

Glossary

Abiti/Apiti: Title for woman

Achigalu: Teacher

ADD: Agricultural Development District

Amai Amvanos: Women's group of the CCAP (see below)

Auncle: Uncle

Banja la Mtsogolo: Private family planning association

Bawo: Board game with stones

Boma: Administrative center

Borehole: Communal well

Bursting in the sun: Basking in the sun

CCAP: Presbyterian synod

Chambo: A type of fish

Cheating: Deceiving, lying

Chibwenzi: Girlfriend, usually implying sexual partner

Chikamwini: Living in the wife's village

Chigolegole: Chichewa, foul smell associated with ndi amadzi, a wet vagina, as opposed to wolama, a dry vagina

Chimwerewere: Playing about, e.g. multiple sexual partners

Chindoko: Syphilis

Chinyela: Traditional illness

Chirombo: "fearsome beast", in this context the virus that causes AIDS

Chishango: A brand of condoms marketed by Population Services International

Chitela: Dances

Chitengwa: Living in the husband's village

Chitenje: Cloth wrap used by women over their skirt, to carry a baby on their back, to keep off rain, etc.

Chinzonono: Gonorrhea

Chirimba: An industrial suburb (township) of Blantyre;

Chokolo: Widow inheritance

Dambo: Well-watered plot for growing vegetables

Dimba: Vegetable crop growing on a well-watered plot

Domination: Denomination

Footing: Walking

Funeral: Ceremony, but also refers to the deceased person

Gonorrhea: Lukusula (ChiChewa), Chukusula or Chipata (Yao)

Hasky: Uncertain, probably something on the penis of uncircumcised men, derivation appears to be from the ChiChewa gaga, maize husks

Herbourist: Herbalist

HAS: Health Surveillance Assistant, the lowest rank in the health professions

Hit-runner: One-time sex

Kadziwotche: Euphemism for AIDS, “go Roast Your Self/ go and put yourself on fire”,
ChiChewa

Kulera: Child-spacing, also used for methods to space children

Kupondaponda: To be promiscuous Kwacha Malawi currency

Likango: Traditional illness

Lobola: Bride price (in the northern region)

Lwaso: Traditional illness

Mabomu: Buboos, swellings (Chichewa and Yao)

Mangochi Turn Off: Crossroads near MDICP survey site, with relatively large trading center

MASAF: Malawi Social Action Fund (World Bank)

Mashingozi: Shingles

Mbeta: A single [never-married] woman

Mauka: Candida & trichomonas; also, traditional medicine for sexually transmitted infections

Mavuzi: Pubic hair (both men and women)

Mbanja a weni: “Hijacking” another person’s spouse

Mdolo: Leisure activity, mentioned along with bawo

Mdulo: Category of hot/cold beliefs: hot is sexually active, cold is sexually inactive.

Movious: Promiscuous, moving around from one sexual partner to another

Nankhungwi: Female initiation official at girls’ Nsondo initiation

Ndaka: Traditional illness (same as tsempho)

Ngaliba: Male initiation official at boys’ Jando initiation

Nkhokwe: Granary

Nsima: Staple maize porridge

Ntayo: Traditional illness

Nyumba: Grave (for burial)

Pinning: Probably a combination of pining and thinning, often edited to pining.

Relish: Vegetables or meat to eat with nsima.

Sadaka: Funeral feast

Shy: Ashamed

SMAG: Seed Multiplication Action Group, program for smallholder farmers

Songeya: Perforations on the genitals

Swallow/swellow: A boil or sore, (probably from “swollen”)

Trading: Trading Centre

Tress: Trace, as in “tress who gave me syphilis”.

Tsempho: Traditional illness

Umanyano: A group of women in the CCAP church, trustworthy, they wear uniforms to funeral ceremonies, church services, public rallies

Umodzi: Togetherness, helping one another

Velander/varander: Verandah

Zam'maboma: Show on MBC radio, 7:30 p.m., presents "strange stories" from around the country