

The foundation, in whose activities Jeniffer is deeply involved, focusses on research, awa training, counselling and networking in Nyakach and Kibwezi.

The major reasons for singling out these communities is the fact that this is where the late Wanzuu was born, married, lived and worked and died.

"It has therefore been easier for the people to identify with the course at hand," says Kenn-

Imbued with the desire to tell the whole world to stop perpetrating all forms of violence ag women, Jeniffer finally got a forum in December last year when she entered a worldwide organised by Equality Now, a New-York based NGO which advocates for the civil and so women all over the world.

The "Stop-Rape" contest was a worldwide initiative to produce innovative and effective st eliminate rape. It was open to women and girls of all ages, and the deadline for submission December 31, 2000. With a little encouragement from her father, Jeniffer entered the com crossed her fingers.

The contest was judged by a team of 12 regional coordinators, all activists around the wor to stop violence in their communities. Sixty finalists were chosen and invited to New York the V-Day Gathering to End Violence Against Women. And surprise, surprise, Jeniffer en one of the finalists.

In a day-long strategy session in New York on February 10, this year, the finalists' strategi presented and discussed.

On the same evening, they attended the gala V-Day 2001 performance and rally in Madisc Garden where the three winning ideas were announced.

"I was surprised when I scooped the third position," says Jeniffer, a class Eight student at Thika Road Christian School, Nairobi. Her spirited war had paid off and she was the centre of attraction.

"Hundreds of people who attended the event kept on congratulating me. I eventually got tired of saying 'thanks' to them," she says with a grin. The event was star-studded. Celebrities came from far and wide and Jeniffer had the opportunity to greet her idols like Oprah Winfrey, Queen Latifah, Mary Osman and Ally Macbeal. Past V-Day events have included performances by celebrities such as Glenn Rose, Desiree Williams, Whoopi Goldberg, Jane Fonda, Meryl Steep and Calista Flockhart.



Jennifer

The three winners will have the opportunity to see their action plans implemented in their women's organisations selected and supported by grants from the V-Day Fund.

V-Day is a global movement to end violence against women. It is a vision of human life women and girls live free, equal, safe and with dignity.

But what was Jeniffer's winning strategy? "One of the best ways of stopping rape is by sta Against Rape Clubs in our schools," says thirteen-year-old Jeniffer, who was the youngest the contest.

She says the clubs can be started in one school and eventually spread to many institutions country just like other school clubs.

She adds that besides carrying out their own school and inter-school activities, they will h events like commemorating national disasters like the Kizito tragedy.