers, but they are very proud of what they have. They have never had much, and they are being taught the great lesson of being thankful to God for what they do have.

Serving the Children

STC provides the only educational opportunities available to the children in the areas where they operate. This is a heavy responsibility and many decisions must be made. There are hundreds of children on the waiting list in Liberia, for example. They are being denied an education if quality for the few is stressed too highly over quantity for the many. Education changes the world one child at a time, but STC's donors expect results, and the organization must be result based for as many children as possible.

Considering the great education need, wise decisions on allocating resources must be made. Regardless of the difficulty in choosing allocation of resources, the local staff should make the call as much as possible. Learning to choose wisely is one way to help in-country staff develop into the leaders their country needs. Since one of the goals is to help native Liberians become self sufficient, they must be given room to grow.

There are many more needy children in the villages of Central India that STC can serve. However, many families cannot send their children to live at the Ankoor Children's Home for the ten months of the school year. The children are needed to work in the fields to help support their families. Other families are able to send their children and want them to come, but ACH needs additional funding to support their needs.

Funding for STC operations comes from many sources. Over 115 children are sponsored at \$25 per month. There are approximately 10 staff members that are also sponsored at \$50 per month. Several churches and schools contribute to the needs and there are two yearly fundraisers that bring in about \$20,000. A few small grants have been received, but the majority of STC budget support comes from general donations.

God has shown his goodness by providing the funds necessary for STC to give these children hope and a future. In addition to meeting their physical and educational needs, STC's goal is to see them come to Christ and have an impact for the Lord in their families and communities. STC desires to help the children grow into positive and productive adults who make valuable contributions to their society. Through all STC does, they are also training the future leaders of Liberia and India.

Claude A. Clegg III, *The Price of Liberty*, (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2004), 32.
Clegg, 33.

American Colonization Society. Available from <http://personal.denison.edu/~waite/liberia/history/acs.htm>

United States State Department. Available from <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/6618.htm>.

Arthur Kulah, *Liberia Will Rise Again*, (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999), 19.

Kulah, 20.

Author's personal knowledge.

United States Department of State web site accessed 6 Feb 2008, available from <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/6618.htm>

Global Security. *Liberian Economy*, accessed 6 Feb 2008, available from <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/liberia/economy.htm>

Stephen Ellis, *The Mask of Anarchy*, (New York: New York University Press, 2001), 43.

History of Liberia. Available from <http://www.historyofnations.net/africa/liberia.html>.

History of Liberia. Available from <http://www.historyofnations.net/africa/liberia.html>.

United Nations/World Bank, *Liberia Joint Needs Assessment*, (February 2004), 51.

United Nations Humanitarian Division, *Liberia CAP 2006*, (October 3, 2005), 21.

Sackie Kwalalon, conversation with author, July 1, 2005.

CIA World Fact Book. Available at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/li.html>.

MSN Encarta. Available from http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_761565772_6/Liberia.html.

Global Security, available from <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/lurd.htm>.

Wikipedia, available from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Movement_for_Democracy_in_Liberia.

Author's personal knowledge, 2003.

Human Rights Watch, available from <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/06/20/liberi13590.htm>.

Reuters Foundation AlertNet, available from <http://www.alertnet.org/>.

African History, available from <http://africanhistory.about.com/od/liberia/p/Sirleaf.htm>.

Author's personal knowledge.

CIA World Fact Book, available from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>.

Georgetown University, available from <http://explore.georgetown.edu/news/?ID=19235>.

Author's personal knowledge, 2006.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 1998.

Author's personal knowledge, 2003.

Author's personal knowledge, 1998.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 2001.

Author's personal knowledge, 2004.

Author's personal knowledge, 2006.

Author's personal knowledge, 2003.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 2006.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007.

Author's personal knowledge, 2007