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CHIME THROUGH THE YEARS

## **“BVUDZI: A HAIR AFFAIR”** **BY TAPIWA GAMBURA FOR CONNECTHER**

*CHIME FOR CHANGE Through the Years: The Female Fabric is a series curated by CHIME Managing Editor Mariane Pearl featuring stories from the CHIME journalism platform archives by women around the world.*



BVUDZI, which translates to “hair” in Shona, is a short film that explores the story of a young black woman whose femininity has been largely defined by the length and texture of her hair. It tackles the politics of identity and follows the young woman’s difficult journey to reclaim her womanhood.

*The ConnectHER Film Festival provides a powerful platform for young storytellers to highlight critical issues facing women and girls. Students submit original short (3 to 6 minute) films focused on issues such as girls' global education, ending violence against women, redefining beauty, and girls in tech.*

*Spengul's mom was married at just 7 years old to a man then in his mid-20s. For her impoverished family, the marriage offered some financial relief and a form of protection. "I was a child. How could I be happy?" she says. "How can a child without her mom and dad be happy in a strange house?"*

*Inspired by ideas of postcolonialism and feminism, Tapiwa Gambura is a multimedia artist from Harare, Zimbabwe. Playing the role of director, cinematographer and editor, she uses film to dismantle colonial stereotypes of African Womanhood by enhancing their visibility within mainstream media.*