

ATTENTION! DANGER!



Black and brown pigments protect the skin against dangerous UV rays from the sun! But skin-lightening cosmetics destroy our health, they contain:

Hydroquinone

- causes “ochronosis”, a disfiguring disease in which blue-black pigments are deposited onto the skin.
- The result is a spotty skin: some skin regions get darker, some lighter, called “post bleaching pigmentation”
- Skin may become chronically and irreversibly damaged.
- In contact with the eye, it causes cataracts.
- Animals treated with it develop more leukemia, and more tumors of the kidney and liver.

Corticosteroids

(hydrocortisone, betametason etc.)

- Slows down wound healing.
- cause permanent brain and eye damage through absorption by the skin.
- “Immunosuppressive effects”: Weaken the immune system.
- cause hair growth on the face.
- The skin slowly becomes very thin and looks very old.
- may cause diabetes, osteoporosis and erectile dysfunction (sexual weakness)
- may cause premature or low birth weight babies.

Mercury

- is the most dangerous of all skin-lightening chemicals. It poisons the whole body chronically.
- causes the skin to become excessively dry and to crack.
- causes dermatitis, i.e. inflammation, scaling of the skin and blistering eruptions over most of the body.
- causes hyper-pigmentation, therefore gives spots on the skin.
- Mercury enters the brain, causing memory loss.
- Mercury crosses the uterine barrier and enters the brain of the embryo, therefore destroying the intelligence of the newborn baby.
- Mercury weakens fertility.
- Mercury is not biodegradable; one soap poisons the eco-system and wildlife for millions of years.
- To manufacture or to sell mercury soaps in Europe is an offence punishable with prison!

This poster has been drawn, developed and printed by Africans for Africans: Join the campaign “Natural is beautiful” and distribute this poster! Supported by: anamed groups in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe (www.anamed.net), AICT Huyamu in Tanzania (www.huyamu.info), European Herbal and Traditional Medicine Association (www.ehtpa.eu), GIFTS in UK (www.giftsofhealth.org), International Foundation of Dermatology in UK (www.ifd.org), Phoenix Integrated Health in UK and Malawi (www.phoenixclinic.org.uk), REAP in Kenya (www.reap-estafrica.org), GEUS in Denmark (www.geus.dk). Picture: anamed Kinshasa (anamed_kin@yahoo.fr), Text: anamed Cameroon (anamedbda2008@yahoo.com) **The WHO has called for action** to ensure that mercury containing cosmetics are no longer available! Ask your local anamed group to produce better cosmetics with you! www.anamed.net, anamedhnh@yahoo.de, anamed poster nr.450 (Engl)

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit” 1 Cor. 6:19