

Open Letter To President Umaru Musa Yar'adua  
Give Us Access To Our Women And Children

As you are already aware the attempt to fish out “militants” by the Joint Task Force tagged “Operation Search And Rescue” in Gbaramatu kingdom of Delta State has left many women, aged and children vulnerable and in dire need for basic necessity including medical and shelter needs.

We are appealing to you, Mr. President, to allow us access to these innocent victims and displaced persons, especially those trapped in the creeks. Every Human being even in war situation is entitled to his/her human rights including:

- Right to Life
- Right to Shelter
- Right to Health and sanitation

Children alongside all these rights are entitled to their rights to education. Mr. President it is Your Responsibility to protect the lives and property of your citizens. The Gbaramatu people are Nigerians too needing this statutory rights protection. We appeal to you to allow us access to this vulnerable group made up of women, children and the aged.

The situation at Ogbe Ijoh and the prevention of support providers from gaining access into the Ogbe Ijoh Rescue camp, exposes them to gruesome untimely death and provides the environment for further dehumanizing of this helpless and defenseless group.

We as the daughters of the region, operators of non-profits, who have worked with vulnerable and at risk group, knowing the enormity of destruction of lives and property, the needs of our people and how the present situation is impacting on them request you grant us access to provide them support. If truthfully this is only about Tompolo and his men then save these innocent vulnerable people from untimely death.

Signed for and on behalf of the Gender Coalition Against Genocide (GAG):

Annkio Briggs  
Hilda Dokubo  
Emem J. Okon  
Ifie Lott  
Ibiba Don Pedro