



**Ruth Seopedi
Motau**

studied at the Market Theatre Photography Workshop. After this she worked her way up to pictures editor of the *Mail&Guardian*. She is currently a freelance photojournalist, who has been involved in numerous special projects, and has exhibited and published her work extensively, locally and internationally.



Sonnyboy's story

Sonnyboy (13) and his nine-year-old sister are some of the AIDS orphans who have to look after themselves.

Sonnyboy does all the household chores – from washing clothes to cooking, and helping his sister with homework almost every day. The day starts at 5am. He makes a fire and starts to cook porridge, warm the milk or fry eggs. Then he boils water for his sister to wash and go to school.

Both Sonnyboy and his sister, with some of the local children, go to the bush to fetch water and firewood. They cannot afford to pay the fee for use of the local communal tap to get a monthly supply of water. These children miss out on playing and end up being parents while they are still children.



