Here on our continent there is a saying that "it takes a village to raise a child". I want to paraphrase it that "it takes the whole country to educate a child". Truly, education is a fountain of knowledge. Education is also based on harnessing one's talent and creativity. This is why our Government has since independence allocated the largest budget to education. Since independence we have trained many young Namibians as teachers, nurses, doctors and scientists etc., but we still have a long way to go.

I appeal to the SWAPO Party Youth League (SPYL) to continue advocating for more assistance to be given to education. If the youth are the future leaders of tomorrow, then every effort must be made to empower them equally, the poor and the rich. It is well known that rural schools are not fully equipped as compared to urban schools. This disparity creates the impression amongst some of our youth in rural areas to think that the only better life is in the city and not in the rural areas and thus they come to Zula for survival in the city, as we say in music.

In this regard, I think music is culture and music is art, but music is also politics and a medium of education and communication. As an Ambassador of the Ministry of Education, I have gone throughout the country and visited several schools.

At every level, I have met young people who are eager and thirsty for knowledge and yearning for quality education. There are many who want to be like Gazza and there are many who want to be musicians in remote areas of our country. It is our national duty therefore to help nurture and cultivate these dreams of our young people. I want to commend the Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare, for example, which is advocating on increasing the training of Namibian social workers. It is obvious that we have numerous social problems in the country especially and affecting the youth the hardest. It is important also that we train many social workers and encourage young Namibians to pursue a field of study in social work. As young people, we also have a duty and obligation to behave responsibly at all times, to respect laws and to be a voice against women, NO to alcohol and drug abuse; NO to unpatriotic conduct and YES to peace and stability in our country. My message to the candidate of the SWAPO Party in Okahandja is this that you are on the ticket of SWAPO and must deliver on the promises to the electorate. You need to place emphasis on education because an educated nation is a successful nation. Also I appeal to our Government Ministries and Parastatals to continue to build the capacity of our youth in all fields of study including music. I also would like to commend our Government for the increase in tertiary education especially in the establishment of School of Engineering and Medicine as part of the University of Namibia. Above all, as a young person, I am proud that, Namibia, under the SWAPO Party has remained an oasis of peace, stability and economic prosperity. That is why I agree with my comrades in the SWAPO Party Youth League that we must remain patriotically stubborn in demanding for Genuine Economic Empowerment, Youth Empowerment and Rural Development especially quality education in rural areas where majority of our youth live.

At this point, I want to urge all the youth and the entire country to support The Terminator: Harry Simon as he is boxing tonight in Kenya in order for him to come to Okahandja on 24 February 2010, and SWAPO will forever win in Okahandja on 24 February 2010, and SWAPO will forever win in Okahandja on 24 February 2010. And Terminator has indeed gotten up!

Finally, SWAPO has won before in Okahandja, SWAPO will again win in Okahandja on 24 February 2010, and SWAPO will forever win in Okahandja on 24 February 2010. And Terminator has indeed gotten up!

United in SWAPO! Arch rival artists, Gazza and the Dogg are slowly ironing out their differences. Last weekend, they agreed to share a platform at a SWAPO Party rally in Okahandja and their messages inspired the youth to vote for SWAPO Party candidate, Cde Steve Biko Booy. Photo by Levl Upula.

Dogg’s message to SPYL

I am happy to be invited to attend the official opening of the Central Committee meeting of the SWAPO Party Youth League (SPYL) here in the garden town of Okahandja. I am not a politician, I am a musician. As a musician, I am in touch with the public and especially the young people. Through my music, I convey your aspirations, dreams and goals. Politicians are responsible for translating these aspirations, dreams and goals into a reality through the SWAPO Party Election Manifesto. I agree therefore with the SWAPO Party Youth League’s concept of “Politainment”, in other words, combining “Politics and Entertainment”. That is to say there is no contradiction between music and politics. The SWAPO Party Youth League advocated for Politainment during the 2004 and 2009 Presidential and National Assembly elections respectively. The result has been a surprising victory of more than 2/3 majority for the SWAPO Party Presidential Candidate and Parliamentary candidates. Indeed we have won re-elections legally and fairly.

I want to congratulate the SWAPO Party leadership for choosing a young person Cde Steve Biko Booy to be a candidate on the 24th February 2010 By-Elections here in Okahandja. As the Founding Father said last week, Cde Biko Booy is a winning candidate. But leadership, just like music, is also about responsibilities. After you win Cde Biko, remember that you have a responsibility to unite the people of Okahandja Constituency, black and white, young and old. You will also have a responsibility to respond to the aspirations and expectations of all the residents of Okahandja constituency. This would include the provision of jobs, water, clinics, sanitation and all other social programmes. In other words the challenges facing young people of Okahandja constituency are your responsibility Cde Biko Booy.

In my opinion, Councilors such as Cde Biko Booy and all those tasked to implement the SWAPO Party Election Manifesto throughout our country, are duty bound to deliver on the promises contained in the Manifesto, without failure. I also think that the youth must come to you in search of solutions to unemployment, poverty and the scourge of HIV/Aids pandemic. You need to be against racism, tribalism, corruption, regionalism and all negative values. As a leader, you are a servant of the people and not a master. I can assure you, that is what all of us expect from you. All of us, the young people, want you to succeed. Your success, just like music, is also about responsibilities. As young people, we are duty bound to support him, because a true hero is not defined by his mistakes or his fall but how he gets up. And Terminator has indeed gotten up!

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