



▲ A group of young Tanzanians with and without albinism at a workshop this summer on Ukerewe island, Lake Victoria, concentrate on the strictures of identity shots for official documents such as passports. Photograph: Brian Benson/Standing Voice

'We are not ghosts' – Tanzania's people with albinism turn the lens on their lives

Used to fear, abandonment, even attack, a group of young people in a remote rural community are learning that photography can tell their stories and give them a place in society



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Film-maker Harry Freeland, who took this portrait of Siwema Selestine and her daughter in Tanzania, set up [Standing Voice](#) in 2013 after making [In the Shadow of the Sun](#), which follows two Tanzanian men with albinism and documents the discrimination and escalating violence against people with the condition. Albinism is a rare genetic condition that stops the body producing melanin. It is widely misunderstood in some countries where strikingly pale skin can trigger fear, stigmatisation and even attack. Some believe the body parts of people with albinism change fortunes when used in witchcraft.

Photograph: Harry Freeland/Standing Voice



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