



He! Mama he!

Liz Brouckaert
isiXhosa



Voice 1:
Skelm mama
skelm sama zim cwe mama x2

Voice 2:
He! Mama he! x4



Voice 1:
Andilal' ebusuku
ndine phaphazela mama x2

Voice 2:
He! Mama he! x4

27. HE! MAMA HE! *Xhosa song*

Ske-lm ma - ma ske-lm sa- ma zim-cwe ma-ma

He! ma- ma he! He! ma- ma he!

Andi-lal' eb'-su - ku ndi-ne- pha-pha- ze - la ma-ma

He! ma - ma he! He! ma- ma he!

This is one of sixty children's songs in isiXhosa, isiZulu, English and Afrikaans (with one song in Sesotho) in a book called 'Songs Sung by South African Children' (1990, 1992 and 2002) published by Grassroots Adult Education and Training Trust.

Liz Brouckaert, the researcher, was commissioned to source and document local songs and make them accessible to teachers who were not specialist music educators. She looked for songs that children preferred to sing. What emerged time and again was that children really like singing about taboo subjects.

She collected the songs mainly in Cape Town over a period of 18 months, and then worked with friends to make audio recordings of the songs.

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Language: isiXhosa



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This was collected from a community school in Nyanga Extension during field work in conjunction with Sakhile Art Project. Click here to download and listen to a recording of this song:

http://www.saide.org.za/resources/ASP/27_He_mama_he.wma.

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