

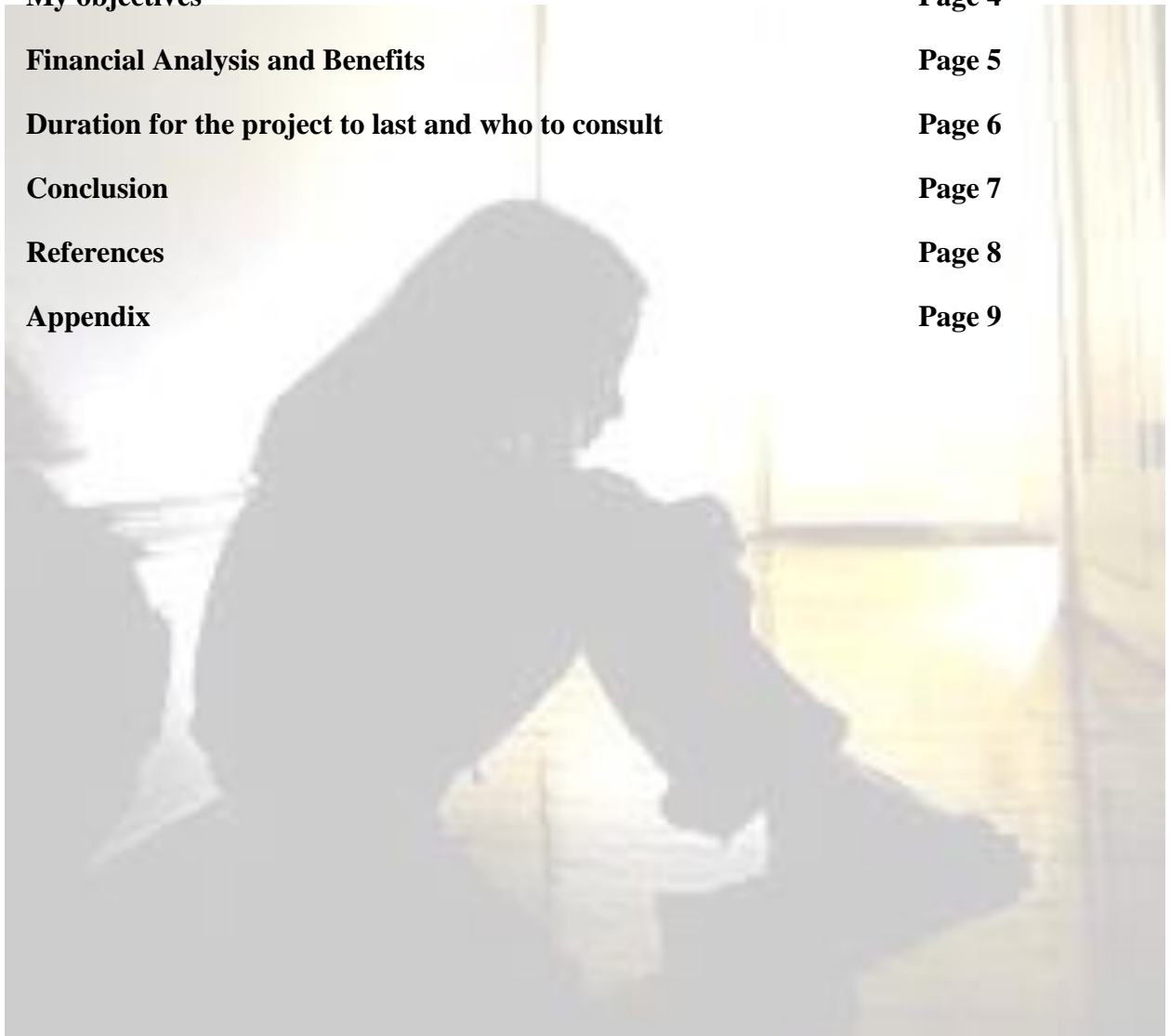


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Contestant no.1

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Introduction

The brain develops at an incredible pace during the early developmental stages of infancy and childhood. Studies about early childhood development indicate that the brain develops in response to experiences with caregivers, family and the community, and that its development is directly linked to the quality and quantity of those experiences. Meeting a child's needs during these early stages creates emotional stability and security that is needed for healthy brain development. Repeated exposure to stressful events can affect the brain's stress response, making it more reactive and less adaptive (Joyful Heart Foundation, 2016).

Objectives:

- Defining what is child neglect?
- Explain why child neglect a problem in the society?
- Outlining my objectives
- Outlining financial Analysis and Benefits
- Outlining duration for the project to last and who to consult

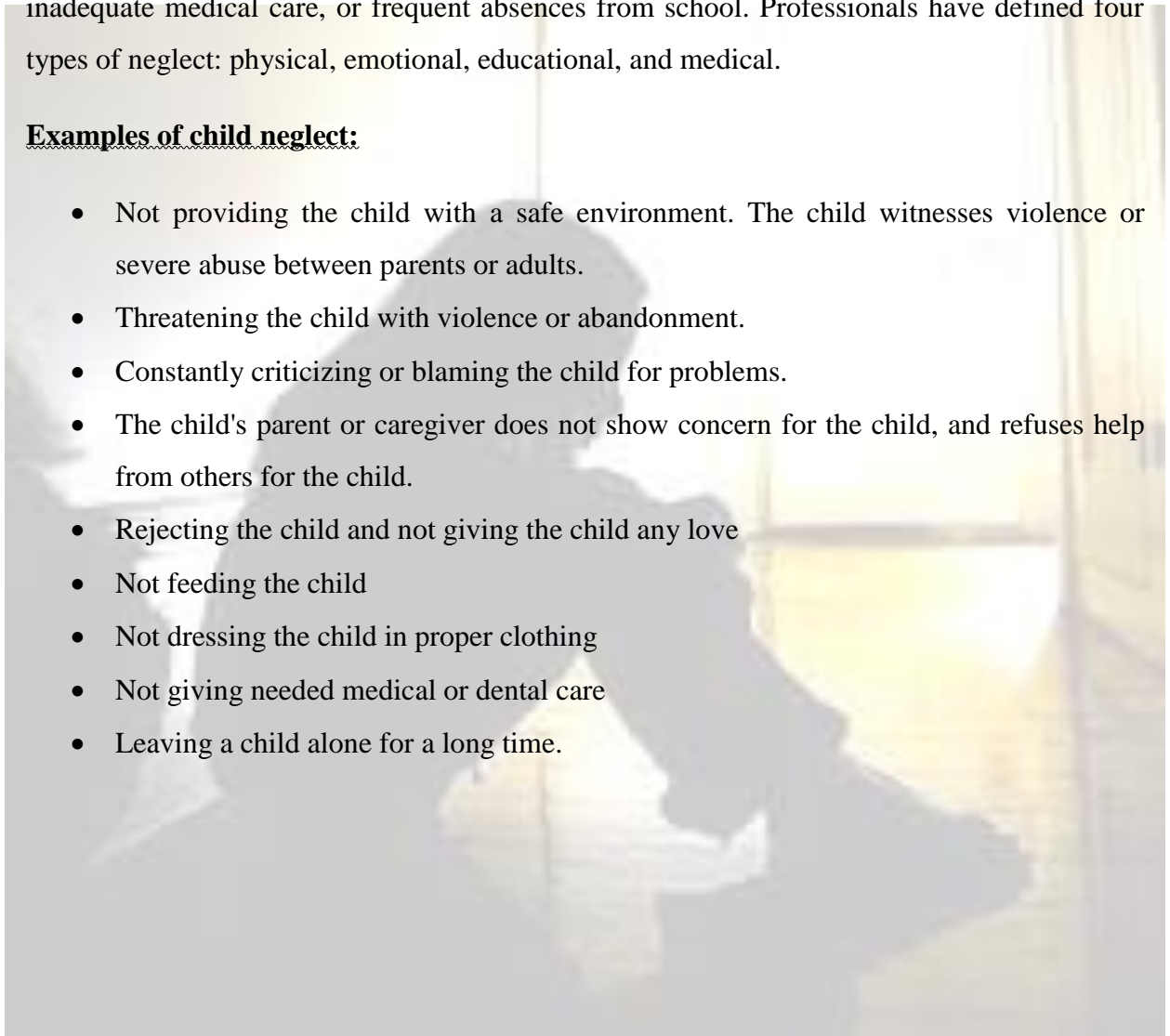


What is child neglect?

Child neglect is defined as a type of maltreatment related to the failure to provide needed, age-appropriate care (American Humane Association, 2013). Unlike physical and sexual abuse, neglect is usually typified by an ongoing pattern of inadequate care and is readily observed by individuals in close contact with the child. Once children are in school, personnel often notice indicators of child neglect such as poor hygiene, poor weight gain, inadequate medical care, or frequent absences from school. Professionals have defined four types of neglect: physical, emotional, educational, and medical.

Examples of child neglect:

- Not providing the child with a safe environment. The child witnesses violence or severe abuse between parents or adults.
- Threatening the child with violence or abandonment.
- Constantly criticizing or blaming the child for problems.
- The child's parent or caregiver does not show concern for the child, and refuses help from others for the child.
- Rejecting the child and not giving the child any love
- Not feeding the child
- Not dressing the child in proper clothing
- Not giving needed medical or dental care
- Leaving a child alone for a long time.



Why is child neglect a problem in the society?

Research has found that children exposed to violence or abuse, if left unaddressed or ignored, are at an increased risk for emotional and behavioral problems in the future. Children who are abused may not be able to express their feelings safely and as a result, may develop difficulties regulating their emotions. As adults, they may continue to struggle with their feelings, which can lead to depression or anxiety.

When these children are neglected they tend to miss school, wear dirty clothes, get bullied a lot at school or in the community, learn negative influence and do not get the chance to have a fun and normal childhood.

The following are some of possible effects of child neglect on a child's mental health:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Dissociation
- Difficulty concentrating
- Academic problems in school-aged children and adolescents
- Withdrawn and/or difficulty connecting with others
- Flashbacks
- Increased hyper vigilance
- Difficulty sleeping



My objectives

I want to create awareness for these children because we are not really focusing on them. Many of these young children want a normal childhood. They are not able to receive one because some of them their parents have financial problems and other personal issues. But the most common social problem is that most of these parents are on drugs and alcohol.

I will not be able to eliminate this type of abuse, but however I will help these children:

- To know the real culture of Seychelles
- Why they should not fall into bad influences
- Take them to different friendly and educational places where they can feel safe and have a little bit of fun
- Educate them about the future and that one day they can be someone important in life
- Organize small talks about how to maintain healthy lifestyle
- Organize a home work study group after school

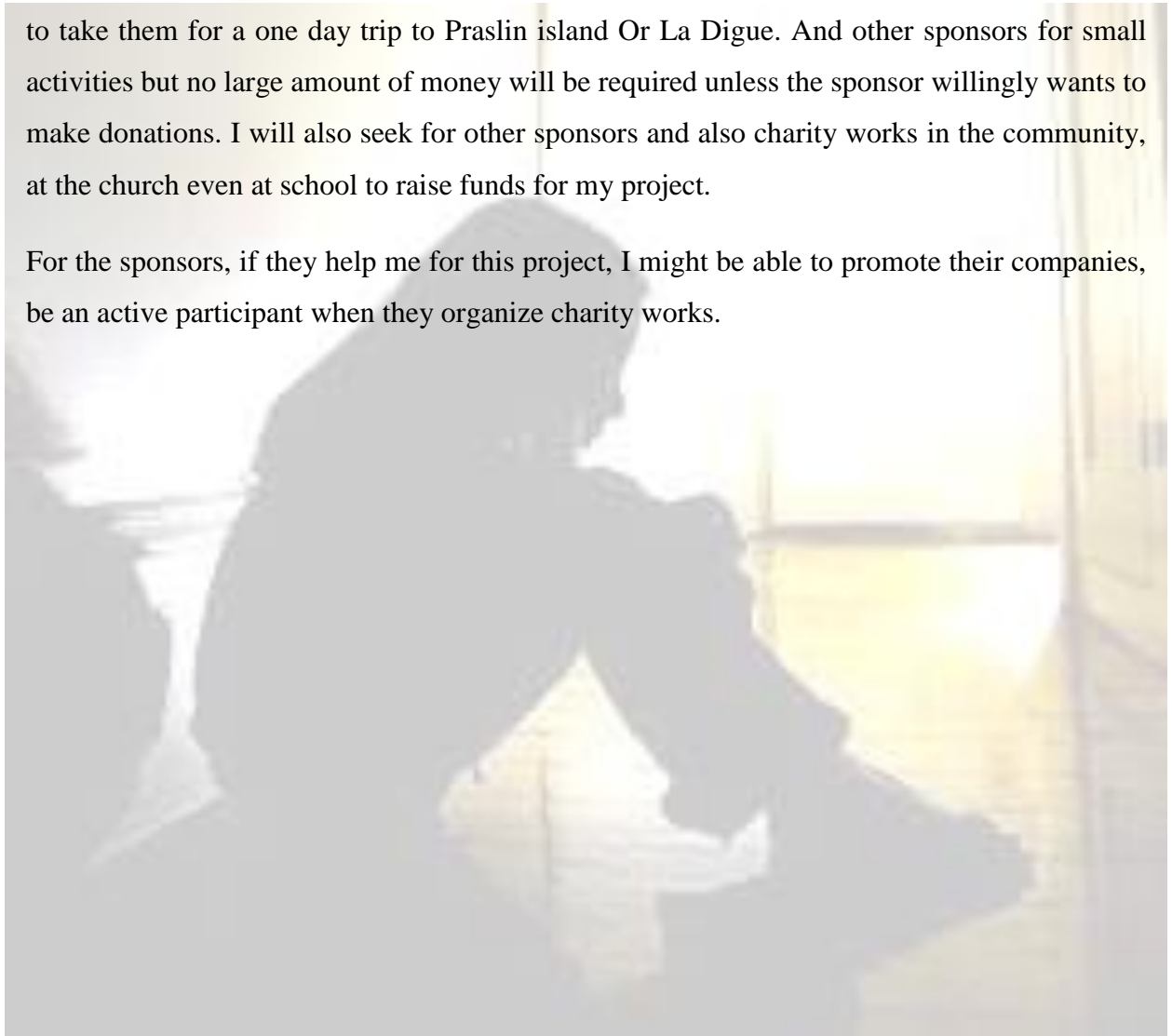
For me to be able to put my project to reality and to get more eligible information, facts and statistics, I will need to visit more districts, schools and institution to get more interviews and photographs to make my project more interesting.



Financial Analysis and Benefits

I will not use a lot of resources to achieve this project. However I will seek support sponsorship from the land and transport to travel when I want to take the kids to visit places such as the beautiful beaches, the playground (Paradis Des Enfants), a trip in town, watch a movie etc. I will also need the sponsorship from either Cat Cocos or Air Seychelles if I want to take them for a one day trip to Praslin island Or La Digue. And other sponsors for small activities but no large amount of money will be required unless the sponsor willingly wants to make donations. I will also seek for other sponsors and also charity works in the community, at the church even at school to raise funds for my project.

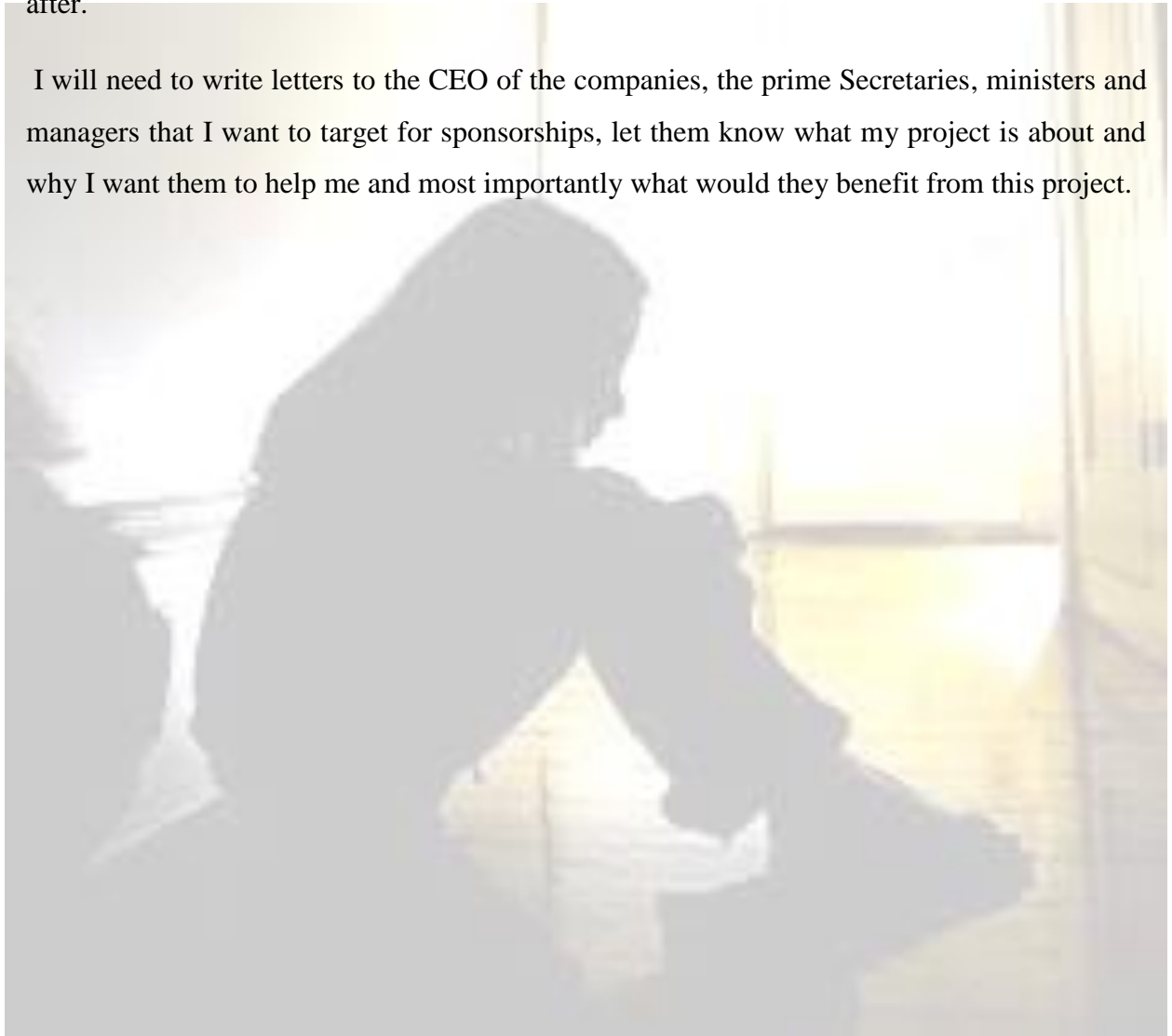
For the sponsors, if they help me for this project, I might be able to promote their companies, be an active participant when they organize charity works.



Duration for the project to last and who to consult

This activity will need to last for many years to come. I will ask the sponsors to at least sponsor every year for at least five years and the staff in the community center will take over after.

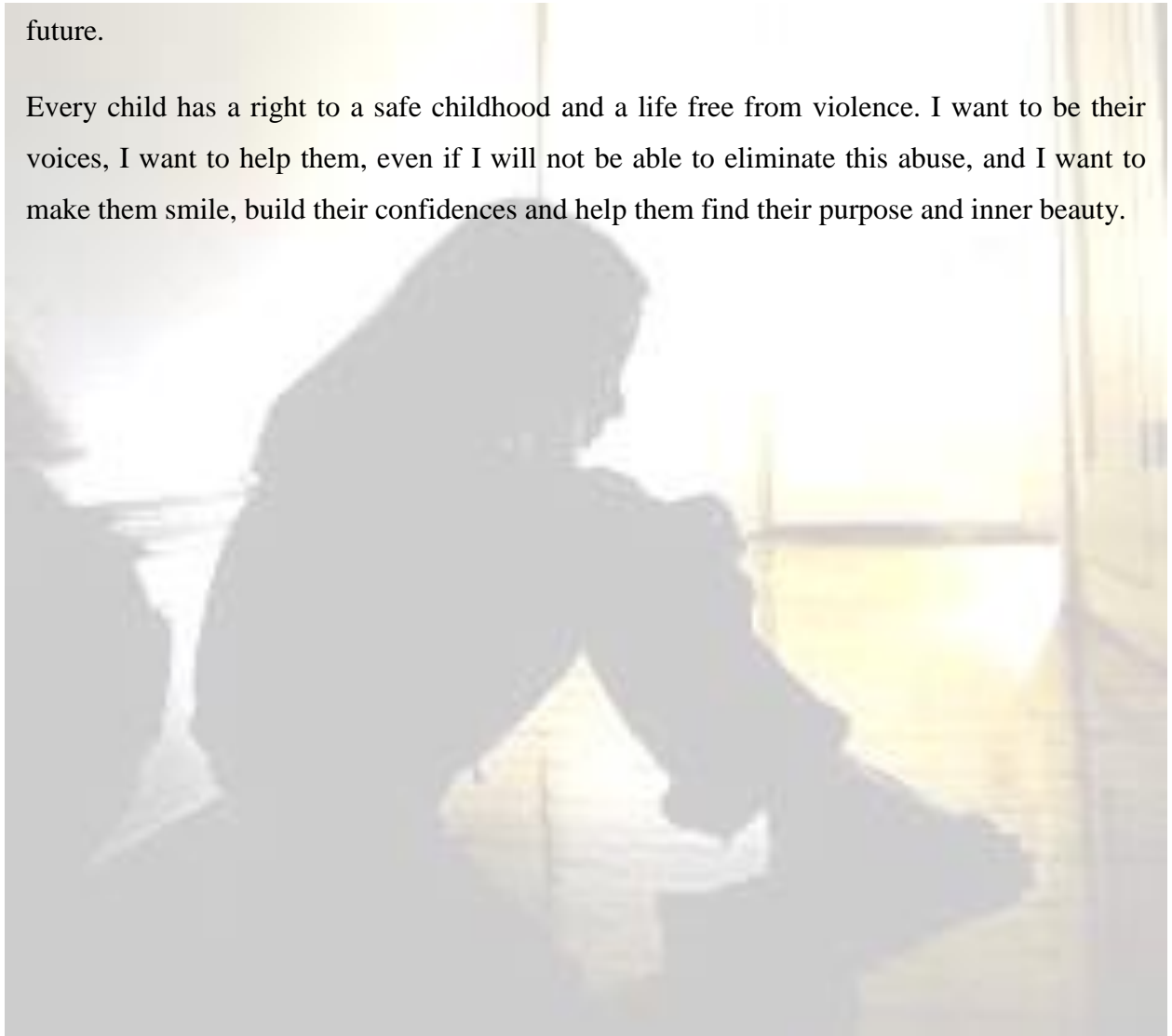
I will need to write letters to the CEO of the companies, the prime Secretaries, ministers and managers that I want to target for sponsorships, let them know what my project is about and why I want them to help me and most importantly what would they benefit from this project.



Conclusion

Child neglect is becoming very alarming in Seychelles and it is not being noticed or discussed about. By ignoring this type of abuse, we are ignoring the young children who are growing up to take our places in the society tomorrow. Children are the most valuable treasures of our country for they will be the ones who will give our country its worth in the future.

Every child has a right to a safe childhood and a life free from violence. I want to be their voices, I want to help them, even if I will not be able to eliminate this abuse, and I want to make them smile, build their confidences and help them find their purpose and inner beauty.

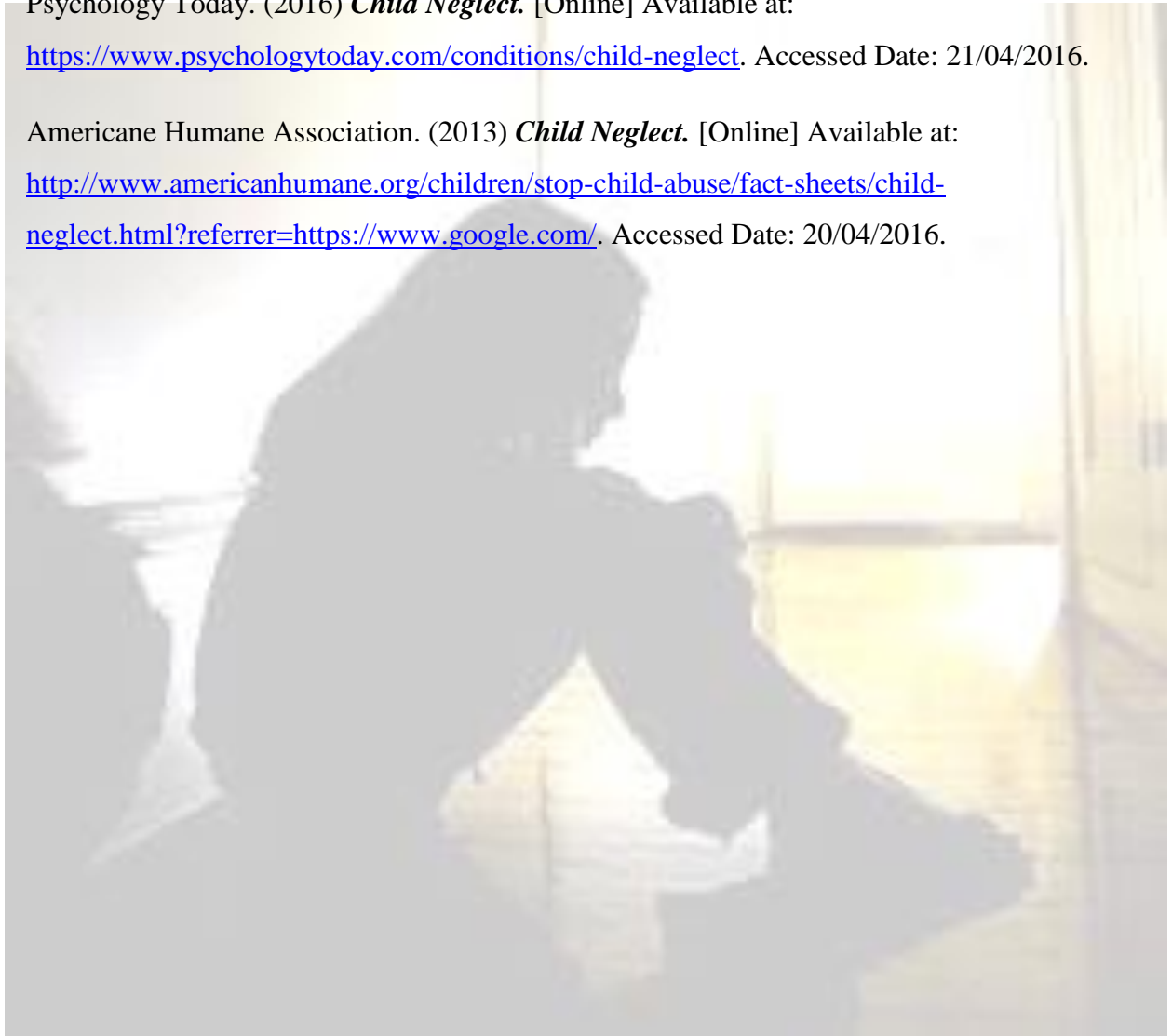


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Appendix

