

**Bright Kids Uganda/ASA Social Fund for Hidden Peoples: Paige Alderson (MPIA & JD'19)**

Paige Alderson (MPIA & JD'19) has been doing important human security research this summer on gender-based violence in Uganda. Check out what Paige has to say about her experience so far. We are so proud of our students!

“For the past month, I have been studying gender-based, acid attack and war and conflict related violence in Uganda as part of a larger project on hidden peoples. Hidden peoples are those persons, or groups of persons, who have been relegated to the fringes of society due to a lack of access to rights or resources because of a physical, mental, social or economic trait.

I have been fortunate to meet, and interview survivors of atrocities committed during the LRA war, which spanned from 1986 to 2006, to better understand transitional justice issues of reintegration, the importance of psychosocial support, reparations, and to create a historical account of the massacres and abductions that took place in Barlonyo, Lira and Gulu. My work with survivors of acid attack and gender-based violence, including its impact on persons with disabilities, has taken me throughout central, eastern and western Uganda, focusing on improving data collection efforts, tracking mechanisms, policy recommendations and evaluations.”