

# ***THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL***

***THE PROBLEM OF CHILD AND WOMEN ABUSE AND KILLINGS IN SOUTH AFRICA GENERALLY  
AND PARTICULARLY IN THE SEKHUKHUNE AREA OF THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE AND HOW  
LITERATURE CAN HELP TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM***

---

STUDENT'S NAME: PITSANE NORMAN MALATJI

STUDENT NUMBER: UNISE0953IT

COUNTRY: SOUTH AFRICA

PROGRAM: HILOSOPHY DOCTOR (Ph.D)



TABLE OF CONTENT  
SECTION A

CONTENT	PAGE NUMBER
1.	
A. Abstract	2
B. Introduction	3
C. Review of Literature	4 – 30
D. Research Question	31
E. Significant of the Study	32 – 33
2.	
A. Design and Methodology	33 – 39
B. Analysis	40
C. Limitations	40
3. References/ Bibliography	41

SECTION B

CONTENT	PAGE NUMBER
1. Chapter 4 Methodology	42 – 87
2. Chapter 5 Data Analysis	88 – 124
3. Chapter 6 Conclusion	125 – 130
4. Chapter 7 Recommendations	131 – 145

1.

A. ABSTRACT

This research study on The Problem of Children and Women Abuse and their Killings in South Africa in general and particularly in the Sekhukhune Area of the Limpopo Province and How Literature can help in solving this Problem, is a study that focuses on why there is an increase in this problem despite the laws in place aiming at the prevention of the problem.

South Africa was known to be peaceful and having law-abiding citizens in the past but recently things have changed with men increasingly abusing and killing children and women that which also includes gender-based violence.

The president of the country Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, all other political parties' presidents and the Religious leaders as well as everybody else in the country are vocal on the need for the ending of this problem. The newspapers' headlines carries the incidences of this problem on a daily, weekly and monthly basis.

There are awareness campaigns towards this problem like the 16 Days of Activism of None Violence against Children and Women but the problem keeps increasing even on those days.

The research study is about the collection of data from the mention herewith data resources, analyze the data, and bring the conclusions on how this problem can be solved for the country to be seen to be a free of abuses and the killings of children and women and a country where the rule of law prevails.

The following concepts are central to the study:

1. Bapedi: People in South Africa particularly in Sekhukhune Area of the Limpopo Province who speak Sepedi.
2. Sepedi: The South African Language spoken by Bapedi People formerly known as Northern Sotho
3. Sekhukhune Area: This is an area in the Southern part of Limpopo province that is inhabited by Bapedi and is predominately rural area under the jurisdiction of Magoshi. It is named after the great warrior of all times King Sekhukhune 1.
4. Magoshi: The community leaders known as Chiefs
5. Limpopo: One of the South African Provinces in the northern part of South Africa which was formerly called Northern Province
6. Abuse: Harm or treat a person or something badly.

## A. INTRODUCTION

South Africa is facing a serious and a challenging problem of children and women abuse that at times leads to them being killed. More worryingly is the fact that these abuses and killings are done by people known to and trusted by the victims as most of them are the family members as opposed to perpetrators being strangers. This paradigm shift in the trust in family circles is strange to the family ethics and values that are inherited by people across the racial boundaries in this beautiful rainbow nation of ours.

This escalating abuse and killings of women and children with its related gender-based violence is not only relegated to households, but it is evidenced through work places, in the society, in business environment and worse in religious spheres of life and in the very most political spheres across political divide and religious believe systems.

The question that the study wants to uncover is why is this problem still remaining unresolved in a country with laws in place that are earmarked in protecting the victims of this problem of which among others are:

1. The Domestic Violence Act of 1998
2. The Children's Act of 2005
3. The Maintenance Act of 1998
4. The Promotion of Equality and Prevention Act of 2000
5. The Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters Act ) Amendment of Act of 2007

To give a background of abuse problem and killings of children and women in South Africa, one cannot shy away of putting the matter categorically clear that South African citizens used to be law-abiding people or rather equally so the law was sufficiently enforced to the rainbow citizens so much that such acts of criminality were not there.

Our country with its world renowned constitution with abundance of Human rights, it is shamefully facing this problem which seems still far to be solved. Politicians are day in and day out talking about this problem, discouraging it, calling for law-enforcement towards addressing it while equally there is no meaningful action over and above the talk shows.

One should not also lose sight of the fact that politicians more especially in South Africa, especially those that regard themselves as pro the poor and progressive, they find pleasure in addressing people of the problems they face and promise service delivery which never comes to fruition but it's rather an electioneering tool for them.

Limpopo Province is generally regarded as the most.

## B. LITERATURE REVIEW

People globally regardless of whether men, women, young or old, they are entitled to human dignity.

In the foreword of the book Ethics and Values Volume 1, it is said that Ethics and Values is intended to help students come to grips with important issues of morality and bear on all of our lives.

The absence of morality particularly or the so-called moral decay has engulfed our country and is by no means central to abuse and killings of children and women of our country.

The South African society is gradually eroding with morality so much that we witness the senseless killings of children and women.

South Africa despite its diversity in cultures, there is no culture that promotes the killings of children and women let alone the Bapedi (Sepedi speaking) culture being the culture of people the study is based on, is strongly opposed to this criminal activities aimed at the most defenceless people.

In her book titled "DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL" Debra Goldentyre said child abuse by parents is as a results of the parents' failure to solve their own problems. She said "some adults have trouble handling their own problems and take out their anger on their children". Many if not all the perpetrators to child abuse attest to this school of thought. They have admitted on numerous occasions that their actions were as a result of not having had on going battles with their wives the anger which leads them to committing the child abuse crime which at times leads even killing the children. Many cases have happened in South Africa with a notable example being the one in Zebediella in Limpopo where a father killed his four children out of anger on their unresolved problems with his wife. The man Lesiba Kekana slaughtered his four children after accusing his wife of having an affair with another man. He was arrested in September 2015 and subsequently sentenced to 52 years. The murder was so cruel that he cut the thoughts of his four sons. When he felt that he was hard done and had asked the Supreme Court of Appeal to reduce his sentence, considering that he was grief-stricken over the loss of his children, but on contrary Judge Tati Makgoka called the argument egregious and the Judge and his colleagues instead increased his sentence to life.

The author Debra Goldentyre goes on to say that many of these abused children run away from home even though running away is not a good solution as kids who run away usually find themselves on the streets and in danger for being homeless and without money, food and of course without future.

She instead advocates that if adults mistreat children, they must take action to stop it either by approaching people who help children who are abused as every community have such people.

According to her, one other action that children can take is to talk to their favorite teachers at school about their problem.

This is another avenue that the research wants to pursue about teachers at school having to help such abused children. The question should be teachers are better equipped to handle the social challenges that children face. Will the teachers not aggravate the situation by letting other children about other children's problem which in itself will make learning too difficult for the victims of abuse. The research will try to establish if there can't be school councilors in every school to deal with such situations

#### THE PSYCHOLOGY PERSPECTIVE

From the psychological point of view, the Author Charles G Lord in his book 'Social Psychology' talks about Controllability and Emotions, Attributing Responsibility as well as Personal identity versus Social identity concepts which bears a direct relevance to this study.

#### CONTROLLABILITY AND EMOTIONS

To these he said "The attributed controllability of a cause affects emotional reactions" ( Russell, & Lerman, 1979; Weiner, 1986) He goes on to say " it is easy to feel pity for someone who suffers from circumstances beyond his or her control", to this he cited an example of a person who suffers from a liver disease because it runs in his or her family.

He further points out, in support to his view that many studies have shown that people give or withhold aid to victims based on whether they perceive that the victim did or did not have control over what happened to them. (Schmidt & Weiner,(1988).

He goes on to make an important contribution that "suffering from an uncontrollable cause elicits pity, whereas suffering from a controllable cause elicits anger"

Of course pity and anger are contrasting emotions and such emotions are applicable to the South Africans when it comes to the problem of abuse to children and women that sometime leads to them being killed. As per this psychological point of view, naturally our people pity the abuse of children unreservedly as children have got no control over abuse by fathers, brothers and uncles. This of course augers well to say children are safe in the hands of strangers as compared to them in the hands of their families.

On contrary the same pity often turns into anger from certain sections of our people towards women abuse. Most women are sober minds being abused and even killed by their partners either living with them or not. Most of these victims overstay in their abusive relationships until to a point where some will eventually be killed. Whether pity or anger on abuse of men towards

children and women as is gender-based violence, is a problem in our country which need concerted efforts towards resolving it.

With regard to 'Attributing Responsibility', the author says that other theories of responsibility emphasize such additional constructs such as the actor's intentions, the actor's awareness of consequences, cultural prescriptions for the event, and whether the actor's identity requires abiding by those prescriptions. ( Fincham & Jaspan, 1980; Shaver 1985 & Drown, 1986; Britt, Pennington, Murphy, & Doherty, in press).

In most cases the actors of abuse seem to have their actions supersiding the awareness of consequences as after their actions the perpetrators will either show remorse or will end their lives as and when they realize the severity of their actions. A case in point here is the man in Limpopo ( Lesiba Kekana ) who after the sentencing to 52 years in prison, he appealed that he is equally in mourning of the death of his children, the appeal as we have read that led to his sentencing to life in prison. This narrative leads to whether the citizens of a country will qualify a problem in this case abuse of children and women, as personal or social as per the psychological point of view.

#### PERSONAL PROBLEMS

The narration from the book says when we learn that someone had an accident or other personal disaster, we often wonder why it happened, was it a random misfortune that might have happened to anyone or did the person's behavior contribute? It continues to say that as we might expect from the correspondence bias, attributers need very little evidence to cite something about a person as a prominent cause. It says people frequently blame the victims.

The narration goes on to say flood victims as an example seem to be free from possible blame ,as opposed for example, the driver whose car overturns simply because no one has control over rainfall which may lead to a river overflowing its banks and thus causing damage to property and infrastructure and the environment as well.

What this all means is that people should refrain from playing the victim cards. Simply put, it means in the case of a rape, for example it shouldn't be looked at what was the woman wearing at the time of a rape as some people usually do, or where was the victim and at what time did the rape occur. A more classic example here in South Africa was a case which involved the rape by the former president Jacob Zuma to Khwezi a daughter of a comrade in November 2005 whose full name was Fezekile Ntsukela Kuzwayo as per the report from Sowetan, 10 October 2016. Most attributers more especially from politicians who were supporting Zuma then to become the next president said the woman was sent to discredit Zuma's presidential contestation. The likes of Julius Malema the leader of EFF (Economic Freedom Fighters) who was by that time the president of ANC Youth League and a staunch

supporter of Zuma by that time, was quoted as having said the woman had a nice time with Zuma that night and decided the following morning after having had breakfast with Zuma, to go and open a rape case against Zuma.

By that time there was also a slogan by Zuma supporters that they were prepared to kill for Zuma. They labeled the poor woman all sorts of insults to a point where the woman had to seek refuge in other countries for the fear for her life. The former president was hailed a hero and eventually won the case. The man (president Zuma) was held a hero even when he slept with the woman without using a condom even though he knew that the woman was HIV positive and he became a laughing stock when he said in preventing himself from acquiring the HIV, he showered and later he was nicknamed a 'shower man' to prevent HIV. There were even women who supported Jacob Zuma during his trial in this case.

## SOCIAL PROBLEMS

With Social Problems the author reviews attributions for poverty, rape and murder.

With poverty he said being poor can be attributed to, for example either to the poor person ( a dispositional attribution) or to the circumstances (a situational attribution). He continues to say that one attribution is that people control their own financial destinies. He argues that if people are poor, they deserve it because they are inherently lazy, socially impaired, or otherwise lacking in the personal qualities required to earn a living.

He further points out that an alternative attribution is that poor people are victims of a society in which they were never given a chance. Perhaps because their parents were poor, they had no choice but to attend inferior schools where they were ill-prepared for meaningful work. They "got bad breaks" in life he said.

Lastly he said "as predicted, conservatives were more likely than liberals to assign dispositional causes for poverty. They were also more likely to say poor people could avoid poverty by and less likely to express pity, offer personal help, or approve of government assistance". He maintained that conservatives and liberals differ in how they assign blame for poverty and other social problems. To this he said Conservatives want to punish people who violate social norms and deter those who would " hitch a free ride" in the economy, a direct contradiction perspective to the Liberals who want to avoid awkward trade offs that put a monetary value on human life (Skitka & Tetlock, 1993)

When one looks at the abuse leveled at children and woman in perspective, one cannot help but agree to the attributions made above. More often than not, poverty is central to these abuses and killings of the defenseless victims to this crime. Most of the cases where men are crying foul to or accusing their wives of cheating which results in abuse and killings, it is either a



man is unemployed or earning less than his counterpart. In other circumstances because of poverty, the children that got killed were not even living with the man and the woman, but with the extended family. This poverty is central the financial stresses that cause continued conflicts in families. The abuse of women and children is less if there is, in rich families in South Africa

Be it either personal attribution or a situational attribution, Be it either from a Liberal view or a conservative view, children and women abuse or the gender-based violence is tearing our country, our societies and our communities apart. There is no culture in this country which upholds child abuse and gender-based violence. Every right thinking citizen is opposed to this crime. From various angles and corridors there is an outcry to this crime yet it is ongoing and showing no signs of reduction.

It is even more worrying when children and women are violated and killed even during the 16 days of activism in South Africa which starts on the 25 November to 10 December every Year.

## JOURNALS

### 1. Violence Against Women in South Africa: Policy Position and Recommendations

Ramadimetja S. Mogale, Kathy Kovacs Burns, Solina Richter.

The authors in their Abstract, said “Violence against women (VAW) in South Africa remains rampant, irrespective of human rights-focused laws passed by the government”. They continue to say “ this article reflects on the position of two acts : the Domestic Violence Act No 116 of 1998 and Criminal Law (Sexual Offense and Related Matters) Act No 32 of 2007”. They alluded to the fact that those two laws are framed to protect women against all forms of violence and that their article discusses the prisms of the two laws, an account of the position taken or interpreted by the reviewed literature regarding the acts, and the findings and recommendations regarding the infrastructure and supports needed to appropriately implement the two acts, they said.

In their introduction, they mentioned a case in South Africa in 2005 which involved a woman called Buyisiwe who was allegedly gang raped by eight men at two places first, in and around her friend’s house and secondly, near the near some shacks and a railway station. To them the court environment was hostile for Buyisiwe as she had to re-tell her storey again and again. They also pointed out that the poor woman had to re-live the experience by remembering who of the eight raped her first and who followed until the last because our courts will require such details to ascertain if indeed she was raped, this as according to (Mvimbi.2007,p.5)

The article mentions that the inability to prevent VAW even with laws in place has been confirmed by two separate reports, the human Rights watch 91997) report and theSouth

African (2008) report. It says the Human Rights Watch reported that a total of 50,481 cases of sexual violence were reported in 1996 out of which 21,863 cases were prosecuted, but only 4,100 led to conviction. The authors say that more recently the South African Police Services informed Parliament that between July 2006 and June 2007, a total of 88,784 incidents of domestic violence as defined by the 1998 Domestic Violence Act No 116 and March 2007, a total of 52,617 cases of rape were reported, of which 7% were successfully prosecuted (Amnesty International, 2008)

The authors argue that these reported figures set a precedent for arguing that the human rights-focused legislation enacted by the state has continuously failed in protecting women from domestic violence and abuse. They say “in fact, based on these reports, it is evident that the laws in place have not been effective as threats or punishment to prevent or reduce rape and other violent acts against women”. They base their argument on the fact that these statistics indicate higher incidence and prevalence of cases.

The other argument is that the legacy of colonization and apartheid has offered South African men high status (Jewkes, Penn-Kekana, & Rose-Junius, 2005) having said that, they then maintain that the “power or authority” alluded to social status is determined by position and income taking into consideration that most South African women particularly black women are unemployed and/or earn lower salaries than men. They say that these factors along with traditional/cultural practices of men’s rights over women’s rights negated the social status of women in South Africa.

In conclusion and recommendation, the literature indicates that the South African government showed commitment in addressing VAW in its various forms by passing the two acts. It is further said that this commitment by the government was further attested to in 2009 through the establishment of the new ministry for women, Children and Persons with Disability whose objective is to advance policy focusing on issues of women, Children, and persons with disability.

It is recommended that no one group can do the work alone and in isolation; the government , legal system, police, the general public in South Africa, and various service providers need to collaborate in designing a plan of action and assisting with its implementation. They need to own the acts and be responsible for their implementation.

They conclude with the important statement that “finally, the suggested regulations need to be continuously monitored by politicians as the ones who are making the policies.

## 2. Violence Against Women:

A Comparative Analysis Between Malawi and South Africa:

Nicole Chalira. Reseacher, Faculty of Law, Nelson Mandela University

Leah A Ndimurwimo: Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Nelson Mandela University

## Abstract

The United Nations defines violence against women as any act of gender-based violence that result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering. Violence against women is among the world's most systematic and ubiquitous human rights violations.. The authors also said "the use of violence against women, unlike many other forms of violence, is neither arbitrary against nor indiscriminate. On the contrary violence against women is ingrained in the social, religious and moral fibres of society. In Malawi and South Africa, like many of their counterparts in Sub-saharan Africa, women and girls are subjected to various forms of violence, harmful cultural practices and violence in relation to maternal healthcare and reproductive rights" they further alluded to the fact that Malawi and South Africa through their constitutions and various national laws have adopted measures that aim at preventing and combating violence against women. They say the two countries conform to the international instruments including but not limited to the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against women, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of women in Africa. The Journal importantly points out that although South Africa has the highest ratio of reported rape cases per 100 000 people in the world, only nine percent of the rape cases that take place in South Africa are reported to the police. The study confirms that both Malawi and South Africa have attempted to lower the cases of the severity of this problem with the various legislation in place because of the inability to enforce those legislated laws. The study has confirmed that sexual violence in Schools and Higher learning institutions in both countries and particularly in South Africa confirms that men tend to use violence in order to establish dominance over women within educational establishments. The study also shares the light that teachers are not the only perpetrators of sexual violence in schools and HEIs as equally rape is done by their fellow students. Another important point that this study share light to, is that in as much as the two countries have criminalized rape, South Africa provides an updated and inclusive definition of the crime, while Malawi retains the outdated common-law definition of rape. It is worth noting that the study talks about child marriages as a form of forced marriage as forced marriages involve according to the authors, the absence of informed consent from at least one of the parties. They say according to the UN, a child marriage is a union before the age of 18. The authors continue to say that Child marriage is strictly prohibited by the Maputo Protocol, which provides that no marriages shall take place

without the free consent of both parties and the minimum age of marriage for different women shall be 18 years.

The authors draws the different stances taken by the two countries regarding abortion, with South Africa recognizing the right to abortion in line with Article 14 of the Maputo protocol in terms of the Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act while abortions remain illegal, in Malawi.

In conclusion the authors however did not fail to acknowledge that the two countries cannot be seen to be effective enough the solution of the problem with laws that have been established.

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE ON NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

South African people and the government for that matter have waged war against the violence against women and children. A case in point is the following:

1. Hansard: JS: Debate 16 Days of Activism on No Violence Against Women and Children: Count me in: Together moving a non-violent South Africa forward (150)

House: Joint (NA + NCOP)

Date of Meeting: 21 November 2014

Among other things that was said in that meeting which was held on Friday the 21 November 2014 was that central to this democracy was a commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women. Gender equality is a founding principle and core right of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996. Its founding principles elevate human Rights, equality and freedom for everyone in South Africa.

The president said “However as we all know, violence against women and children did not disappear with the introduction of the Constitution with its expansive Bill Of Rights”. He said that was because we come from a past where violence was a norm. He said this includes the previous state which was violent and which justified violence

A lot was mentioned that within this context, women suffered violence and abuse in various forms : physically, Sexually, Emotionally, Psychologically and economically and that children did not escape same. It was said women who were raped were always blamed for being raped or not believe that they had been raped. And that women suffered in silence with no space or institutional arrangement for recourse and their human rights were violated on daily basis.

The speech goes on to say the cabinet agreed and adopted a theme, 'count me in 'Together moving South Africa forward. This is embrasive and signifies the aspirations of the preamble to the constitution. He said that at the dawn of democracy, the ANC-led government introduced measures that promoted an integrated approach to the strategies for eliminating the above scourge.

The rest of the speech was impressive and brought hope that things will turn for the better.

One question to however be asked is, did the country move forward? The answer is no things turned from better to worse. One cannot be surprised at the turn of things because the South Africans know that the ANC led government and ANC itself is in denial of its failures. In its 20<sup>th</sup> in government by then, they were still finding pleasure to blame the previous government to the abuse of children and women.

This is the same ANC which is so good at placing policies in place and good policies for that matter, but fail to implement them. The state and the plight of the victims to the problem under study is at the most shocking state if that is not an understatement with laws in place and resources in place but what ANC does best is to hail the betters constitution that the country has which of course bears fruitless gains to the citizens of this country.

It shall remain to be seen if at all the ANC led government will win the war against this problem, but the sooner the citizens face the problems themselves the ANC's good rhetoric will not help. They are good at talking than they are at actions.

## 2. 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM FOR NO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: [www.parliament.gov.za](http://www.parliament.gov.za)

This is a Parliament publication which seeks to bring awareness to the people of South Africa on what this campaign is and its intention. It addresses the below questions

### WHAT IS THE 16 DAYS ACTIVISM?

- It is a WORLDWIDE Campaign to OPPOSE VIOLENCE against WOMEN and CHILDREN
- It aims to raise awareness of the NEGATIVE impact that violence and ABUSE have on WOMEN and CHILDREN and RID society of ABUSE PERMANENTLY

### WHEN DOES THE CAMPAIGN TAKE PLACE?

- The 16 Days of Activism Campaign is held from 25 November to 10 December every year.
- However , the success of this campaign rests on our daily individual and collective actions to safeguard our society against this cycle of abuse

## WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN?

- It stems from the low status of women in the home and in society
- It happens when men abuse POWER and positions of power of authority in order to CONTROL women and children

## WHAT IS ABUSE?

Any form of behavior that causes

- Fear
- Bodily harm
- A person to do things against their will

## DO YOU KNOW?

That Parliament has passed laws to protect the rights of individuals against abuse?

## THEY ARE

- The Domestic Violence Act of 1998
- The Children's Act of 2005
- The maintenance Act of 1998
- The promotion of Equity and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act of 2000
- The Criminal Law ( Sexual Offences and Related Matters Act) Amendment of Act of 2007
- THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENT

The role of Parliament includes the promotion of human dignity, equality, non-racialism, non-sexism and the supremacy of the constitution. Parliament upholds citizens' human rights and oversees the implementation of constitutional imperatives. This includes, but is not limited to, passing of legislation that prevents or prohibits unfair discrimination to people based on and gender.

The vision of Parliament confirms Parliament as the institution that transforms the entire society to be based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights. With regard to this, Parliament has already made strides in passing legislation aimed at ending this scourge in society.

## DON'T BE A VICTIM

- BREAK THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE
- BREAK THE SILENCE

- KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
- ACT AGAINST ABUSE
- DO NOT LOOK AWAY!

KEY DATES TO OBSERVE IN THE PERIOD:

- 25 November : International Day of No Violence Against Women
- 29 November: International Women Human Rights Defenders Day
- 1 December: World Aids day
- 3 December: International Day for the Disabled
- 10 December: International Human Rights Day.

WHERE TO GET HELP

SAPS Crime Stop

Tel: 0860010111

Gender-Based Violence Command Centre

Tel: 0800 428428 / Tel: 0800GBV GBV

Stop Gender Violence Helpline

Tel: 0800 150150

SMS \*120\* 7867# from any cell phone

Family and Marriage Society of South Africa (FAMS)

Tel: (011) 9757101

Childline

Tel: 08000 55 555

National Crises Line

Tel: 086 132 2322

SA National Council for Child Welfare

Tel: 011 339 5741

This is a comprehensive publication by the government of South Africa in trying to bring an awareness to the citizens of this country with regard to the problem of abuse to children

and women. In as much as the good work of bringing this communiqué to life and to the attention of people, one has got the following reservations:

#### 1. Accessibility

By this I mean is the publication reaching everyone in the country let alone the victims?

Are all governmental institutions including and not limited to schools having these publications. It is for this reason that the study intense to intensify publications, and accessibility thereof to the entire populace of the country so that no one can as and when be the perpetrator or the victim, cannot plead no knowledge of the what the problem is and to what extend it must be confronted

RADIO INTERVIEW: THOBELA FM: 05 DECEMBER 2019

This is a brief Thobela FM interview (sepedi language radio broadcast in Limpopo Province) on Tabakgolo programme, loosely translated main daily topic/theme by Moloko Mashamaite (presenter) and Mbuyiselo Botha of Sonke Gender Justice.

The interview was on Gender-Based Violence and it went as follows:

Moloko Mashamaite: What do you think is causing this gender-based violence?

Mbuyiselo Botha: The causes of the gender-based violence in our country, is our laws.

The perpetrators know fully well that there are no serious repercussions to their actions.

Moloko Mashamaite: In Gender Equity meetings, what is it that you talk about?

Mbuyiselo Botha: We talk about equality, dignity and respect to every citizen of our country including women. We disapprove of discrimination of one gender over the other.

Moloko Mashamaite: Are we in crises as a country to this problem?

Mbuyiselo Botha: Yes, we are in crises. The present statistics shows as if we are at war with the women of our country

Moloko Mashamaite: What do you think we must do as men to solve this problem?

Mbuyiselo Botha: We must take meaningful actions. We must say not in my name shall this have to happen to women. We must not hide behind religion, tradition or even culture.



In a nutshell the interview talked at length about the ill-treatment of women and going as far as even suggesting that in most cases, even though that must not be an excuse, that drug-abuse cannot be left out as the root cause. The recent violent attacks on foreigners in Gauteng Province by the South Africans, were as a result of South Africans complaining that these people mostly as alleged, the Nigerians, are selling drugs which are central to the social ill in our country.

#### PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA'S RESPOSE TO THE SCOURGE OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

President Cyril Ramaphosa's response can be viewed from the different scenarios he was speaking about this problem first of which was when addressing the nation in a prerecorded address on Thursday evening the... Ramaphosa said government would overhaul and modernize the national offender register and he would ask parliament to consider amending the legislation to make the register public to which he said

"I will propose to cabinet that all crimes against women and children should attract harsher minimum sentences. We agree with the women of the country that the state should oppose bail and parole for the perpetrators of rape and murder against women and children".

He committed that all spheres of his government would do more to help the victims of gender-based violence and to deal with its prevalence in society, saying he would use "every means at the disposal of the state" to deal with the matter. It was upon this commitment that he said the minister of finance will be asked to allocate additional funding to the national machinery to coordinate our campaign against gender-based violence.

In a special address, before a joint sitting of parliament on the 18<sup>th</sup> September, the special sitting requested by him to address the nation on the problem under study, president Cyril Ramaphosa in a speech that lasted for an hour, said it was time for the country to close ranks on the raping and killing of young girls and women by men.

He said five interventions areas which are new measures to prevent to prevent violence against women, beefing up the criminal justice systems, steps to enhance the legal and policy framework around sexual offences and other forms gender-based violence, and measures to improve the economic power of women, all these will be introduced by all law –enforcement authorities, including the South African Police Service, Judges and Magistrates.

On the joint sitting itself on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the president unveiled an emergency action plan to combat violence against women and children which among other things, R1bn to tackle the scourge. He said part of that money will be spent on hiring 200 social workers to help the affected victims to which point, DA representative in parliament was unhappy about because she said the government has trained 500 social workers and only intends employing 200 which to her, that makes no sense as it shows the little move by government in addressing the problem. She even asked the president if he knows the toll free gender-based violence number and the president said he did not know that number and she gave him as 0800428428 and the president thanked her and promised to memorize it so that he is able to say when asked again in parliament.

It was during that speech when Reverend Kenneth Meshoe ACDP ( African Christian Democratic Party) raised a question on what is the president going to do to help the gogo ( old woman) of 91 years of age who was traumatized by an attempted rape by her grandson who was now applying for a bail and if the president would do something towards that bail application

The president responded that bail application is the magistrates' prerogative so he cannot do anything thereto. He however said that the 91 year old woman will be helped with the services of the social worker, psychologist and even a psychiatric do work on her trauma. He went on to say she might as well be referred for help at the Thuthukani Care Centre.

On the preventative measures he talked about the provision of better understanding to the public on this problem as well as engaging the boy-child to correct the inherent practice by men

It was again pointed out, as raised by an EFF representative, that 69% of Police stations do not have child rape kids 76% do not have adult rape kids to deal with cases reported.

The president promised to either visits police station alone unannounced, or go there with the minister of Bheki Cele to verify the claim and that the matter shall be attended to with speed it deserves.

## LOCAL NEWSPAPERS REGARDING THE ABUSE AND KILLINGS OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Steelburger inc. Lydenburg News      Friday December 13.2019

### FATHER ALLEGEDLY KILLS AND BURIES FOUR-YEAR-OLD

This publication on the above date goes by the story that a father allegedly his four-year-old son at Ngwanamatlang village outside Jane Furse that past weekend and that the incident happened during the 16 Days of Activism of No violence against Women and Children.

It reported that the community of Ngwanamatlang became suspicious when a boy who was left in the care of his father (35) was not seen for almost a day. It further reported that their suspicion grew when they saw a shallow grave at the back of his rented room. It is alleged that the suspect, a Lesotho national, suffocated the child, dug a shallow grave and buried him.

It is said that when community members at the village suspected foul play, they confronted the suspect who tried to run away but was caught and brought back to the scene, where he was forced to single-handedly to dig up the shallow grave wherein the body of his son was found. The Limpopo SAPS's spokesperson, Brig Motlafela Mojapelo reported that the body of the child was then retrieved. The SAPS said on their arrival as called, had to rescue the already battered suspect from the angry mob and according to the police the suspect was severely injured and on Tuesday he was still hospitalized at the Jane Furse Hospital under the police guard.

### THE NATIONAL PAPER: SOWETAN

This national paper reported on November 25 that on the National Day of Prayer held at the FNB Stadium on the 24 November 2019, organized by Motsepe Foundation, whose aim was to pray for the country particularly the violence against women and kids, that the violence against women and children took a centre stage as thousands of people from different denominations gathered at FNB Stadium to pray for the country.

It is reported that the Z.C.C leader Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane urged authorities to adopt servant leadership in order to address the problems the country is facing.

Quoting from John 13, where Jesus washed his disciples' feet, Lekganyane said the problems that South Africa and the world faced, needed such attitude. He said that Jesus' basic motivation was love for his followers. He said through this, Jesus wanted to set an example to his followers and asked if our current leaders have this kind of qualities?

Inkosi Sizwe Shembe of the Nazareth Baptist Church Ginyezinye said that South Africa needed God's intervention now more than ever. He said that a nation that is distant from God cannot prosper and continued to say we are here to pray for the end to violence we have seen in this country.

He went on to say that South Africa needed to ask for forgiveness from God in order for Him to remove the evil that is troubling us.

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale of the Roman Catholic Church said the recent South African Airways strike was evidence that people could fight for justice without using violence.

Tlhagale urged South Africans to return to god and pray.

This is just but and example of the news of violence against children and women covered in the news. In fact whether the publication is local or national, whether weekly or daily, abuse to children and women covers the headlines and so is the case with radio news as well. Every day South Africans face this never-ending problem.

The Sowetan of Thursday January 23 2020 carries a story titled 'Boyfriend 'abused' medic before death which talks about yet another death to a woman this time a medic who was allegedly killed by her boyfriend.

The incident happened in Limpopo Province and the MEC for Health was quoted in the paper as having said "he appeared in court as if he didn't kill a person. He didn't even show any sign of remorse and behaved like an animal". The Limpopo MEC for Health, Phophi Ramathuba said that the victim Nkwashu, 24 who only worked for 17 days before her murder, was subjected to physical abuse by suspect of 25 years who appeared in the Mankweng magistrate office in Limpopo Province.

The MEC said when she visited the family that week, Shongi's father told her that the man had had been assaulting her for sometime and that father even approached the suspect's family to report the abuse but it continued unabated. Nkwashu and the suspect, Ntiyisso Xilumani, were a couple and he had been visiting the intern doctor in Mankweng when the incident happened.

This unfortunate incidents and many others like this, could be as well, not unpredicted as most of South African women overstay abusive relationships which eventually end in this tragedies with the false hope that things will change for the better in future. True as it may be that South African are generally loving, but they must equally learn as cases like this prove, that abusive relationships are a sign of not a working relationship which should be quited immediately it shows that this is going to be a loveless and heartless

kind of a relationship. In the words of South African Church leader of the Z.C.C Bishop Dr Barnabas Lekganyane, that women are forgiving to their husbands' wrongs, men are not easily forgiving and they will for ever reminds you of the wrongs you did, which at lasts to the killings as shown here. Who is the perfect person in life who does not do wrong things? Are human beings walking Angels? If men cannot learn the peaceful coexistence with women, then let the law teach them a lesson or two and that it should not be business as usual to with the judiciary system of this troubled country.

## THE RELIGIOUS ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

South Africa is predominantly a religious country particularly Christianity. In keeping with the slogan of unity in diversity, all religions are united in preaching the no abuse of children and women with its related gender-based violence. Various churches and their leaders have taken upon themselves pray for peace and harmony and the return of ubuntu in people and the end to abuse.

To cite but a few of the teachings of the Z.C.C leader His Grace, The Right Reverend Bishop Doctor B.E Lekganyane's sermons about the problem of abuse on women and children, in his Easter Sermon, in the "The Z.C.C Messenger Issue No 89 September 2014 page 9 in which, when talking about the important roles women play in life in general and Christianity in particular, he said "After Christ had been crucified and killed, He was buried inside the tomb. However because it had always been God's plan, He rose from the dead. So today we celebrate the victory of life over death".

Then he said "Today let me remind 'bomme ba seaparo' (elderly women of church attire) le 'khwaere' (female youth choir) that women were the first to discover Christ's resurrection. Therefore it is important for you to recognize that you have a very important role to play in fulfilling God's plans". To this effect he read Matthew chapter 28 verses 1-6 from the Bible.

He continued to read from John chapter 11 verses 21-27 after which he said "It is because of women like these that today we know that Jesus rose from the dead and performed miracles. Let us nurture the resurrection of God-fearing women in the Z.C.C and South Africa in general, but it is also the responsibility of their male counterparts to ensure that women excel executing their responsibilities in the church and society in general".

He continued to say "If you take time to think about it, you will realize that it is possible for them to excel, As if writing to remind men about their responsibilities, David O. McKay wrote, and I quote: "Women are created from the rib of man to be beside him, not from his head to top him, not from his feet to be trampled by him, but from under his arm to be

protected by him". " May the end of this pilgrimage bring blessing of the risen Christ and may His peace be upon all.' Thero yaka e tla felela mo' (my sermon will end here)" he concluded.

And if that is not enough, It is this leader of great Church in South African and beyond the borders of the country including but not limited to Europe and other parts of the Globe, when, during the built up to the first democratic elections in South Africa, he called the prominent leaders of the political parties in south Africa whose members were not seeing eye to eye to each other because of the political climate marred by violence at the time, called them to holy City of Moria the church's headquarters for prayer to the coming elections to be peaceful which eventually The good Lord of Mount Zion made the elections to be peaceful and without a shed of blood an atmosphere which threatened same. Those leaders were the former president of the country and of F.W De Klerk, The president of I.F.P Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, The president of ANC the late iconic president of South Africa, Nelson Mandela and the others.

Central to his teachings, is the theme of love, peace, mutual respect for one another and the service to humanity and upholding of all what is God's needs from His people.

On the Easter sermon of 2015 as on page 5 of The Z.C.C. Messenger he read from Matthew chapter 18 verses 21 and 22 which reads thus ' it is when Petro came closer and said if my brother wronged me, how many times must I forgive him/ Can I forgive him seven times. Jesus said I will not say seven times but seventy times by seven. In reference women and men with regard to the same theme of forgiveness he said " A question that one can ask, is who between men and women forgive each other most of the times. We all know the answer that its women. Women forgive quickly and easily. To tell the truth some men fail to forgive those who wronged them. What is the reason. Between men and women, it is mostly men who do things that which it is not always easy to forgive. But if a woman can do a little wrong ones, She will be reminded about it every day that you did wrong the past ten years while if men are reminded of their wrong doing, they fight endlessly" he said.

He quoted the author Bryant H McGill who said "There is no love without forgiveness and there is no forgiveness without Love" He said Z.C.C men members must remember that women are also people and they are bound to make mistakes. He quoted Matthew 6: 14-15 saying it reminds us that because by forgiving others for their wrongs, then our Heavenly Father will forgive you your wrongs. He said "Forgiveness is only real when you're willing to let go of the past. That means forgiveness and moving on.

The Bishop Dr B.E Lekganyane continued to say the sad reality is what Shanon L Alder refers to when he says "If you spend your time hoping that someone will suffer the consequences

for what they did to your heart, then you're allowing them to hurt you a second time in your mind. As if that was not enough, he said he like what author John Daniel says when writing about forgives: "Forgiveness doesn't excuse their behavior. Forgiveness prevents their behavior from destroying your heart. You will begin to heal when you let go of the past hurts, Forgive those who have wronged you and learn to forgive yourself for your mistakes. Forgiveness does not change your past, but it does enlarge your future. You can't reach for anything if your hands are full of yesterday's junk, it takes a strong person to say sorry but a stronger person to show forgiveness.

The Z.C.C Bishop went on to say "May I remind you that you can only draw strength from God. And in our case, It is the God of Mount Zion, if you leave everything in His hand through prayer, He alone will enable you to forgive indeed. He said "The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of strong" so says Mahatma Gandhi. Before ending His sermon He said "Try the simplest and cheapest method. Learn to apologize. Learn to say I AM SORRY. God will do the rest.

He ended his sermon by saying 'I leave you with the words cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that".

I wish people that are slaves to anger, particularly men who end up abusing their partners because of the failure to forgive them, those men who are unable to forgive and let go of the past wrongs of their wives, those South African men who are in the news for wrong reasons, those that reduce our country's status can come across these kind of literature.

These teachings and all other teachings from the religious leaders are trying hard to bring sense into humankind to love other people as they love themselves.

## SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE

The researcher has attempted in more ways than one to collect more information relating to the research topic on why there is an increase on abuse to men and women and its related terminology on gender-based violence in South Africa and how literature can be used as a tool in fighting the scourge.

The literature used varies from books on the research topic, journals, government documents, newspapers, recorded president speeches, Media, print and electronic (tv and radio) interviews and legislative passed laws on the topic and of course published magazines. All these literature talks to the research topic from international perspective, regional perspective as well as national and provincial down to research site being the

Sekhukhune Area of Limpopo Province. All this was done to not take a biased approach to the problem and to have clearer picture on how studies on the problem were done and what conclusions were arrived at, based on the findings of those studies.

This literature has helped the researcher to define the problem and most importantly to limit it and to put the study in a historical perspective.

The literature includes primary literature and secondary literatures, which includes the published books, journals, newspapers and tv and radio interviews. It is worth pointing out that the literature has also helped on the research strategy which to close the gaps of the previous studies by focusing on the victims of this problem. That is as a result of, despite all the resources put in place, including but not limited to, the laws formulated to prevent and minimize the escalation of the problem in South Africa in general, the awareness campaigns and the marches to magistrate courts during the trials of the perpetrators, the problem still persist at an alarming rate.

On the analysis of the Literature, one cannot ignore the fact that much has been done to address the problem by varies governments on the globe. That means establishing laws to prevent the problem. The researcher can points out that much of studies to a greater degree focused on the establishment of preventative measures and resources in place, but there is a concern on the implementation of those measures that are put in place.

It therefore necessitated the rationale behind the below listed reasons which sets this study apart from others in a continued pursued to close the gaps towards the study at hand. This also brings another school of thought that constitutions of the countries, as attractive and held worldwide in high esteem as they may, like the one of our country South Africa, to what extend do they help the people they are intended to serve? In keeping with the Freedom charter that the people shall govern, to what extend do the politicians involve ordinary citizens in general and the victims in particular to come up with suggestion on how they can be protected by laws in their countries with or without constitutions in place. Who say constitutions cannot be amended as an when the need arise? Why is there now a consultation to people, to amend the constitution, to effect the proposed yet to be law, 'the expropriation of land without compensation, that which politicians have developed an interest.



## EXAMPLES OF LITERATURE BY THE RESEARCHER ON ABUSE OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

### POEMS FOR THE NATION BUILDING

#### 1. We the failing South African men

Not all of us of course,

Of course, but most of us,

Are failures who fail real men

For real men provides and unprovides,

They provide all what is good to women and children,

And unprovide all that causes untold sufferings to women and children,

Real men are not selfish,

So selfish as to always put themselves ahead of those who look upon them.

No man is a man,

If he is not man enough to be a man,

A man enough to be a real man,

A real man of integrity, a real man of abundance intelligence.

They love you,

You abuse them,

They need your protection,

You kill them

Yet so happy I am, to know to know

That real men don't abuse and kill children and women,

Yet this so many men of South Africa, who abuse children and women,

Are failing us as real men of South Africa,

So let us stand up, and boldly say, not in my name.

2. In your child and in your wife

In your child, your blood runs

In your wife, your rib holds dear life,

In your child, your soul should not think of guns,

Respect and love your wife's precious life no matter how rife

The relationship is, and no matter how angry you can be,

Nor so frustrated you can become,

Because of relationship problems running as fast as a bee,

Can you ask yourself how come?

Shall it be that I kill those that I loved

Those that I love and whose lives I must protect

Because abuse and killings to my beloved

Shall forever not earn me respect

Towards the harmonious relationship building

That leads to the peaceful nation building

3. Cry loud the South African women

Cry loud South African women

So loud that the deaf can hear,

Or the world can hear your daily sufferings

Because South Africans are so blind

To read the social injustices you daily face.

Stand up and be counted Women of Msanzi

Drive the change you aspire

Why are we making issues out of no issues  
Why is gender on issue becoming gender issue?  
Is a man or a woman no bigger than the gender itself?  
Nor is gender equity a pipedream in this beautiful country of ours?  
Men of this country are as changeable as weather,  
As changeable as chameleons  
Today they say they love you  
Tomorrow they kill you.  
The minute the abuse is never ending  
The moment they pronounce that they will kill you,  
The sooner you kiss the relationship goodbye the better,  
Because the next moment you will be no more.  
The women of this country were known  
For time in memorial,  
That they are the change of a better life for all programmes  
You cannot just keep crying and keep dying.

4. The South African Constitution

It is by no means the world class,  
That the globe showers with praise,  
The politicians when looking into it, they marvel  
And say yes, this is the most aspired supreme law of the country.  
Who say it is wrong  
For those who have a different view about It?  
For they say what is good in what is not protecting you?

What is the value of the constitution that protects perpetrators  
Over the innocent victims  
If the time will ever come,  
That time is now  
To change what is good in the bad people  
And bring what is bad in the bad people  
For there shall forever be peace in this rainbow nation  
The constitution must above all else protect us  
The constitution must forever be people driven  
And above all else no constitution is unchangeable  
Why can't innocent human lives be of  
Paramount importance to this so-called world class constitution?

##### 5. Lament of a South African Child

Why am I born in this family  
That is made up of warring  
Who find pleasure in fighting over this and that  
Day in and day out they fight.  
My warring parents after enjoying the fight,  
They will take the fight to me  
They drag me from all directions.  
As they fight, and even if I did start the fight,  
Whoever wins or loose, direct the anger to me,  
What will I be without a peaceful parenting?  
How will I cope with life under this environment?

It pains me to see my fellow children happy at school

And when happily they go home

While I know that my home is a battlefield

With no happiness in it.

What do they think

I will grow into

With this kind of experience

Will this world

Ever have peace?

Depending on the creativity of authors in different literature genres, I believe the message of no abuse and killing of women and children will be sent across.

This is but just an example of the researcher's belief in the power of the pen that can bring meaningful change in the society.

In the past struggle against the oppressive government in South Africa, People used different ammunitions towards attaining victory to the oppressive regime on of which was the literature which was bearing it all the cruelty of the then government.

The likes of Nelson Mandela in his book, The Long Walk To Freedom can bear testimony to this assertion.

The notion that pen is mightier than a sword still hold true to the researcher hencethe deliberate mentioning of how literature can help in solution of this country's problems of abuse and killings of children and women.

## WHAT SETS THIS STUDY APART FROM OTHER STUDIES?

In as much as there are studies on the problem of child and women abuse or gender-based violence for that matter that have been conducted in the past by various scholars, or published books on the problem under study globally, most if not all studies are based on the concept of the abuse and gender-based problem.

These studies and books have done well to among other things uncover and discuss the problem at length. Both books and studies have done well on the narration of what really causes this problem. One stand to reason that enough and well executed research has been done. This leads me to state what in my opinion sets this study apart to other studies.

This research wants to focus on the victims of this problem being the children and women. It needs to make them the solution givers and the problem solvers and not as recipients of suggested solutions by in most cases the perpetrators of this abuse which is none other than men. The victims need to be empowered to not just know what abuse is, but rather confront it head on various levels and spheres of human engagements.

It is the intention of the study to say as a nation and people we need to go back to the basics. Well going back to basics may mean different things to different people and to me it means there must a game change. To this I mean that there are a number of things that needs to change if we are really serious as we should towards addressing this problem on of which is the cultural way of the view of a woman.

In my area of study which is The Sekhukhune Area in the Limpopo province in South Africa, and of course in most of the Sub-Saharan countries, a woman was viewed as a property to a man or her husband to be precise. It was commonly believed that a woman having inferior status to men and that they must subject themselves to their husband in whatever way possible including sexually related decisions. Man should be seen to be in command in the family unopposed and such no opposition to a man's decision would be seen as a respect of a woman to her husband and for decades women lived with this oppression until recently in the developing world where legislation has brought about equality laws in their constitutions which unashamedly some men are opposed to even to this time and era.

The other going back to basics which the study aspires to, is the view of LOVE itself. In my area of study and elsewhere in Africa, Love is bound to money, time and family. If a man gave you money and has been with a woman, then the poor woman is indebted to that man in love. A woman cannot decide one day to move out of the relationship without being abused or even at worse be killed. To add salt to the wound in this problem is the role that families play. It is a widely held African view that marriages are a family thing as opposed to a man and a woman getting married. In most cases if the wife and husband fight, families would intervene with a view of a peace brokerage. That was good and is still good if the differences between the couples is not beyond repair. There are at times when even the blind can see that the relationship has reached a curl-de sac and family members will still say those problems are there in other families and that couples must still continue living together as opposed to go for a divorce a thing which sometimes bring theongoing abuse and at times even deaths.

One cannot also ignore the fact that women themselves are to blame to abuse and them being killed by their so called husbands. This is because women will want to stay in an abusive relationship for a long time. More often than not, women will open cases of abuse, or apply for a protection order when abused, but only for them to go and withdraw the case the protection order afterwards with the hope that their husbands will change. Unfortunately most of those abusive husbands end up killing their wives and it will be then that you will hear the relatives saying the abuse have been going for some times back.

Most probably when two elephants fight is the grass that suffers. Children unfortunately fall victims of abusive relationships between men and women. The angry men have the weakness of distinguishing between a woman and a child. They most often kill the children when fighting their wives

Pursuant to this study, literature should be a powerful weapon to fight the problem under study. Culturally oral literature most of the genres being poetry and folklores played a crucial role in the upbringing of responsible adults. It is therefore as part of going back to the basics as envisaged by the study that children should be exposed to a wider literary work that talks to them about this problem.

Not only children but also women should as well be familiarized to a wide range of literature that empowers them on the fight of their abuse and killings. There has been much talk with little action on addressing the problem of abuse and gender-based violence. Without preempting the solutions to this challenge, the youth whose future of the country belongs should be empowered with books on this problem and that also mean that they should as well be encouraged to write books that seeks to solve the problem they are confronted with at an early age. They must make this their problem that needs their solutions.

There must be an intensified war against the abuse of women and children through TV programs that talks about this problem. There should be drama books that teach people about the abuse of women and children.

There should as well be children libraries in communities as well as in schools that talks about abuse and gender –based violence. There should be competitions during and at school, during those days of activism against abuse of women and children and during heritage festivities.

We must all own up to the solutions to this problem through meaningful engagements and not just hoping that the politicians can bring solutions to this problem.

In the words of our late iconic president Nelson Mandela who said that education is the most powerful weapon in the fight to bring change in society and who also said ‘ if we should fall as we may, it is the burner of education that we must not allow to touch the ground’ the study aims at educating the youth of our country at an early age to fight the abuse leveled at children and women. They are better positioned to bring about the new dawn to our country free from abusive men who disguise as fathers, brothers, uncles and grandfathers.

#### D. THE RESEARCH QUESTION

Pursuant to the problem statement which is the increase of children and women abuse in South Africa in general, and in the study area in particular being the Sekhukhune Area of the Limpopo province, in particular, the following research question/s comes to play:

1. The central research question is why is there an increase in the abuse of children and women and of course the gender-based violence in South Africa generally and particularly in the research study area, amid the laws in place to prevent this?

This primary research question leads to the following secondary questions:

- 1.1. Why is there this increase in this research problem in South Africa with laws in place that are aimed at protecting children and women from abuse?
- 1.2. Why is there still abuse and killings of children and women even during the 16 days of activism against the abuse of children and women and their killings?
- 1.3. What is the role of the government in trying to prevent or solve this problem?
- 1.4. What role do women play in solving their abuse both in families and at their places of work?
- 1.5. What role do men play to solve their problem of abusing children and women?
- 1.6. What role do children have to play towards the solution of their abuse
- 1.7. What significance is the constitution playing in saving the lives of children and women and their abuse?
- 1.8. Is there a will power in politicians towards providing solutions to this problem?
- 1.9. What is actually the root cause of this abuse and the killings of children and women by men
- 1.10. What is the role of cultural and traditional believe system towards the escalation of this problem?
- 1.11. What is the role of the religion towards the problem and the solution thereto?
- 1.12. What role do lawyers play towards the solution of this problem?
- 1.13. What is the role of judiciary towards the prevention and solution to this problem?
- 1.14. What role does the society in general have to play towards the solution of this problem?
- 1.15. What role can literature play in bringing awareness and possibly the solution to this problem that is putting our country to shame?



## E. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The potential significance of this proposed research study is twofold as follows:

### 1. ADD TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND THEORY

This study is aimed at adding the knowledge of the study problem on the part of the affected victims being children and women. The data on what causes the problem must form the basis to knowing how it can be prevented if possible or how it can be minimized.

The same theory can be beneficial to the government and the society in general to ascertain if applicable laws in place are helping in solving this problem.

The inputs from the participants will also help in shaping or reshaping of the present laws that will deal effectively with the problem.

The study will also encourage people in bringing the suggested solutions towards this by actively participating and owning up to the suggested solutions.

It will also discourage ignorance to the problems facing the country which needs collective solutions and

### 2. SUGGEST GENERAL IMPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

This research like all other researches is not an end in itself but rather, in keeping with the fact that learning is continuous, it can suggest general implications for further research and educational practices.

As for children abuse, the Department of Education may as per the data collected in the study, see how best they can deal with child abuse, They for example introduce books that teach learners about child abuse or introduce professionals councilors in schools to help the affected victims. The Department may also introduce in other learning areas like life orientation for example, topics on child and women abuse.

On the part of women, the study will share light on preventative measures and general awareness of this problem.

It will also make aware not to be promoting abuse by either not keep silent if it happens in their families or at worse, withdrawing cases of the family culprits once cases are opened with police.

Knowledge is power so the study will empower every stake-holder whether the victims or perpetrators or any ignorant citizen of the country.

2.

#### A. RESEARCH DESIGN/ METHODOLOGY

In pursuant to the purpose of a research design, which is to specify a plan for generating empirical evidence that will be used to answer the research questions, the intention of which is to result in drawing the most valid and credible conclusions from the answers to the research questions.

A Research design describes how the study was conducted including when, from whom, and under what conditions the data will be obtained.

Research design is therefore classified into three major categories: 1

- 2.1. QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH
- 2.2. QUALITATIVE RESEARCH
- 2.3. MIXED –METHOD RESEARCH

The first two are the most common types of research methods. In each category there are different types of designs.

#### 2.1. QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN

This research design has Experimental Design and None-experimental methods which are as follows:

- EXPERIMENTAL which is made up of
  - True experimental
  - Quasi-experimental
  - Single-subject and
- None experimental which is made up of
  - Descriptive
  - Comparative
  - Correctional
  - Survey
  - Ex post facto
  - Secondary data analysis

## 2.2. QUALITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGNS

This research design is made up of Interactive Methods and Noninteractive Methods

- Interactive Methods is made up of
  - Ethnography
  - Phenomenology
  - Case study
  - Grounded Theory
  - Critical Studies
- Noninteractive Methods

Noninteractive Methods are sometimes termed analytical research, investigate concepts and events through an analysis of documents. The researcher identifies studies, and then synthesizes the data to provide an understanding of concept or a past event that may or may not have directly observable.

Examples of analytical research include concept analysis and historical analysis.

- Concept analysis is the study of educational concepts such as cooperative learning or leadership while
- Historical analysis involves a systematic collection and criticism of documents that describes past events . Educational historians study past educational programs

## 2.3. MIXED-METHODS RESEARCH DESIGN

Mixed-Methods Research Design combines the quantitative and the qualitative research designs. The use of this research design is becoming increasingly popular because many situations are best investigated using a variety of methods With mixed method designs, researchers are not limited to using techniques associated with traditional designs whether quantitative or qualitative.

This research design is made up of:

- Explanatory Designs
- Exploratory Designs and
- Triangulation Designs.

This research is using the latter method, Mixed –Method Research Designs

The choice for this research design is informed by the fact that this method is becoming increasingly popular because many situations are best investigated using a variety of methods. The other advantage of mixed method designs is that researchers are not limited

to using techniques associated with traditional designs whether be it qualitative or quantitative.

#### SUBJECTS/PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCE

In the methodology outlined above, the researcher is going to use the following participants/subjects or data sources:

1. Primary School learners particularly grade 7 learners as subjects, participants and data resource.

The rationale for these subjects is to check how far these young children understand the problem of abuse on children and women and also to get their inputs on why there is an increase on the problem itself and how they think the problem can be solved.

Like it is mentioned earlier in the study that this research is aimed at closing the gaps of knowledge and interventions geared at addressing the research problem using the victims of this problem for which young children are part of. The aim of the research once more is to developed a caring and responsible citizens from the young people of this country and those that will be law-abiding as opposed to the present generation most of which the culprits or preachers and not doers of anti-abuse of children and women.

Herewith is an example of a questionnaire to the learners

1. Do you know what a child- abuse is? Yes / No
2. Have you been abused yourself? Yes / No
3. If you have been abused at home by whom? Parent / Stranger
4. If you have been abused at School, by whom? Fellow learner / Teachers
5. What do you do if you are abused? Keep quiet / Speak out
6. If you speak out at home to whom to you talk to about the abuse? Mother, Father /Sibling
7. Who will you be comfortable to talk to about abuse at school? Teachers / School Learner councilor
8. If abused in the community, who can you comfortably talk to about it? Church leader / Police
9. Who between the mother and father is abusing one another? Father / Mother
10. If its your father abusing your mother, what do you do Keep silence / Tell someone about it

11. Do you think the government is doing enough to stop abuse of children and women?  
Yes / No
  12. If No, How will you like the government to punish abusers and killers of children and women? Life sentence / Death sentence
  13. If you were the president of the country how will you address this problem? Keep talking about this problem to stop / call for the change of the constitution to bring death sentence
  14. Where did you read about the abuse of children and women Newspapers / Books.
  15. Is there any community library where you can read those books? Yes / No
  16. Can you write a book that discourages abuse of children and women? Yes / No
  17. Which literature book can you write? Poetry, Novel, Short Stories / Folklore
  18. Do you know of anyone in your class who has been abused? Yes / No
  19. What an advice have you given to that person? To report the abuse / To pay revenge
  20. What do you think children and women must do to stop being abused by men?  
Matches on the streets and burn tires / Call for the harsher punishment.
2. Women as subjects, participants or data source
- A random interview will be conducted to women across age, political affiliation and at least 100 of them to help provide data on the research problem and answer among other questions the following:
1. Why according to women, is the gender-based violence and child abuse problem growing at this alarming rate?
  2. When often are women abused?
  3. What role do abuse of alcohol and drugs generally, play in the abuse of women and children?
  4. What cultural influence if any is at play to this problem
  5. Why do you think children end up being abused by men whenever there is a fight between women and men?
  6. What stops the women in their majority not to stop the gender-based violence?
  7. How do women view the constitution in so far as their safety is concerned?
  8. What do women think will bring a lasting solution to this problem
  9. What do the women think literature can help bring an awareness leading up to the solutions to this problem?
  10. Which kind of literature do women think that can bring awareness to the problem?
  11. Are they prepared to be part of the authorship to that literature?
  12. If such kind of literature is developed how should it be accessible?
  13. Do they think politicians are serious about the stoppage of the problem?
  14. What makes them think so?

15. What do they think is the most kind of abuse they face both at home and at work places?
  16. What help if any, do they offer to the victims of abuse?
  17. What do they think should be taught to the boy-child in their early age to refrain from gender-based violence/
  18. Do women believe in the South African slogan that “ wa thinta bafathi wa thinta I mbokoto” loosely translated ‘ if you trouble a woman, you trouble the nation’ ?
  19. If yes to what extend do they put this practice?
  20. Who do the women actually blame for the ongoing of gender-based violence and the abuse and killings of women and children
3. The men as subjects, participants or data source

Data shall also have to be collected from the men the perpetrators, to this research under study. As men are collectively painted with the notion of gender-based violence and children abusers and even killers, they must share the light on this problem by answering the interviews on the following questions that will be asked through random sampling of at least 50 men;

1. What makes men to abuse children and women?
2. What will make to stop abusing children and women?
3. What cultural fallacy is encouraging men to abuse children and women?
4. What drives men to even kill women and innocent children?
5. Is South African law as legislated in the constitution effective in dealing with this problem?
6. To what extend do you think it should be enforced?
7. What do abuse of alcohol and drugs aggravate the situation?
8. Do men think there is enough awareness of this problem?
9. What role if any, do men think literature can play in bringing the awareness and possibly the eradication of the problem?
10. How accessible do they think such literature should be?
11. What do men think about the raising of a boy-child?
12. What is the men’s view on the politicians’ role towards solving the problem of abuse to and the killing of children and women?
13. How do men think that politicians can do to stop this escalating problem?
14. What do men think the police should do to enforce the laws in place to prevent the abuse of children and women?
15. What role do men think the judiciary should play to prevent the gender-based violence and the abuse of and possibly the killing of children and women

16. How effectively do men heed the call “not in my name slogan” to discourage gender-based violence
17. How should men treat those men who abuse children and women?
18. How should men deal with those drug dealers that are known to the society?
19. What is that what men should discuss in their men forums to discourage men from abusing children and women?
20. What role should men play in the Traditional Councils and meetings to help stop the escalation of the problem?
4. Police as subjects, participants or data source

The police stations and the police particularly will be used by this research to collect data as to what extend is this problem manifest itself in the research site.

A minimum of four police stations in the area of study being the Sekhukhune Area of the Limpopo Province, will be used for this research and they are :

- 4.1. Meclenburg Police Station
- 4.2. Praktiseer Police Station
- 4.3. Burgersfort Police Station
- 4.4. Lydenburg Police Station

The interviews will among other things collect the data on the following:

1. The weekly, monthly, and yearly statistics of abuse of children and women including those of the killing of same.
  2. The possible causes of those crimes
  3. The frequency with which they occurs
  4. The statistics of the successful prosecution and the sentencing of the perpetrators
  5. The hindrance if any, to the successful prosecution of the perpetrators to this crime.
  6. The protection mechanisms to the victims of abuse of children and women on offer
  7. The role that the victims themselves play towards the prevention of this crime against children and women
  8. The role that the lawyers play towards the solution to this problem.
  9. The police awareness campaigns towards the solution of this problem
  10. The role that literature if any play at the police stations and to what extend should it be developed to effectively deal with the awareness of this escalating problem
  5. Lawyers as subjects, participants or data sources
- The researcher will collect data on this problem under study from a minimum of four lawyers to reflect on their role in the escalation of the problem or the solution thereto with among other questions, a few of the following must be engaged

1. How are the lawyers helping the culprits of gender-based violence and abuse to children?
2. Do lawyers sometimes consider the victims in their legal representation of their clients against them?
3. How hard do they work to see their clients not behind bars.
4. Do lawyers consider the safety of victims when they apply for bail for clients with abuse to and the killing of the children and women?
5. How do lawyers view the present laws against abuse of children and women?
6. Do lawyers also advocate for life sentences to the culprits of gender-based violence?
7. How do lawyers view our constitution with the likes of USA, the long established democracies, when it comes to capital punishment?
8. What according to the lawyers is escalating this crime against humanity?
9. What according to lawyers can help prevent the escalation of the brutal abuse and killings of children and women?
10. What do lawyers think can be done to the constitution of the country so as to prevent the abuse of children and women?
6. Traditional Leaders ( Magoshi )as subjects, Participants or data resource

The researcher will collect data from a minimum of four Magoshi in the study area among other factors, on the following:

1. How rife is the children and women abuse in their communities?
2. How do the traditional councilors enforce the traditional laws to address the problem?
3. How do the councilors conduct the prosecution leading up to the judgement of the culprits?
4. How is the cultural believe system regarding men, affect the occurrence or prevalence of this problem?
5. What is the role of the Magoshi themselves as community leaders towards the addressing of this problem?
6. How do Magoshi think about the literature as one of the solutions to this problem?
- 7 Social Workers as subjects, participants or data resource

A minimum of two social workers in the area of study shall be interviewed to collect data among other things on the following:

1. The statistics of the affected victims in the area
2. The role played by them in the prosecution of perpetrators
3. Their role in the lives of the victims
4. Their views on the laws of the country in the protection of children and women?
5. What role do they think literature can help in bringing awareness and eventually solution to this problem?



## **B. DATA ANALYSIS**

The researcher will analyse the data upon completion of data collection as per the proposed Design and Methodology.

The data shall have been collected from herewith the specified participants without bias.

The rationale behind the research's choice of subjects is informed by the fact that the researcher wants to establish the root cause of the problem under study and the possible solutions thereto by involving in as much subjects as mentioned but also that there shall be the random sampling of data to some other people as the researcher may deem it fit to engage.

## **C. LIMITATIONS**

There is no foreseeable limitation to this study as of now. The researcher cannot identify any limitation with regard to the collection of data from the data resources as outlined earlier in the study. It will only be as and when the letters of permission to access the study sites where the subjects needed to be interviewed, like the Primary Schools where learners needed to answer the questionnaires, if such letters shall not be timeously issued by the circuit managers or district director for that matter, then that will delay the whole research process.

As with other data resources like the chiefs, lawyers, Station managers of police stations and social works, it is hoped that there will be agreements to the meetings of collecting the data.

The research will also include the random interviews with people that are not mentioned as data resources for more information be they professionals or just ordinary men and women in the study area that will share some information that they have on the research.

Like it is said above, the researcher does not anticipate any methodological limitation at the moment.

### 3. REFERENCES OR BIBLIOGRAPPHY

1. Debra Goldentyre: Social Psychology CHRISTOPHER P.KLEIN Publisher Charls G Lord Printed in The USA, ISBN 0-03-0551133-1
2. Ethics and Values Volume 1: Grolier Educational 1999 Partworks Ltd Printed in Singapore
3. Ethics and Values Volume 3 Contributors Ashley Brown et al: Grolier Education Corporation 1999
4. Ethics and Values Volume 4 Contributors Asley Brown et al Grolier Education Corporation 1999
5. Ramadimetja S. et al Journal: Violence Against Women in South Africa; Policy Position and Recommendations
6. Hansard J.S: Journal: 16 Days of Activism on No Violence Against Women andChildren: Count me in: Together Moving a Non-Violent South Africa Forward (150)
- . Johan de Waal et al: The Bill Of Rights Handbook Third Edition 2000 Juta & Co Ltd 2000
7. G.M.M Grobler: Journal Of African Languages Aspects Of Genetian Structualism
8. Z.C.C Messenger Issue No 89 September 2014 Page 9
9. Z.C.C Messenger Issue No 92 September 2015 Page 5
10. Sowetan: November .25. 2019 Page 6
11. Sowetan: Thursday January 23 2020 Page 2
12. Steelburger.inc Lydenburg News: Friday December 13.2019 page 5
13. Malatji P.N: Re nwa Sedibeng sa Mokgako: Northern Sotho Poetry; Kalahari Productions and Booksellers; 2006
14. Malatji P.N: Boelang Maruping: Northern Sotho Folklore; Kalahari Productions and Booksellers; 2006.

NB: This research part is still going to be ratified and added with other sources of information.

## CHAPTER 4

### The Research Method

The research study was carried out as per the outlined procedures mentioned in the proposal.

The research was conducted through interviews and questionnaires

In each category of participants there is an example of the research tool, i.e. either the questionnaire or interview and one or more responders/participants with the overall Responses covered in the next chapter on analysis.

The study was on the random interview of people mindful of the age group structure race, education/profession, gender and also marital status.

That also goes to the questionnaires.

The challenging part of the research method was on the lock down as per the corona virus which is highlighted in the limitations.

The following are examples of the participants

### The Limitations

It must be pointed out that the study did not go without challenges that has led to some limitations to the research method process.

The most notable limitations to the study was Covid19 Pandemic issue

The research process was conducted in the difficult times of corona virus pandemic. South Africa is not immune to this pandemic and in response to the challenges of the pandemic the government through its president implemented lock down with different alert levels where people had to be restricted from outside movements and schools and other employment areas had to be closed except for the essential services.

Corona virus command council introduced the lockdown levels from 5 to 1.

Most part of my study was through lock down levels 5 to 3 where movement of people were strictly restricted and that had a direct bearing on my studies.

I could not have the luxury to physically view people at the comfort of their spaces and hence most interviews were conducted through phone calls.

The hard lock down started in March 2020 and it is still on in the third quarter of the year even now towards the end of 2020 people are discouraged from associations and there are no signs it will be lifted anytime soon as the death tolls and daily infections are sky rocketing.

### Police Participants

The following are examples of participants

#### Interview

1. Why do you think men abuse women?
2. Why do these abuse lead to the killings of women and children?
3. What do you think women themselves can do to prevent the scourge of gender based violent?
4. Do you think alcohol and substance abuse contribute to the pandemic?
5. To what extent do you think economic issue play a part in the problems of abuse and killing of women and children?
6. What role do police play in dealing with the perpetrators?
7. Do you think the justice systems is doing enough to help solve the problem?
8. Why do you think victims sometimes withdraw cases opened?
9. How do you think the constitution can best address this problem?
10. What do you think children become victims whenever the partners are fighting?
11. To what extent do you think the society can do to address this pandemic?
12. What do you think politicians can do to help solve the problem?

## REPONSES

Captain Morema Hezekiel

1. Generally men think women are their properties and they must treat them as they wish.
2. Most perpetrators have uncontrollable anger while some use alcohol and substance abuse to fuel their evil intensions.
3. A number of alternatives just to name but a few, they must report abuse cases with police or walkout of abusive relationships.
4. This is said to be fuelling men's actions as men use it as escape goat because alcohol itself does not have a violent ingredient in it but people use it to get courage of doing what they wanted to do.
5. To some extend it can play part to those who are incapable of solving their problems or challenges but even abuse and killings of victims, is not a solution either.
6. Police are doing their work without fail to arrest the perpetrators but once they are arrested, it becomes now the justice issue of issuing bails and the trials and the sentencing of perpetrators.
7. I don't think so because in most cases, the cases drag a long time and victims end up losing interest and no longer attend cases which are later struck off the roll.
8. There are a number of reasons to this some will have been convinced by their partners to withdraw. Some lose interest in the long time the prosecutions take and are irritated. e.g you find a woman being raped and the case is prolonged and in between, the poor woman is getting a marriage proposal to another man, the woman will be under pressure and distressed to attend rape cases that happened prior to the present relationship. That make victims to withdraw cases because they want to save the present working relationships.

This is equals to the justice delayed is the justice denied.

Another reason is that sometimes the poor women live in the houses of the abusive men and if they have opened the cases and perpetrators are arrested and eventually released on bail, they will fear for their lives and withdraw the cases thinking that peace will prevail at home which unfortunately does not work. The other challenge is that the same perpetrators are the breadwinners at those troubled families and women will be forced to live with the abusive partners for the sake of getting food.

9. It is not for me to say death penalty must be brought back or there should be no bails for gender based violence but the truth is that the present constitutional punishment applicable are not harsh enough for the gravity of these offences. In all honesty the constitution is failing the victims of abuse and the killed women and children of our country.
10. I think it is because men will be overwhelmed by uncontrollable anger.
11. I think the society should embark on a serious campaign to encourage women in abusive relationships to speak out whenever they encounter the abuse by men so that they can be helped.
12. I don't think there is much that the politicians can do because they are also not immune to this problem and besides the politicians here in South Africa are in the business of electioneering and sloganeering about the country's problems without actually getting serious about solving them.

## Random Sampling Interview

### Interview

AN INTERVIEW WITH MEN ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. PARTICIPANT: ROBINSON MAHLANGU

1. What can you say is the reason for men to abuse women?
2. Why do you think abuse by men sometimes leads to the killings of women and children?
3. What do you think women themselves can do to prevent the scourge of the abuse?
4. To what extend to you think is the influence of alcohol and substance abuse to this problem?
5. To what extend do you think economic issues play a part in the problem of GBV?
6. Do you think the police are doing enough to enforce the law on the transgressors?
7. What role is the justice system play towards the increase in the GBV problem?
8. Do you think the constitution is helping in addressing this problem?
9. How do you think the education can best address this problem?
10. Why do men end up abusing and killing children when they fight with their partners?
11. What do you think the society should respond to this problem?
12. What do you think politicians can do to help solve the problem?

Participant Mahlangu Robinson

1. Men have a problem of anger of wrongs that women do to them and they don't share.
2. It still boils down to depressions and helplessness state of affairs that men go through.  
  
There is some feelings from men that their flight as men is not addressed and that the present laws are only benefiting women.
3. Women should respect and love men as their partners when they work and even when they are no longer working. They should respect men regardless of the economic situation.
4. Yes because these substances give their power to commit those acts of violence and killings.
5. I think women are too materialistic and once men lose jobs they no longer support, respect and some acts of cheating starts that will pain and drive men to be extremely angry to a point of even killing them.
6. Police do their work-police are let down by the justice system of this country.
7. The justice system of this country is failing abused women.  
  
The bails that are given to perpetrators and the long sentencing which also comes after a long time are the ones that deny women justice.  
  
Men will enjoy the long sentencing that comes with all benefits of among others studying, their health taken care of and even qualifying for paroles at times and when they are released under the guess of having undergone correctional process.
8. Because they know the cases will be dragging for a long time and beside the released perpetrators on bail will keep threatening them again and again.
9. I think it can help to a lesser degree because there are no curriculum dealing specifically with gender based violence or even the availability of literature on this pandemic.



10. This is unfortunately a misdirected anger as men would be thinking of punishing women. Anger knows no good.
11. Society must stand up and say enough is enough. The society must help the victims by offering them the necessary support.

It is just that when at times the society take the law into their own hands, they get arrested.

12. Those are useless bunch of leaders. They are just the free talkers and point scoring and using the misery of people for selfish electioneering.

They don't know that they are the law makers who must craft laws that will protect the citizens of the country and not please the global community.

AN INTERVIEW WITH WOMEN ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. PARTICIPANT: CHWEU HUNADI (Teacher)

1. What can you say is the reason for men to abuse women?
2. Why do you think abuse by men sometimes leads to the killings of women and children?
3. What do you think women themselves can do to prevent the scourge of the abuse?
4. To what extend to you think is the influence of alcohol and substance abuse to this problem?
5. To what extend do you think economic issues play a part in the problem of GBV?
6. What role is the justice system play towards the increase in the GBV problem?
7. Do you think the police are doing enough to enforce the law on the transgressors?
8. Do you think the constitution is helping in addressing this problem?
9. How do you think the constitution can best address this problem?
10. What do you think the society can do to address the problem?
11. What do you think politicians can do to help solve the problem?
12. Do you think there is available literature on gender based violence and the killings of women and children?
13. What role particularly to a boy child, can education in addressing the problem?

## RESPONSE

1. Men are just not willing to embrace women as equal partners and just want them to be submissive to whatever decision they make. When women bring the alternative decision it leads to fighting and subsequent abuse and killings of women and children. Men want to dominate and control their partners as if they are their properties. They simply don't want to share. The other thing that causes conflicts is money. Men despite having entered into any marriage contract, money is a subject that they don't want to talk about and it is the leading cause of wars and killings.
2. Men are not able to control their anger. With that anger they see no difference between we women and our children. They resort to the soft and defenceless targets being our children thinking they will hurt us. Most men lack the ability to resolve problems and think violence is the solution to problems.
3. I think with what is happening recently, women should not overstay the abusive relationships. And the other mistake that we women do, is to not be truthful of our problematic relationships and pretend to all and sundry as if all is well in our relationships. When we have opened cases we are quick to go and withdraw them. We don't own our lives, our decisions and our life destinations. It is as if we are clued to the not workable relationships.
4. Alcohol and substance abuse is the central problem. Whenever men have used such, they re empowered to deliver their mission of abuse and the killings of women. They will even say that I'm going to drink alcohol and when I return, I should not find you here or else..... and indeed they will do what they said they will do and afterwards apologize that what they did was as a result of alcohol.
5. I don't think that is the real issue. The issue here is that men are not sharing financial matters with women as I have said. When the tables turn, they are overwhelmed by anger and stress which leads them to abuse us and kill us and our children. Women will not support selfish partners.

6. The justice system is a serious let down. The justice system is lenient to the culprits and thus fuelling the problem. Men are given bails, paroles, less sentence all these as if to say all is right with what they do.
7. I think they do a wonderful job because they don't fail to arrest the perpetrators when a case is opened. The only let down will be the justice system with what I have just alluded to above.
8. Not at all. It provides more rights to culprits than to victims. The sooner it gives more rights to victims by adequately punishing the culprits, the better.
9. Death sentence is the way to go
10. I think the society should see GBV not only as a problem to women and children. People of South Africa must stand up and not only say enough is enough, but rather call for the amendment of the constitution to bring stricter punishment to the culprits among other things to deny them bail and obviously to bring back death sentence to this senseless abuse and killings of women and children.
11. What can we expect failures to win a war for women and children< South African politicians are busy looting the state resources and fighting for positions in order to enrich themselves. They only pay lip service over GBV with no real and meaningful actions taken.
12. I don't think there is enough literature on this problem if there is any after all.
13. I think education is important because education has the power to change the world as per our former iconic president Dr Nelson Mandela. Boys must be taught at an earlier stage that women are equal to men and they enjoy the same status before the law. They must be taught to respect and treat women as equals.

# Psychologist

What is the psychological point of view on the following questions relating to Gender-Based violence in SA?

1. Why do you think the gender-based violence is growing at an alarming rate in South Africa?
2. Why the abuse on women do often leads to them getting killed?
3. What would have been the mental state of a man to a point of killing a woman?
4. Why do these men end up even killing innocent children when fighting wither partners?
5. What role do psychologists play in helping the perpetrators of gender-based violence?
6. What role do psychologists play to help/empower the victims of gender-based violence?
7. What advice can the psychologists give to the society to help resolve gender-based violence?
8. Do you think the constitution of the country is providing solution to this pandemic?
9. What advice can the psychologists give to the government of South Africa with regard to the constitution of the country regarding the punishment of gender-based criminals?
10. How do you think can be the best approach of the citizens of the country both man and women to address the challenge head on?
  - 1) Gender-based violence is violence that is directed at an individual based on his or her biological gender identity. It includes physical, sexual, verbal, emotional and psychological abuse. Gender-based violence is growing at an alarming rate in South Africa because of various factors such as poverty, lack of education and live hood opportunities. Most people stay in relationship while being abused because they cannot be able to provide for themselves and children and they feel trapped to be in that relationship, that ends up affecting their self-esteem and self-worth.
  - 2) Most women end up getting killed because they keep quiet for too long, living with an abusive person and keeping everything to themselves. Their silence to gender-based

violence is one of the many reasons why they lose their lives because no one will reach out to them if they don't know that they are victims of abuse

- 3) Confused thinking, prolonged depression (sadness or irritability), excessive fear, worries and anxieties, social withdrawal and strong feelings of anger.

The human brain is coded for compassion, for guilt, for a kind of empathic pain that cause the person inflicting harm to feel a degree of suffering that is in many ways intense as what the victim is experiencing. Most men end up killing women because they are confused, some it might be because of prolonged depression suffered earlier in their lives which affected their mental state some because of fear (if they raped it might be fear of going to prison) while some kill out of anger (thinking of just that moment) and having regrets later.

- 4) Most men kill women out of anger which result in them killing innocent children as well. This mostly happen when the man commits that act in order to hurt the woman even more. Most children who are killed, their mother experience the loss. Most men kill children that are not theirs (biologically)

- 5) Psychologist play a role of rehabilitating perpetrators. The three main types of rehabilitation therapy which are occupational, physical and speech, each form of rehabilitation serves a unique purpose in helping a person reach full recovery. The goal of rehabilitation therapy varies from person to person and a plan is developed based on a person's goal. Psychologist also play a role of being a mediator between a victim and an offender in a program known as the victim offender dialogue (VOD). Informed by current theory and clinical practice regarding offender treatment and victim trauma recovery, psychologist approach promotes accountability healing and closure for the victim.

- 6) We have many ways to help/empower the victim of gender-based violence, here are just a few of them
- Make time for them- if you decide to reach out to an abuse victim, do so during a time of calm, also make sure to have time in case a victim decides to open up.
  - Start a conversation- you can bring up the subject of gender-based violence by saying “I’m worried about you or I have noticed some changes” that way one can be able to open up.
  - Listen without judgment- if the person decides to talk, listen and do not judge.
  - Learn the warning signs- most people try to cover up the abuse for a variety of reasons and learning the signs can be helpful, both emotional and physical signs.
  - Believe the victim- because gender-based violence is more about control than anger, often the victim is the only one who sees the dark side of the perpetrator.
  - Validate the victim’s feelings- it’s not usual for victims to express conflict feeling about their partners and their situations.
  - Offer support-help victim find support and resources.
- 7) Psychologist can help in the society by doing small surveys which can help explain why people act the way they do. With this kind of professional insight, it will be easy to help people improve their decision making, stress management and behaviour based on understanding individual past behaviour to better predict their future behaviour.
- 8) The constitution of the country is providing solution to this pandemic because when we reflect on the domestic violence Act No 116 of 1998 and criminal law ( sexual offense and related matters) Act No 32 of 2007, both are formed to protect women against all forms of violence. This acts discusses the two laws an account of the position taken or interpreted by the reviewed literature regarding the acts, and the finding and recommendations regarding the infrastructure and support needed to appropriately implement the two acts.

9) Punishment are applied for various purposes most generally to enforce proper behaviour as defined by society or family. Punishment has five recognized purposes which are deterrence, incapacitation, rehabilitation, retribution and restitution

- Deterrence- prevents future crime by frightening the defendant or the public.
- Incapacitation- prevents future crimes by removing the defendant from the society.
- Rehabilitation- prevents future crimes by altering a defendant's behaviour.
- Retribution- prevents future crime by removing the desire for personal arrangement.
- Restitution- prevents future crime by punishing the defendant financially.

Psychologist's advice that rehabilitation is the best method of punishment for gender based violence criminals because it alters the behaviour of the perpetrator which minimizes another chance of committing the same crime again.

10) The best approach to help and gender-based violence and help women and girls realize their full potential is to educate yourself (both males and females) about GVB. The first line of prevention is educating yourself and friends about what GVB is, how it happens and how to prevent it are the first steps to ending GVB. Use your voice on social media to bring awareness to gender-based violence, using social media can help you connect to others outside your normal social circle.



## LAWYERS AS SUBJECTS, PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCES

1. What is the view of lawyers on gender based violence in South Africa?
2. How do lawyers deal with cases of gender based violence particularly on their clients if they are the perpetrators?
3. Do the lawyers sometimes consider the safety of victims when they apply for bail for their clients if they are perpetrators?
4. How do lawyers view the constitution of South Africa when it comes to the punishment of gender based violence perpetrators?
5. What do the law says with regard to the bail application of perpetrators of gender based violence?
6. What according to lawyers' experience is fuelling the crime of gender based violence?
7. Why is it that the perpetrators of gender based violence also abuse and even kill children whenever they are fighting with their spouses?
8. What according to lawyers, can help prevent the escalation of gender based violence in our country?
9. Do lawyers think that the constitution of the country can be amended to include capital punishment?
10. What advice can lawyers give to the victims of gender based violence?

## RESPONSE FROM LAWYER A

1. Lawyers view it as abuse and that it is not in line with gender equity while at the same time one cannot ignore the fact that there is a traditional influence on this as men viewed themselves as above women and should be beyond reproach.
2. Lawyers respect their relationships with their clients and serve the legal interest of their clients so that their legally represented for a fair judgement.
3. Like I said above every lawyer represent his/her client so that law is seen to be correctly applied for whatever case in the same way as lawyers representing the victims will table their legal arguments for or against the bail application. But be that as it may, lawyers represent the legal interest of their clients.
4. Lawyers view the constitution of the country as supreme law of the country and that every punishment of whoever commit a crime whether is gender based or whatever crime, the sentencing thereof should take departure from what the constitution prescribes. Gender based violence crimes are no exception from whichever crime in the crime as prescript of the constitution.
5. To this He referred me to South African News Agency (SA news.gov.za) which talk about the government's intension the government tightening law to curb GBV a document that will be attached to this interview.
6. He said what mostly is observable is the domestic violence and he said the Domestic Violence Act 116 Of 1998 is dealing precisely with such matters of domestic violence.
7. He said that is an act of frustration and anger in men and that anger knows no limitation.
8. He said the law must apply to the perpetrators of GBV and that justice delayed is justice denied on the part of victims of gender based violence.
9. The constitution applies to all citizens regardless of their social status or criminal status and that gender based violence criminals must be judged according to what the constitution prescribe. The law cannot provide capital punishment for a particular crime offenders and not others. If there is no capital punishment in the constitution, it cannot be included particularly for GBV offenders.
10. They must report gender based violence cases and cease interfering with the justice system by cancelling cases once opened.

AN INTERVIEW WITH TRADITIONAL HEALER Dr CONRARD TSIANE A RECENT RECIPIENT OF AN HONORARY MASTERS DEGREE IN INTERPRENEURAL SKILLS AND A PhD DEGREE AND PROFESSOR OF COMMUNAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES WITH LA UNIVERSITY.

1. What is your view on Gender Based Violence in South Africa?
2. What do you think fuels the Gender Based Violence?
3. Do you think the Justice system is doing enough in ending the GBV and the killings of women and children?
4. Do you think the police are doing enough on the arrest of perpetrators?
5. What do you think leads men to abuse children whenever they are fighting with their partners?
6. Do you think there is a political will to end this violence?
7. Do you think the Constitution is doing enough to discourage perpetrators of GBV and the killings of women and children?
8. As a representative of indigenous knowledge system, how do you think the African culture can play a part in solving this pandemic?
9. What advice can you give to women to solve this problem?
10. What advice can you give to men to solve this problem?

#### Dr TSIANE'S RESPONSES

1. This is a worrying thing more so because it is an anti- African men's view of women. Our culture view men as protectors and supporters of women and their abuse and killings together with those of the children is totally unacceptable in our society.
2. To some extend it can be fuelled by the so called gender equity thing which some men can't understand. Because this transition of power and status of women is confusing some men of our country. They take it personal and make an issue out of no issue with whatever women say and do. They just expect women to forever be submissive to them. In the absence of and in ignorance of women as equals to men issue, results in men proving themselves wrongly by resorting to violence if differences arises in their relationships.

3. No, I don't think the justice system is doing enough in ending GBV in South Africa. You have a system that will give perpetrators bails to go and inflict more pain on the victims and even go to an extent of killing them while knowing that they will not be sentenced to death themselves when arrested. You have a justice system here that will drag so long before passing sentences to perpetrators. So is the justice system of our country where cases will go missing and there is much corruption in dealing with cases of GBV. Money talks in our justice system.
4. Our police are working 24/7 in arresting the perpetrators but when they are arrested, the justice system takes over and fails our women and children.
5. Men see no differences between women and their children when they are angry. This is what fails us as men. Children are not to be punished for the sins if there are any sins after all, of their mothers. Sanity should prevail here.
6. There is absolutely no political will here. It is all but just point scoring and playing to the gallery by different political parties in South Africa. Politicians are law makers and they have all in themselves to change the constitution to deal decisively with GBV once and for all.
7. Here in South Africa we are sitting with a constitution that is praised as a world class. The Constitution is praised by the Belgium people, other European countries and Americans. Less is talked about it as a good one like the Zambian or any other African state. Europeans whose constitutions are relevant to their way of leaving are copied by South Africans. Europeans have high regard for people's lives. They don't take pride in killing and raping other people. If come to South Africa, people kill others like flies and rape women like no body's business. It boggles the mind if the constitution offers no capital punishment to this heartless people. My view is that the constitution must be changed to bring back death sentence to the killers of women and children.
8. My advice is that Africans should go back to the African cultural roots of solving our problems through family structures.
9. Women should respect their husbands regardless of what status they have and at the same time women should not overstay the abusive relationships.

10. Men should always remember that a duty of a man is to protect and support women and children. Any abuse or killing will never replace that responsibility. There is no solution in killing a person other than showing people that you failed to resolve the problems and that you are actually a failure yourself. Lastly men should learn to speak about their problems rather than keep them to a point explosion to abusing and killing women and children.

## A CHRISTIANITY PERSPECTIVE ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

1. How do you view GBV from the Christian perspective?
2. What might be the cause of GBV?
3. What according to Christianity must be done to GBV perpetrators?
4. In the light of the escalating GBV cases in South Africa, what must the law do to stop this problem?
5. What harshest punishment must the GBV perpetrators get for abusing and killing women and children?
6. Why do GBV perpetrators sometimes abuse and kill children when they are in conflict with their female partners?
7. What must the victims of GBV do to stop the surge of gender based violence?
8. How can the society deal with GBV pandemic in South Africa?
9. How can the perpetrators be assisted from their wrongful deeds?
10. What role can Christianity play to stop the GBV?

A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE FROM BISHOP MASHABELA MAPURUNYANE PHILLEMON OF THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF SOUTH AFRICA

1. To start with, it is important for people to understand that there two Adams within a human being that should live in peace with each other. The other Adam (the human body or rather the flesh) is living through the other Adam which is the Holy Spirit that comes from God the almighty. The Holy Spirit is God itself and is full of love as God Himself is love. If the Holy Spirit is contaminated with the Evil Spirit that is thrown from heaven to the earth and is living with human beings, then the person is no longer Godly he knows no love and is full of hate, jealousy and can abuse and kill other human beings. So basically GBV is one element of peoples' possession of the Devil.
2. The cause of GBV is the evil spirit that is within GBV perpetrators. They are under the control of the Devil who knows no love and knows no good and does not respect God and has no peace with him. The Devil kills. The devil hurts. The devil cause pain and sufferings. His followers are doing the same to God's people that also include GBV perpetrators.
3. The way to go is for us to submit ourselves to God through His son Jesus Christ and pray that God heal our land from this GBV problem. God will hear the prayers of the righteous and heal our beautiful country. Mathew 7.7 says Ask and it shall be given to you. Kings 3.5 says that night the Lord appeared to him in a dream, "what would you like me to give you"? These biblical scriptures assures us that God is ever ready to answer the prayers of those ask from Him.
4. The laws of this earth South Africa included, cannot by themselves help as is the case now. People are arrested and sentenced but abuse and killings of women and children is ongoing. The leaders of this country must ask faith based organisation to pray for the country's problems be it that of GBV and of Covid19that we are faced with. The prayers of the righteousness will be answered and the God will bring healing to the land.
5. No amount of punishment can help us even death penalty that most people us for. It is only God who can solve the problem for us. If you apply punishment to perpetrators, it is only dealing with the body and the mind or the spirit in a person. That is the reason people are arrested sentenced and when they are released they commit the same crimes or even worse. The other person in the same person needs Christ to change the behaviour.
6. The Evil spirit knows no good nor does it have peace. It lacks judgement or wisdom. To the Devil possessed, death is the solution to problems and it may be applied to whoever it deems fit to. They may kill the wife, the children and taking one' own life.
7. The most effective solution will be to ask God through prayer to help out of this problem. Prayer either individually or in organisations or ask the church leaders and members to pray for them in their respective churches.
8. In all other endeavours towards bringing an end to this problem, the society in general should not fail to invite God in their fight towards GBV.

9. They need to be prayed for. They need repentance to their evil deeds, The Earth and South Africa needs God and its people must encouraged to embrace God in the endeavours to help solve the problem. We cannot for ever rely on our so called wisdom to address the thorny issues of our country.
10. It must be the task of Christians to add their voices to this problem by praying to God earnestly so that our country is healed from this trouble.





REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**SAnews**.gov.za  
South African Government News Agency

≡ MENU

## Government tightens law to curb GBV

Monday, September 7, 2020

The South African government and its partners will make good on its promise to protect the country's women and children against gender-based violence, President Cyril Ramaphosa has vowed.

To demonstrate this commitment, government recently set the wheels in motion to tighten perceived legislative loopholes.

Apart from the R1.6 billion Emergency Response Action Plan to combat GBV and femicide - announced by the President last week in Parliament - government last week tabled three key bills relating to GBV.

The swift action comes after public calls to action following a series of brutal murders and attacks on women and children over the past year.

Writing in his newsletter on Monday, the President said: "I committed to marshal substantial resources of the State to tackle gender-based violence and femicide. I gave an undertaking that we would review our laws around gender-based violence.

"One of the key demands made by many women's organisations was that the laws of our country should be tightened on granting bail to suspects and enforcement of long sentences for offenders.

"I concluded that the struggle to end GBV needed a multipronged strategy that should be led by the President and enlisted government to act. Cabinet agreed to allocate resources and commit to a plan of action."

Over the six months of its implementation, public spending in various government departments was reprioritised to support interventions for care and support for survivors, for awareness and prevention campaigns, to improve laws and policies, to promote the economic empowerment of women, and to strengthen the criminal justice system.

Through the introduction of these bills, President Ramaphosa said, government was honouring the promise made to the protestors last year and to all the women of South Africa.

"The three amendment bills are designed to fill the gaps that allow some perpetrators of these crimes to evade justice, and to give full effect to the rights of our country's women and children.

"The sad reality is that many survivors of gender-based violence have lost faith in the criminal justice system. Difficulties in obtaining protection orders, lax bail conditions for suspects, police not taking domestic violence complaints seriously and inappropriate sentences have contributed to an environment of cynicism and mistrust."

It is hoped that once finalised, the bills will help to restore the confidence of women in the law.

The first bill seeks to amend the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act. This creates a new offence of sexual intimidation, extends the ambit of the offence of incest, and extends the reporting duty of persons who suspect a sexual offence has been committed against a child.

Said the President: "It expands the scope of the National Register for Sex Offenders to include the particulars of all sex offenders.

"Until now, it has only applied to sex offenders convicted of sex crimes perpetrated against children or persons with mental disabilities. The time an offender's particulars must remain on the register has been increased, and those listed on the register will have to disclose this when they submit applications to work with persons who are vulnerable.

"The Bill also makes provision for the names of persons on the National Register for Sex Offenders to be publicly available".

The Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Bill tightens the granting of bail to perpetrators of gender-based violence and femicide, and expands the offences for which minimum sentences must be imposed.

President Ramaphosa said the amendments impose new obligations on law enforcement officials and on courts, addressing the perception that many perpetrators exploit legal loopholes to avoid imprisonment, and that sentencing is often not proportionate to the crimes.

"When a prosecutor does not oppose bail in cases of gender-based violence, they have to place their reasons on record. Unless a person accused of gender-based violence can provide exceptional circumstances why they should be released on bail, the court must order their detention until the criminal proceedings are concluded," said the President.

In reaching a decision on a bail application, the courts are compelled to take a number of considerations into account. They include pre-trial reports on the desirability of releasing an accused on bail, threats of violence made against a survivor, and the view of the survivor regarding his or her safety.

On parole, a complainant or a relative of a deceased victim must be able to make representation to the parole board.

Given the unacceptably high levels of intimate partner violence in South Africa, government has tightened the provisions of the Domestic Violence Act.

The bill also extends the definition of domestic violence to include the protection of older persons against abuse by family members.

Complainants will be able to apply for a protection order online. To prevent a scenario where perpetrators can hide past histories of domestic violence, an integrated repository of protection orders will be established.

The proposed amendments also oblige the Departments of Social Development, Basic Education, Higher Education and Health to provide certain services to survivors where needed, and to refer them for sheltering and medical care.

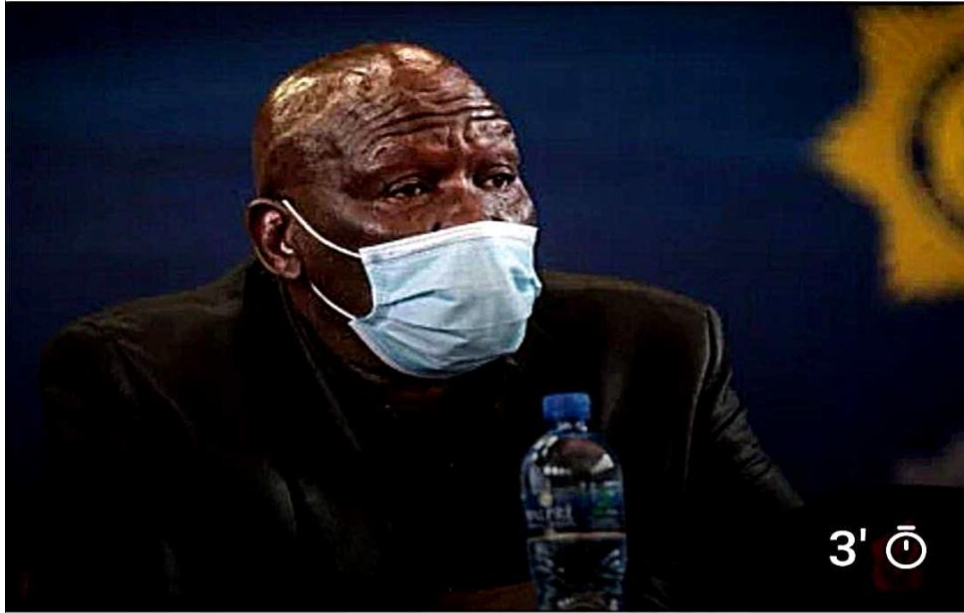
The circumstances under which a prosecutor can refuse to institute a prosecution when offences have been committed under the amended act have been limited.

In perhaps the most groundbreaking proposed amendment to the act, if someone has knowledge, reasonable belief or suspicion that an act of domestic violence has been committed against a child, a person with disability or an older person, and fails to report it to a social worker or police officer, they can be fined and even imprisoned.

Similarly, failure by a member of the SAPS to comply with their obligations under the act will be regarded as misconduct, and must be reported to the Civilian Secretariat for Police Service.

The President said while the law is the one sure protector of all of society, the most vulnerable must be prioritised.

“When diligently and fairly applied, it is the most powerful guarantor of justice,” he said. –  
SAnews.gov.za



## **MURDERS, SEXUAL OFFENCES INCREASED IN Q3, QUARTERLY CRIME STATS REVEAL**

**Police Minister Bheki Cele is presenting the quarterly crime statistics for the period from 1 October to the end of December 2020.**

CAPE TOWN - There's been a 6.6% increase in murders for South Africa between October and December 2020.

Police Minister Bheki Cele delivered the police's quarterly crime stats on Friday and said 2,481 people were murdered in public spaces - including the street, open fields, parking areas, and abandoned buildings.

There's also been a 5% increase in reported sexual offences detected as a result of police action - 12,218 people were raped between October and December last year.

The minister said he was concerned at the number of murders and gender-based violence-related cases.

Over 4,900 of these incidents took place at the home of the victim or the home of the rapist.


“We are motivated that numerous life sentences have been handed down for crimes committed against women and children. In the three months of the reporting period, the FSC [Family Violence, Child Protection, and Sexual Offences] unit secured 129 life sentences.”

Meanwhile, 50,124 cases of assault were opened at police stations in the last three months of 2020.

Since 2015, crime stats have been released each September and covers crimes reported to the South African Police Service in the previous financial year. The financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March. The fourth quarter of statistics collated between 1 January 2021 and 31 March 2021 will be the fourth quarter of the 2020/21 financial year.

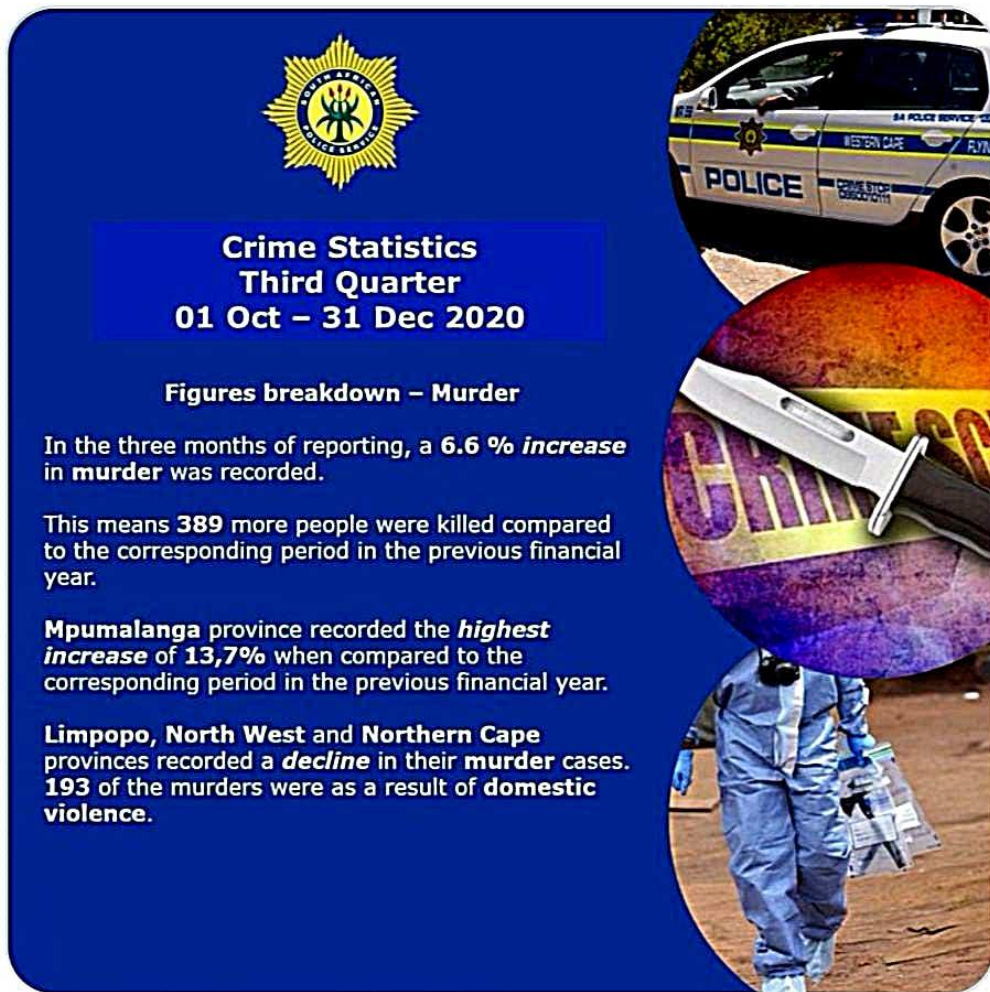




**SA Police Service** 🇿🇦   
 @SAPoliceService



**#PoliceMinistry** Minister of Police gives a breakdown on murder figures. In the 3 months of reporting, a 6.6 % increase in murder was recorded. This means 389 more people were killed compared to the corresponding period in the previous financial year. **#CrimeStats ME**



**Crime Statistics  
Third Quarter  
01 Oct – 31 Dec 2020**

**Figures breakdown – Murder**

In the three months of reporting, a **6.6 % increase** in **murder** was recorded.

This means **389** more people were killed compared to the corresponding period in the previous financial year.

**Mpumalanga** province recorded the **highest increase** of **13,7%** when compared to the corresponding period in the previous financial year.



**Limpopo, North West and Northern Cape** provinces recorded a **decline** in their **murder** cases. **193** of the murders were as a result of **domestic violence**.

12:11 PM · Feb 19, 2021







**SA Police Service**    
 @SAPoliceService

#PoliceMinistry #CrimeStats Rape: A 5% increase has been recorded for Sexual offences detected as a result of police action. 12 218 people were raped between Oct & Dec last year - an increase of 181 cases, amounting to a 1.5% increase compared to the previous reporting period. ME



**Crime Statistics**  
**Third Quarter**  
**1 Oct – 31 Dec 2020**

**Rape**

A **5% increase** has been recorded for Sexual offences detected as a result of police action.

**12 218** people were raped between October and December last year.

This is an **increase of 181** cases, amounting to a **1.5% increase** compared to the previous reporting period.

Over **4900** of the rape incidents took place at the home of the victim or the home of the rapist. **570** were domestic violence related and **547** of rape cases in this category, involved **female** victims and **23** were **males**.

**Inanda, Umlazi in Kwa-Zulu Natal and the Eastern Cape's Lusikisiki** police stations recorded the **highest** incidents of rape.

**BREAK THE SILENCE ON SEXUAL OFFENCES!**

12:11 PM · Feb 19, 2021





SA Police Service 🇿🇦

@SAPoliceService

#PoliceMinistry Minister of Police, Gen  
#BhekiCele reminds the nation that #GBV and  
Femicide remains a priority crime for the  
#SAPS. We are on a daily basis, improving our  
services and responses, at station level.  
#EndGBV #GBVF ME

**Crime Statistics  
Third Quarter  
1 Oct – 31 Dec 2020**

**#EndGBV**

Minister of Police, General Bheki Cele reminds the nation that **GBV** and **Femicide** remains a **priority** crime for the SAPS.

We are on a daily basis, improving our services and responses, at station level.

As the SAPS we are motivated that numerous **LIFE sentences** have been handed down for crimes committed against women and children.

In the three months of reporting, the FCS secured **129** life sentences.

I really hope these jail terms also reassuring victims of GBV of our efforts as law enforcement to bring them justice.

STOP ABUSE

12:14 PM · Feb 19, 2021







SA Police Service



@SAPoliceService

#PoliceMinistry #CrimeStats Farm attacks: 19 people were killed 18 incidents of murder which occurred on farms and small holdings.

#RuralSafety ME



Crime Statistics  
Third Quarter  
01 Oct – 31 Dec 2020

### Farm attacks

**19** people were killed **18** incidents of *murder* which occurred on *farms* and *small holdings*.

Whilst on the other hand three people (farm dwellers/workers or passers-by) were reported to have been murdered as a result of an attack by the a farm owner or farm manager.



12:15 PM · Feb 19, 2021



Covid-19 has gifted us a chance to end gender-based violence. We must take it

*Graça Machel*

---

---

---

---

---

---

If the world can unite to beat coronavirus, it should apply the same energy to rooting out abuse

- [Coronavirus - latest updates](#)
- [See all our coronavirus coverage](#)



The pandemic is gifting us an unprecedented opportunity to take innovative action and comprehensively confront the scourge of violence against women.

We have a unique window in which, as a human family, we are able to boldly address the social ills Covid-19 is unearthing, and redesign and rebuild our social fabric.



In this process of self-examination, we must work to root out the global epidemic of gender-based violence as aggressively as we are tackling the pandemic itself.

The lockdowns expose what many of us have always known - our most intimate spaces, our homes, are not always safe places. Research by the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) predicts that there will be at least 15 million more cases of domestic violence around the world in 2020 for every three months that lockdowns are extended.

A “pandemic within a pandemic” has been exposed and we are confronted with the horrific reality that millions of women and children - in every country - are fighting for their survival not just from Covid-19 but from the brutalities of abusers in the prisons of their homes.

Studies indicate domestic violence has increased by upwards of 25% in numerous countries as a result of shelter-in-place measures.

Abuse survivors are facing limited access to protective services during periods of quarantine. It is no secret that pandemic restrictions have negative ramifications for adults and children already living with someone who is abusive or controlling, and access to support services are significantly constrained.

Most unfortunate is while the need for survivor support is increasing, justice is proving hard to access. Resources are being diverted away from judicial systems towards more immediate public health measures. In every country, hotlines, crisis centres, shelters, as well as critical legal aid and social services, are being scaled back due to infection control measures. Many courts have closed their doors.

“Necessity is the mother of invention,” the saying goes. And Covid-19 just may be the midwife we need to help birth a flattening of the gender-based violence curve. We have an opportunity here for criminal justice systems to be completely overhauled to fight gender-based violence.



“ Innovative approaches need to ... be adapted for local contexts and replicated at scale globally

A UN Women report shows countries from Kenya to Trinidad are supporting justice systems to continue using remote technologies and other protective measures. Some courts are prioritising urgent interim restraining orders or child maintenance orders. Australia’s family courts have fast-tracked all lockdown-related cases.

Countries need to fund innovations promoting remote judicial services, invest in specialised protection services, work with the private sector and create more channels for accessing justice, such as by collaborating with community-based paralegals and non-lawyer legal assistance initiatives. The time is ripe to address the lack of sensitivity in police and court proceedings as well as rehabilitative support for offenders and survivors. We need to support justice leaders by creating a virtual forum for ministers to share best practice and highlight urgency.

There are many impressive practical initiatives taking steps to lessen the dangers women face at the hands of their abusers. Countries such as Spain and France have created **emergency warning systems** in supermarkets and pharmacies to offer counselling and help with reporting. **Canada** is keeping shelters open and earmarking resources in its relief bill, categorising them as essential services. Out of a necessity for more shelters, 20,000 hotel rooms for survivors will be paid for in **France**. Police in Odisha, **India**, have implemented a phone-up programme, where officers check up on women who previously filed reports of domestic violence before the lockdown. These innovative approaches need to go beyond the confines of borders, be adapted for local contexts and replicated at scale globally.



The innovation and resilience of grassroots justice groups continues to give me hope in these dark times. They too are on the frontlines, leading rights awareness campaigns, adapting to deliver legal advice remotely and ensuring disadvantaged groups are not overlooked.



Coronavirus crisis may deny 9.5 million women access to family planning

[→ Read more](#)

As the global community mobilises funding for response and reconstruction, [financing for civil society organisations](#) should be built in from the start. The United Nations Multi-Partner

Trust Fund for Covid-19 Response and Recovery has pledged to work in partnership with civil society. It must follow through and offer fast, flexible financing not only to community health initiatives, but also to civil society groups.

Social media is another powerful weapon at our disposal. Bold advocacy and awareness campaigns should become a common feature on our TV and phone screens.

We have been presented with the opportunity to reimagine and redesign our societies to be safe, vibrant and equitable. We are proving that we can come together as a united human family to holistically tackle Covid-19; let us apply an equally comprehensive, vigorous and unrelenting focus to eradicating gender-based violence as well.

- *Graça Machel is the deputy chair of global human rights organisation The Elders, founder of the Graça Machel Trust, and an international advocate for women's and children's rights*

---

... as you join us today from South Africa, we have a small favour to ask. Through these turbulent and challenging times, millions rely on the Guardian for independent journalism that stands for truth and integrity. Readers chose to support us financially more than 1.5 million times in 2020, joining existing supporters in 180 countries.



For 2021, we commit to another year of high-impact reporting that can counter misinformation and offer an authoritative, trustworthy source of news for everyone. With no shareholders or billionaire owner, we set our own agenda and provide truth-seeking journalism that's free from commercial and political influence. When it's never mattered more, we can investigate and challenge without fear or favour.

Unlike many others, we have maintained our choice: to keep Guardian journalism open for all readers, regardless of where they live or what they can afford to pay. We do this because we believe in information equality, where everyone deserves to read accurate news and thoughtful analysis. Greater numbers of people are staying well-informed on world events, and being inspired to take meaningful action.

In the last year alone, we offered readers a comprehensive, international perspective on critical events - from the Black Lives Matter protests, to the US presidential election, Brexit, and the ongoing pandemic. We enhanced our reputation for urgent, powerful reporting on the climate emergency, and made the decision to reject advertising from fossil fuel companies, divest from the oil and gas industries, and set a course to achieve net zero emissions by 2030.

If there were ever a time to join us, it is now. You can power Guardian journalism and help sustain our future. **Support the Guardian from as little as \$1 - it only takes a minute. If you can, please consider supporting us with a regular amount each month. Thank you.**



## CHAPTER 5

### DATA ANALYSIS

#### PRIMARY SCHOOL LEARNERS' RESPONSES

Covid-19 lockdown in South Africa limited the primary school learners' participants to forty (40) and the following questionnaire with the below listed questions was given to them.

#### A QUESTIONNAIRE TO LEARNERS ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

1. Do you know what child abuse is? Yes/ No
2. Have you been abused yourself? Yes/ No
3. If you have been abused at home, by whom were you abused?  
Father/Mother/Brother/Sister/Stranger/Not abused
4. If abused at school, by whom were you abused? Boy learner/ Girl learner/ Not abused
5. What do you do if you are abused? Keep quiet/ Speak out
6. If you speak out at home, who do you tell about the abuse?  
Brother/Sister/Mother/Father
7. If you are abused at school, who do tell? Your friend/ Your class teacher/any  
teacher/Principal
8. Who at your home is abusive? Mother abusing father/ Father abusing mother/ No one  
is abusive
9. Do you think women are equal to men? Yes/ No
10. Do you think girls are equal to boys? Yes/No
11. Do you know what gender based violence is? Yes/ No
12. How is gender based Violence in South Africa? High/ Low
13. Where do you hear about Gender based violence and the killings of women and  
children? Radio/ TV/ Books
14. Have you ever read any book on Gender Based Violence? Yes/No

15. Do you think the government is doing enough to stop Gender Based Violence and the killings of women and children? Yes/ No

16. If no, how will you like the Government to punish the abusers and killers of women and children? Life Sentence/ Death Sentence

## THE RESPONSES

1. To question 1, 27 learners responded that they know what child abuse while 13 learners said they don't know about.
2. 5 responded to have been abused, while 34 said they have not been abused.
3. At home, 2 learners responded that they have been abused by their fathers with 1 having been abused by mother and one by the brother, while there were no abuse by, sister and stranger and 36 responded not having been abused at all.
4. 10 learners responded to have been abused by a boy learner, with no abuse by girl learners, while 1 learner mentioning abuse by the teacher and 23 responded not having been abused at school.
5. The response to the reaction of abuse, is that 10 learners will keep quiet, 25 will speak out while five gave no response to this question.
6. On speaking out, 3 will tell brothers, 3 will tell sisters 10 will tell fathers and 17 will tell mother and 7 did not give any respond
7. On speaking out at school, 6 will tell their friends, 6 will tell their class teachers, with 2 telling any teacher while 22 will tell the principal.
8. At home 3 responded that mothers are abusing fathers and 4 said that fathers are abusing mothers while 28 said there is no abuse at home and 5 did not give response.
9. On gender equality, 21 said women are equal to men while 19 said that women are not equal to men.
10. Still on gender equality 19 said girls are equal to boys while 21 said girls are not equal to boys.
11. 13 learners said they know what gender based violence is and 25 said they don't know what gender based violence is.

12. 30 learners responded that gender based violence in South Africa is high and 10 responded that it is low

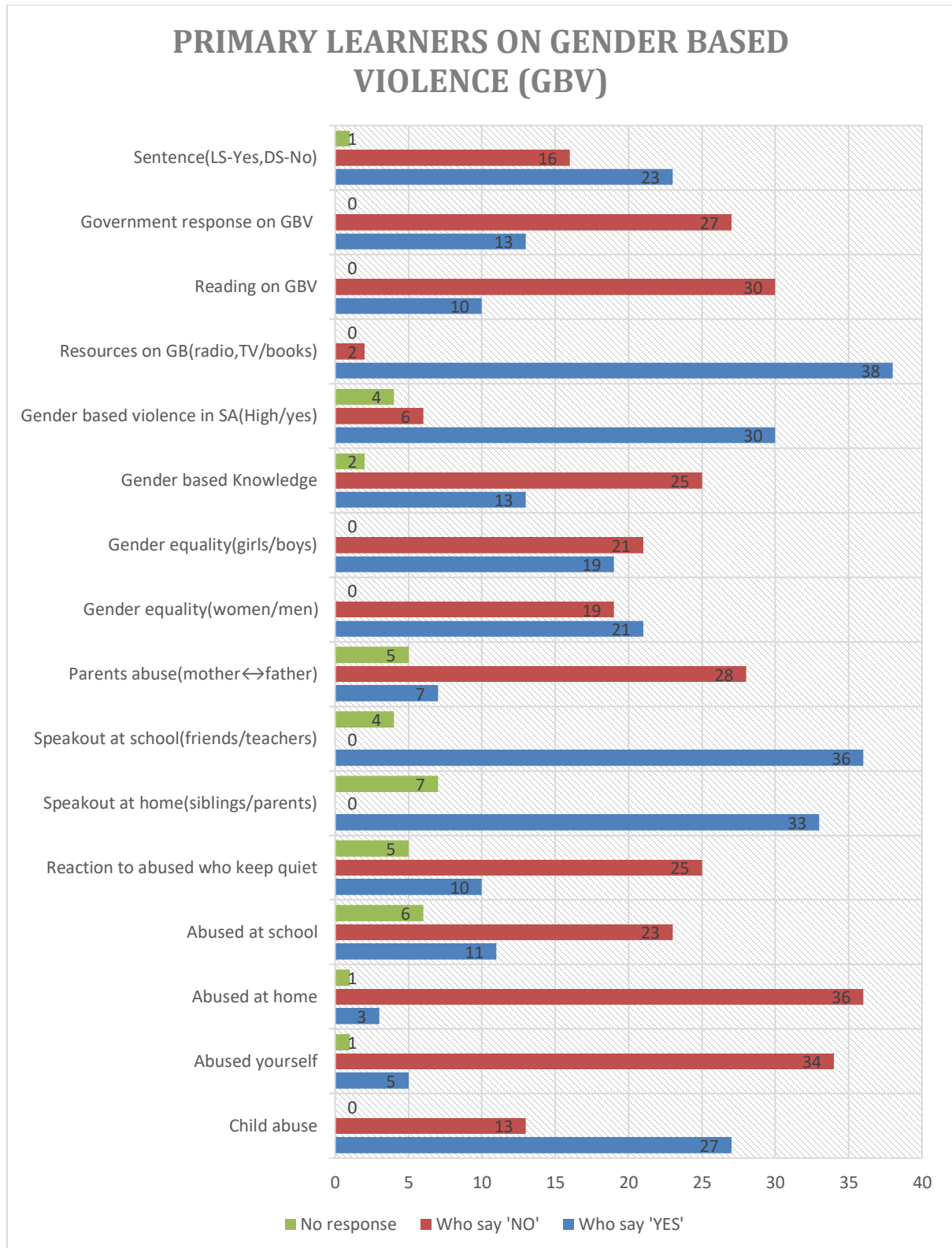
13. 6 learners heard about the gender based violence and the killings of women and children over the radio, 28 over the radio while 6 heard about through reading books.

14. On reading books about gender based violence, 10 responded to have read while 30 responded not having read any book.

15. On the government stopping gender based violence, 13 said the government is doing enough to stop gender based violence and 27 said not enough is done to stop gender based violence.

16. On the punishment to the perpetrators, 23 there should be life sentences and 17 were in favour of death sentence.

THE GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF LEARNERS AS PARTICIPANTS/ DATA RESOURCES ARE AS FOLLOWS:



## SECONDARY SCHOOL LEARNERS' RESPONSES

### A QUESTIONNAIRE TO LEARNERS ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

1. Do you know what child abuse is? Yes/ No
2. Have you been abused yourself? Yes/ No
3. If you have been abused at home, by whom were you abused?  
Father/Mother/Brother/Sister/Stranger/Not abused
4. If abused at school, by whom were you abused? Boy learner/ Girl learner/ Not abused
5. What do you do if you are abused? Keep quiet/ Speak out
6. If you speak out at home, who do you tell about the abuse?  
Brother/Sister/Mother/Father
7. If you are abused at school, who do tell? Your friend/ Your class teacher/any  
teacher/Principal
8. Who at your home is abusive? Mother abusing father/ Father abusing mother/ No one  
is abusive
9. Do you think women are equal to men? Yes/ No
10. Do you think girls are equal to boys? Yes/No
11. Do you know what gender based violence is? Yes/ No
12. How is the Gender based Violence in South Africa? High/ Low
13. Where do you hear about Gender based violence and the killings of women and  
children? Radio/ TV/ Books
14. Have you ever read any book on Gender Based Violence? Yes/No
15. Do you think the government is doing enough to stop Gender Based Violence and the  
killings of women and children? Yes/ No
16. If no, how will you like the Government to punish the abusers and killers of women and  
children? Life Sentence/ Death Sentence

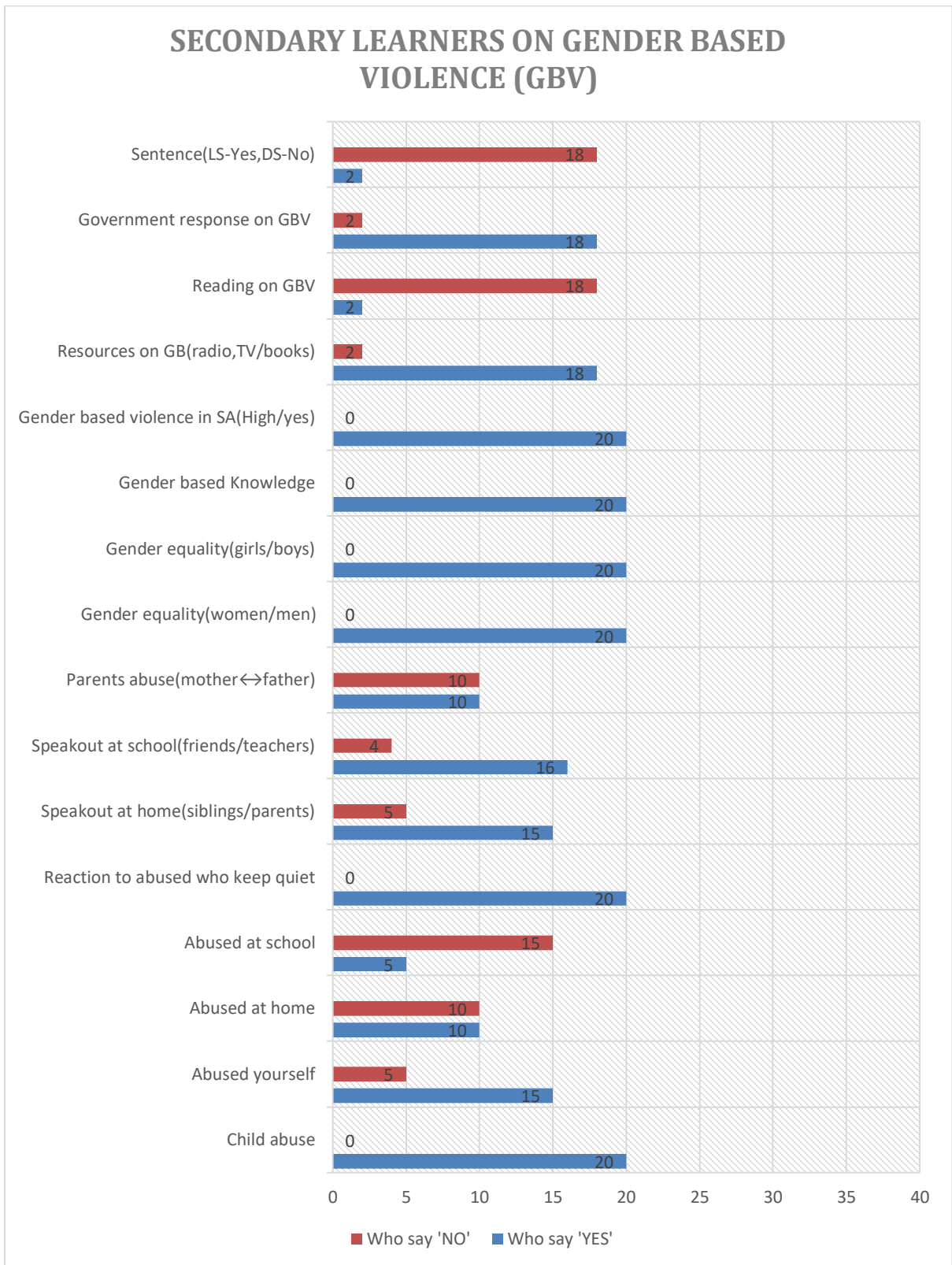
## RESPONSES FROM SECONDARY LEARNERS TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE ABUSE AND KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

1. To the knowledge abuse. All the twenty learners interviewed with difficulty due to lock down, displayed knowledge of abuse making it 100% positive response
2. To whether they have been abused themselves, responded to have been abused making it 75% while 5 which is 25% reported not having been abused.
3. On being abused at home 10 reported to have been abused collectively by both parents and siblings representing 50% and 10 responded to have not been abused making 50% response.
4. On abuse at school, 5 responded to have been by one of the stakeholders mentioned that accounting to 25% respondents while 15, which account to 75%, responded not having abused.
5. On the reaction to abuse, 20 responded to speak out making it 100% response
6. On the issue of speaking out at home, 15 responded to be in a position to tell both parents making it 75% and 5 which equals to 25% responded in favour of speaking to their siblings
7. On abuse at school, 16 which represent 80% will tell teachers whether class teacher, any favourite teacher or the principal with 4 representing 20% responding to be comfortable to share their ordeal with friends.
8. On abusive relationship at home, 10 responded that either the father is abusing the mother or the mother is abusing the father making it a 50% response while the other 10, which accounts to 50% responded no abusive relationships.
9. On equality, all 20 learners responded in agreement to gender equality making it 100% response.
10. On gender equality in boys and girls, all 20 learners, 100% responded in agreement to gender equity.
11. All 20 learners totalling 100%, are in agreement to the knowledge of what gender based violence is.

12. All 20 learners totalling 100%, responded that gender based violence in South Africa is high.
13. 18 learners totalling 90%, responded their source of knowledge on gender based violence being electronic media while 2 making 10% responded to have gained their knowledge from the print media.
14. On the reading of books on gender based violence, 2, 10% responded to have read books on the matter under study while 18, 90% responded not to have read books.
15. On the government's attempt to stop gender based violence, 2, making it 10% responded that the government is doing enough to stop gender based violence while 18 accounting to 90% responded that the government is not doing enough to stop the gender based violence
16. On the punitive measures 2, 10% responded in favour of life sentence while 18, 90% were in favour of a death penalty as an effective measure to stop the second pandemic to the beloved country.



THE GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF LEARNERS AS PARTICIPANTS/ DATA RESOURCES ARE AS FOLLOWS:



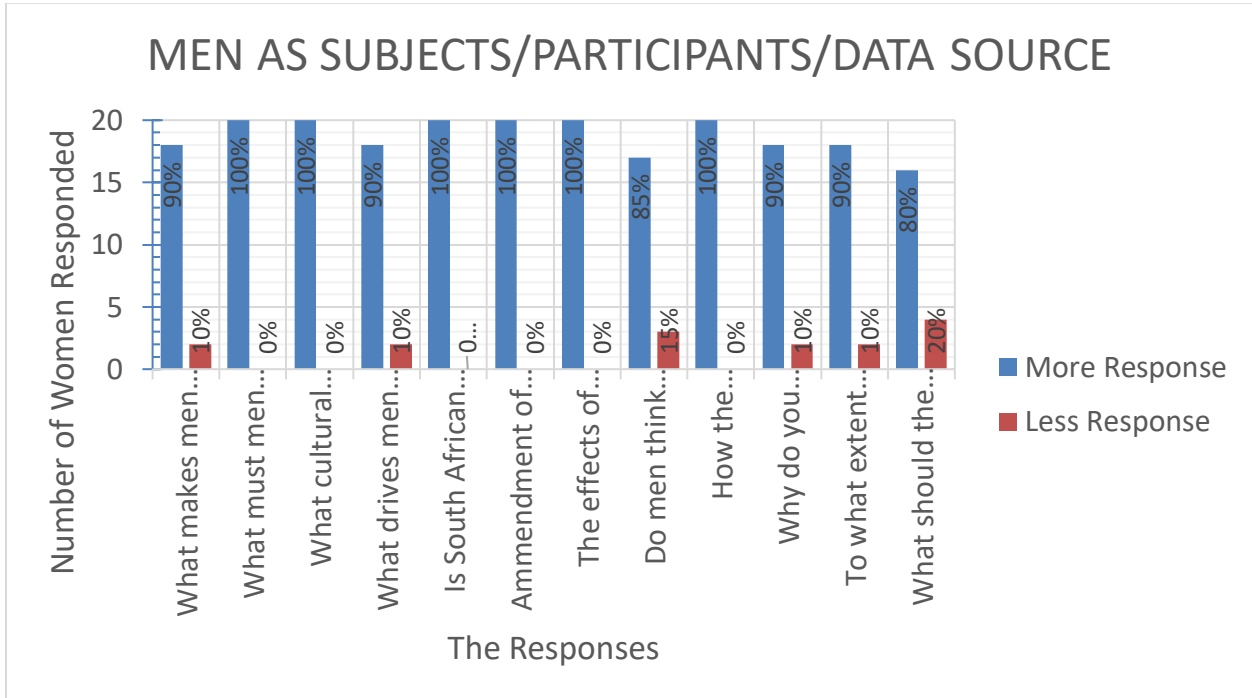
A QUESTIONNAIRE ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE ABUSE AND KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITH FOCUS TO PERPETRATORS/MEN

1. Men who abuse and kill children and women are predominantly of low economic status. Yes/ No
2. Most of them have low self-esteem and lack moral fibre of talking to women on their problems. Yes/ No
3. Abusers and killers of women and children rely on alcohol and substance abuse when having partnership problems Yes/No
4. Abusers and killers do not share their problems with whomever can assist. Yes/ No
5. Most of them have a crying mood at some point when troubled but will not tell whoever why they are crying. Yes/ No
6. They have a tendency of violating protection orders against them. Yes/ No
7. They usually accuse their victims of cheating on them. Yes/ No
8. Most of the abusive men end up abusing and killing children so as to inflict pain on their female partners. Yes/ No
9. Most of these abusers are will mention at one point that they will their victims. Yes/ No
10. Most of these abusers and killers shy away from reporting their displeasure to the professional helpers. Yes/ No
11. Abusers and killers of women and children blame their actions afterwards to alcohol and substance abuse. Yes/ NO
12. Most abusive men treat women like their personal properties. Yes/ No
13. Most of them feel the law is only in favour of women. Yes/ No

## THE RESPONSES

1. 18 respondents have agreed that abusive men are of low economic status, either unemployed or earning little salaries as compared to their abused partners making it 90% response while 2, 10% saw it differently.
2. All 20 participants, 100% responded yes to the notion of low esteem and lack of courage as overwhelming the perpetrators.
3. All 20, 100% responded that alcohol and substance abuse is heavily relied on by abusers and killers of women and children.
4. 18, 90% agreed that abusers are not sharing their problems with no one and 2, 10% felt that they to a little degree share that which make the response 10%
5. 15, 75% have agreed that the perpetrators have that crying reaction before carrying out their criminal actions while on the other side 5, 25% responded with a no to the accession.
6. 18, 90% were in agreement that perpetrators have shown no regard to any protection order/s against them by their victims while 2,10% thought otherwise
7. 18, 90% are in agreement that the accusation by perpetrators to cheating by their victims is mostly a common phenomenon and 2, 10% had a different view.
8. All 20, 100% agreed that abuse on children by perpetrators is largely as a punishment to the women.
9. All 20 respondents, 100% agreed that perpetrators will at a certain point in time mention that they will one day kill their female partners and some are reported to have said they will kill the whole families including taking their lives.
10. All 20, 100% respondents agreed that abusers knows no sharing of problems and challenges they are facing with a view of getting help
11. All 20,100% agreed that perpetrators have that tendency of blaming alcohol and substance abuse on after their criminal actions.
12. All 20 respondents agreed that abusive men treat their female partners like their personal properties.

13. All 20 respondents agree that abusive men have that mentality tha the laws of our country only favours the women.



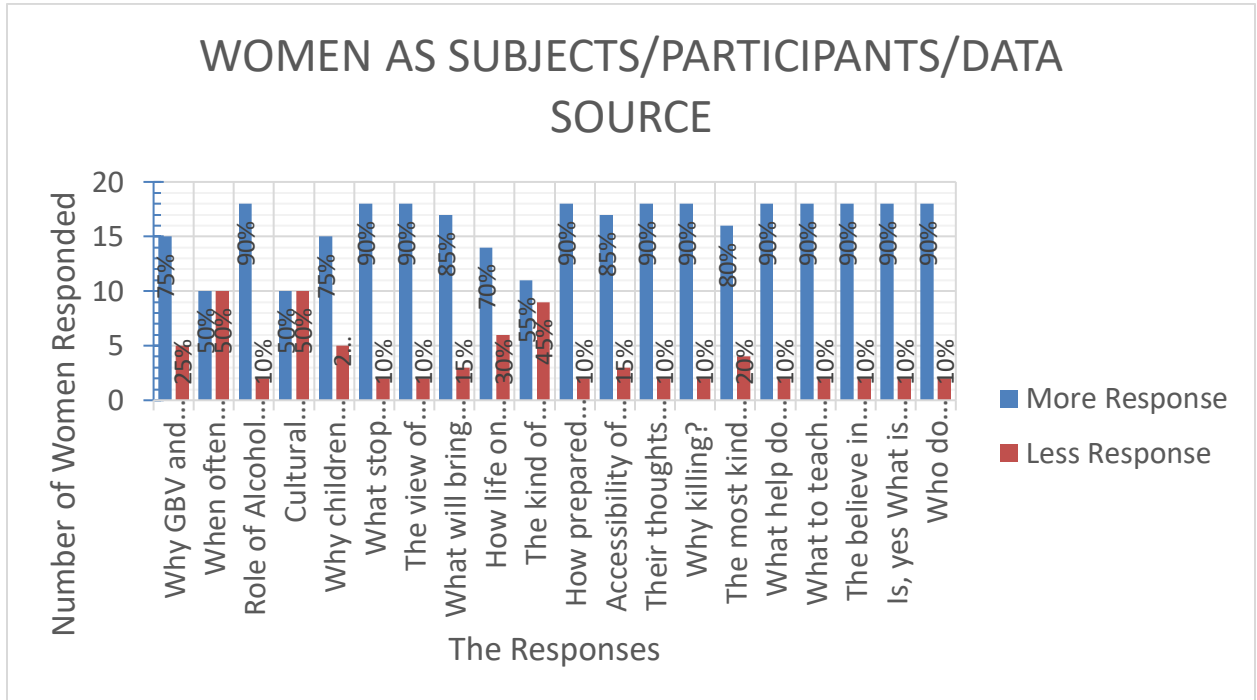
A QUESTIONNAIRE ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND THE ABUSE AND KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITH FOCUS TO VICTIMS/WOMEN

1. Most abused women overstay their abusive relationships. Yes/No
2. Most of them will be convinced by perpetrators to cancel the cases if opened against them. Yes/ No
3. Most of the victims are accused of not supporting their partners when facing economic hardships. Yes/ No
4. Most of them don't use professional people to help them resolve their troubled relationship. Yes/ No
5. Most abused women are accused of cheating. Yes/ No
6. Most if not all cheating, will be a retaliation to their cheating partners. Yes/ No
7. Most Victims of abuse are reported to have been told that they are going to be killed one day. Yes/ No
8. Most of them are reported to have said they rather be killed than walk out of their materialistic possession
9. Most victims are reported to not conceal the abuse by their partners to their children to protect their relationships. Yes/ No
10. Most abused victims resort to bedroom sanctions as a punishment to the wrongs of their partners a thing which makes perpetrators suspect cheating on their part. Yes/ no
11. Most women abused or not abused, blame the judiciary on the escalation of the scourge. Yes/ No
12. Most of them calls for death sentence to be brought back to criminals of GBV and the killings of women and children
13. Most victims feel betrayed by the constitution of this country. Yes/No

## THE RESPONSES

1. On the issue of abused women overstaying the abusive relationships, 16 responded in agreement to that accounting to 80% while 4 responded not agreement accounting to 20%
2. To the cancellation of cases against the perpetrators issue, 18 responded yes making it a 90% response and those that countered were 2 making it 10%.
3. 18 responded in support to the issue of victims considered not supportive to their perpetrators when the need arise accounting to 90% response while 2 accounting to 10% differed in their response.
4. A total of 20 respondents agreed to the fact that perpetrators don't use professional help making it 100% response.
5. 19 responded that most abused women are accused of cheating that making it 95% response and 1 responded no making it 5%.
6. 18 responded in agreement to retaliation cheating as a leading factor to victims also engaging in the cheating business making it 90% while 2 accounting to 10% were not in agreement to that fact
7. A total of 20 maximising the 100% agreed that the killings will not come as a surprise as victims will have been told at some point at the direction the abuse will take.
8. A total of 20 making it 100% responded that most victims fall victims of the Sepedi proverb loosely translated that a woman's grave is at her inlaws " lebitla la mosadi le bogadi bja gagwe" where they feel uncomfortable to live the earthly materials they accumulated with their abusive partners and will rather wait for death to part with those belongings.
9. 16 responded that victims have a tendency of covering up abuse to children even at some point their killings by their partners, with a view of protecting their relationships the response that which accounts to 80% and 4 differed making it 20%
10. 18 respondents were in agreement of that the mentioned strategy by victims is only fuelling the matter as opposed to its intended outcome and only worsen the situation, a response that accounts to 90% while on contrary 2, making it 10% had a different view.

11. All 20, 100% responded that the law is failing the women of our country as it is too soft on the perpetrators.
12. 18, 90% responded in support of the call for death sentence to be reintroduced to deal with GBV and the killings to women and children while 2, 10% thought otherwise.
13. All 20 making 100% are strongly feeling that the constitution of this country is accused number one.



## MAGOSI AS SUBJECT/ PARTICIPANTS/ DATASOURCE INTERVIEW

1. How rife is the problem of GBV in your community?
2. What must be the cause for statistics provided?
3. How do the traditional council address GBV cases when reported?
4. What are the awareness campaigns that Kgosi and the traditional embarks on, towards addressing GBV?
5. How do the Kgosi and the traditional council relate with the Justice in resolving the GBV issues?
6. How do Kgosi and traditional council involve the society to deal with GBV case?

## RESPONSES

1. There are very few cases of GBV cases reported at the traditional council nowadays for a variety of noted reasons.
2. Firstly it could be because of family involvement in addressing the cases before they can even the traditional council offices.

Secondly it could be because of the youths' tendency of heading to the police stations to report such cases when they arise without kgosi even knowing about it.

3. When such cases are reported, the traditional council will first establish as whether the matter had been addressed at the family level and the family clan leader level, and if not, the matter will be referred back to those levels for resolution.

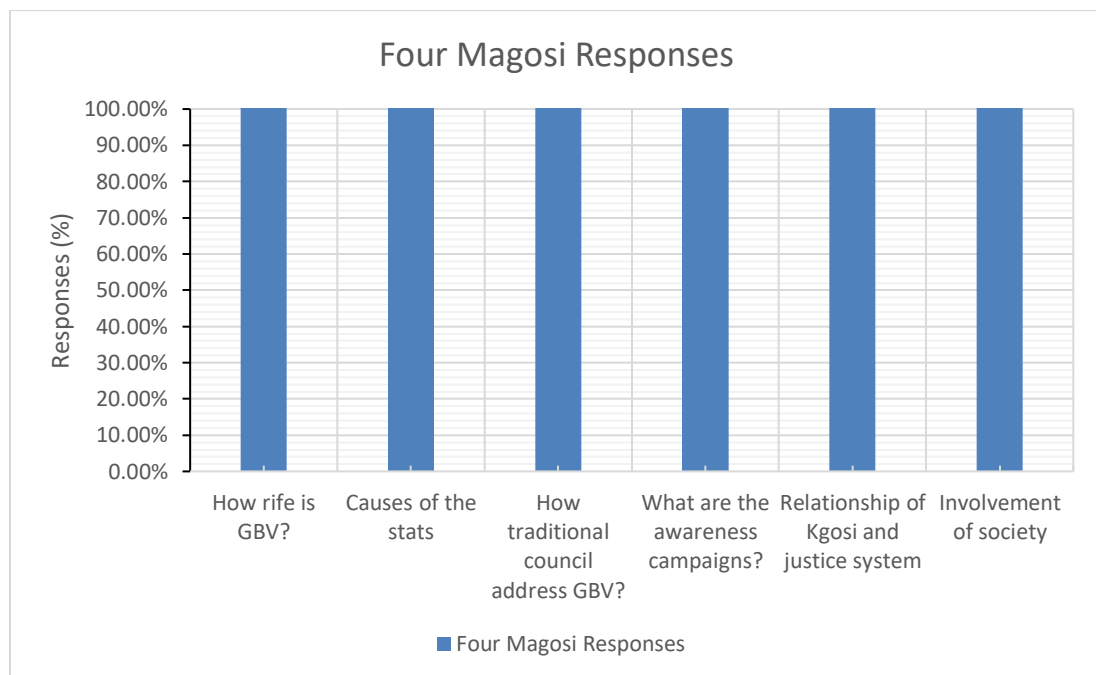
If the matter had gone through those levels then Kgosi and the traditional council will deliberate on the matter openly and fairly try to resolve the matter. But if the matter is still unresolved Kgosi will give a blessing to the parties to engage the justice through the local magistrate offices. Be that as it may, it should as well be pointed out that most cases are resolved at kgosi and traditional council as theirs is to bring unity as opposed to the justice which in most cases brings about separations to the affected parties which is anti- African custom.



4. In every community meetings on whatever community issue under discussion, The two pandemics of GBV and Covid19 will be highlighted to be taken care of. Kgosì will encourage men to love their women and protect them and not to abuse them and worse kill them.
5. As mentioned earlier, those cases that remains unresolved, will be directed to the justice system of the country but it is worth mentioning that most cases are resolved at the kgosì and the traditional council level.
6. In every burial, traditional meetings, weddings kgosì or the traditional council representative will caution on GBV and its twin pandemic Covid19.

## ANALYSIS

1. To question 1, all 4, 100% Magosi reported to have had few cases reported.
2. All 4, 100% Magosi reported that the cause could be two fold being family involvement or youth reporting cases to the police without Magosis' knowledge
3. All 4, 100% Magosi reported to follow protocols in place in their communities' resolution of the problems and try to resolve them if at all two levels there could not have been any resolution and that if the matter is still unresolved at kgosi's level, same would be reffered to the justice system.
4. All 4, 100% Magosi reported to have community awareness campaigns through community meetings.
5. All 4, 100% Magosi reported that they refer unresolved cases to the local magistrate but say most cases are resolved at their level.
6. All 4, 100% Magosi reported to involve every community member through every structure in their community to be vigilant towards GBV and its twin pandemic / Covid-19.



## POLICE STATIONS AS SUBJECTS, PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCE:

### LYDENBURG POLICE STATION

The following research questions were asked from police officers in their respective police stations:

1. On average how many gender based cases are reported at your station?
2. What are the possible causes of those crimes?
3. What is frequency with which the cases are taking place?
4. How were the cases during the Covid19 lock down level 5-3?
5. What could have been the causes of those statistics?
6. What is the average successful prosecution and sentencing of perpetrators reported?
7. Are there noted hindrances to the successful prosecution and sentencing of these perpetrators?
8. What protection mechanisms do the station have to victims of abuse (women and children)?
9. What are the police awareness campaigns in place to address this pandemic?
10. What role do lawyers or the judiciary play in solving this pandemic?

## POLICE STATIONS AS SUBJECTS, PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCE:

### BURGERSFORT POLICE STATION

The following research questions were asked from police officers in their respective police stations:

1. On average how many gender based cases are reported at your station?
2. What are the possible causes of those crimes?
3. What is frequency with which the cases are taking place?
4. How were the cases during the Covid19 lock down level 5-3?
5. What could have been the causes of those statistics?
6. What is the average successful prosecution and sentencing of perpetrators reported?
7. Are there noted hindrances to the successful prosecution and sentencing of these perpetrators?
8. What protection mechanisms do the station have to victims of abuse (women and children)?
9. What are the police awareness campaigns in place to address this pandemic?
10. What role do lawyers or the judiciary play in solving this pandemic?

## RESPONSE

1. On monthly basis 15-17 cases.
2. The notable causes are among others but not limited, drunkenness, financial problems, sexual immorality (cheating) and sometimes unwarranted material competitions.  
Burgersfort is known as a platinum city because it is a small growing town whose growth is largely dependent on the ten mines most of which are the platinum mines. The town is mostly made up of young couples either staying at their mines' residential areas or their own houses and naturally they lead a more competitive kind of life style which is without stresses that leads to abuse.
3. The cases happen during weekends especially towards month end to the beginning of a new month. This is a time where the money need and use is high and the drinking with the accusations of coming home late than usual is the driving forces.
4. Covid 19 level 5 cases were less and level 4 brought a little bit of increase and in level three when liquor was allowed to be sold, cases increased excessively.
5. During lock down level 5 and 4 people did not spent their money on alcohol and in that way their monies were spent to purchase other important family things and drunkenness was very low while lock down level 3 increased the drunkenness and hence the increased GBV cases.
6. Low in the lock down times due to movement restrictions and before covid19 lock down levels the station cannot provide statistics thereto as the police only deals with the opening of case and the preparation and arrest of perpetrators and the prosecution and sentencing is the duty of justice which can be in a better position of providing the statistics.
7. In most cases victims withdraw their cases.
8. The police station which is opened for 24 hours for victims to open criminal cases and to apply for protection orders. Apart from that the station also provide shelter for the victims.

9. Police in conjunction with social workers visit schools to speak to children. Distribute pamphlets about reporting abuse and preventing it during road blocks and house visits as well.
10. Prosecute the perpetrators.

## POLICE STATIONS AS SUBJECTS, PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCE:

### TUBATSE POLICE STATION (PRAKTISEER)

The following research questions were asked from police officers in their respective police stations:

1. On average how many gender based cases are reported at your station?
2. What are the possible causes of those crimes?
3. What is frequency with which the cases are taking place?
4. How were the cases during the Covid19 lock down level 5-3?
5. What could have been the causes of those statistics?
6. What is the average successful prosecution and sentencing of perpetrators reported?
7. Are there noted hindrances to the successful prosecution and sentencing of these perpetrators?
8. What protection mechanisms do the station have to victims of abuse (women and children)?
9. What are the police awareness campaigns in place to address this pandemic?
10. What role do lawyers or the judiciary play in solving this pandemic?

## POLICE STATIONS AS SUBJECTS, PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCE:

### MECKLENBURG POLICE STATION

The following research questions were asked from police officers in their respective police stations:

1. On average how many gender based cases are reported at your station?
2. What are the possible causes of those crimes?
3. What is frequency with which the cases are taking place?
4. How were the cases during the Covid19 lock down level 5-3?
5. What could have been the causes of those statistics?
6. What is the average successful prosecution and sentencing of perpetrators reported?
7. Are there noted hindrances to the successful prosecution and sentencing of these perpetrators?
8. What protection mechanisms do the station have to victims of abuse (women and children)?
9. What are the police awareness campaigns in place to address this pandemic?
10. What role do lawyers or the judiciary play in solving this pandemic?



## POLICE STATIONS AS SUBJECTS/ PARTICIPANTS OR DATA SOURCE

As per the proposal there are four police stations from which data was supposed to be collected and they are Lydenburg/ Mashishing, Mecklenburg, Burgersfort and Tubatse/ Praktiseer police stations

The collection of data at this police stations was without some limitations because of:

### 1. Covid 19

With Covid 19 lock down 5 to 2 and even 1 where the study was underway, movements were strictly restricted in South Africa. The same restrictions were also applicable to me as a researcher and made my research difficult

### 2. POLICE PROTOCOLS

Apart from Covid 19 lockdown, there were also some limitation to access to the data from these institutions. By the nature of their operation, police protocols are that GBV cases and data thereto, is strictly prohibited from access by individuals because according to them the information can be misused by the media or political parties as well as individuals with their own agenda.

Understandably they even said that information from stations is premature as it has to be sent to the province for validations and correctly sorted as either being GBV cases or assault or murder or whatever classification

I was then referred to the Provincial South African Police Services spokesperson for the correct statistics. I spoke to Colonel Moatshe Ngoepe who also advised me to go to the SAPS website for verified and correct statistics for the same reasons as advanced by the police stations

The statistics will be provided later in this analysis and the following will be the preliminary statistics from police stations.

## RESPONSES

1. To question 1 they all responded cases of between 15 to 20 per month
2. Possible causes identified were alcohol and drug abuse and also family financial conflicts.
3. They responded that it is an everyday occurrence but mostly during month ends.
4. The response was that during lock down 5 and 4 with alcohol not allowed, cases were low but increased with lock down level 3 when alcohol was allowed a thing which called for the banning of alcohol.
5. Alcohol and drug abused was singled as the cause followed by money squabbles.
6. The police responded that is question to be addressed to the justice as their part is to open cases and make the arrests and the cases handed to the justice for prosecutions.
7. Same question was referred to the justice as can give a befitting response.
8. The stations responded that they provide shelters for protection for vulnerable victims but also said in most cases victims will chose to go home.
9. They said during lock down they held cluster campaigns with Burgersfort police stations where a visible police vehicles could be seen in towns and locations spreading a message GBV and abuse of women and children. They said at times they will also arrange road blocks and spread the same Gospel
10. They referred the relevant response from the justice system.

Below is an example of reported GBV cases at Burgersfort Police Station during lockdown alert levels 5 to 3 starting from April to August to 2020:

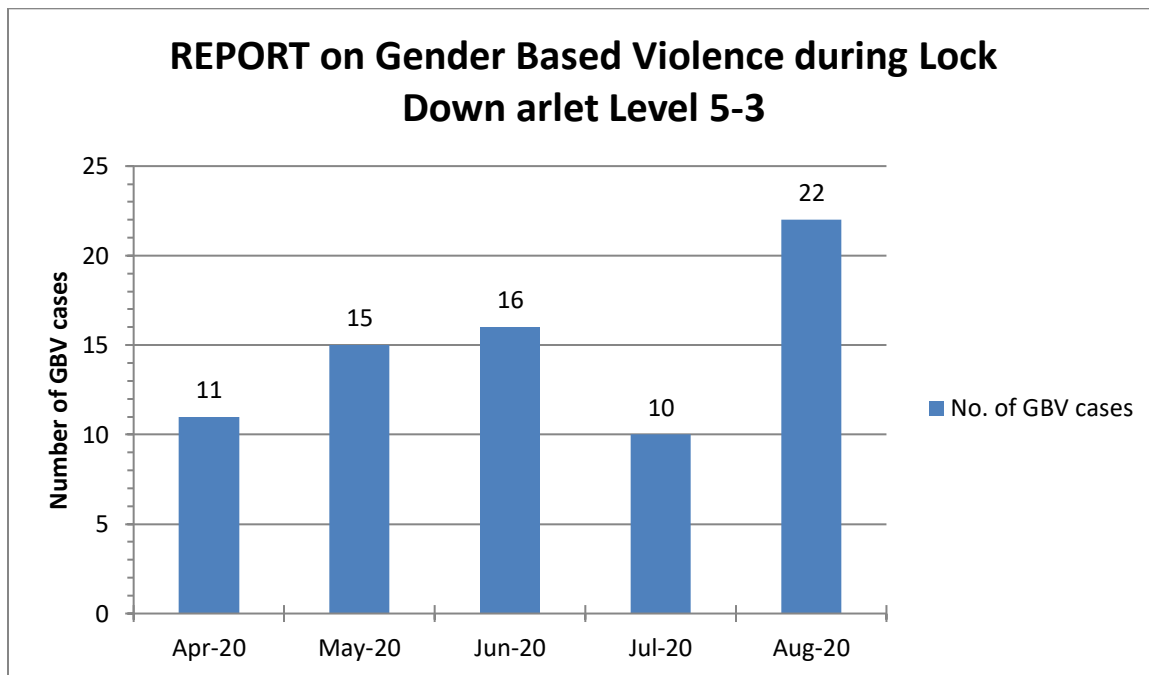
1. April 11 cases
2. May 15 cases
3. June 16 cases
4. July 10 cases
5. August 22 cases

The reason for a drop in reported cases in the month of July is as a result of return burn on alcohol as per the demand of the citizens because GBV cases were increasing together with

road accidents when the alcohol sales were allowed though with restricted selling times and days which were from Mondays to Thursdays during the week with no sale permitted during weekends.

From August South African president Cyril Ramaphosa was under pressure to open the economy which was at its record lowest since the dawn of democracy hence the unbanning of the sale of alcohol though smoking was still prohibited and the GBV cases started increasing.

The police station reported that the statistics shown here were very low as compared to the previous year a matter which can attest to the fact that the use of alcohol and drug abuse are among the leading causes of GBV and related killings of women and children.



## Increase in rape and assault a grim marker of rising levels of gender-based violence



Sandisiwe Shoba

4 months ago



Minister of Police Bheki Cele. (Photo: Gallo Images / Phill Magakoe)

**Friday 31 July paint a grim picture of the state of violence against women and children in South Africa.**

Listen to this article



In Ikageng, a township near Potchefstroom in North West, a sickening ordeal unfolded. A woman was raped in the bushes by 20 men, who took turns violating her. She and a friend were lured to smoke a pipe with gang members, one of whom was an acquaintance.

This is just one example of the increasing occurrence of rape and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV) portrayed in the crime statistics for the 2019/20 financial year – April 2019 to March 2020.

Another instance in Ngcobo, Eastern Cape, saw nine men enter a woman's home and rape her for two days straight. One of the men was an acquaintance of the survivor.



According to the statistics, you are most likely to get raped in a private residence, be it your own home, a friend's, a relative's, the perpetrator's home or that of a neighbour – 18,231 cases were reported from private residences, with the highest number in Limpopo. In all the provinces except for Western Cape, this was the highest incidence. Western Cape reported slightly more rape cases in public areas.

“South African men are greatly violent,” said Nokhetho Mhlanga, an independent researcher at Plus94.

“It is not unfounded that the domestic space is where they will enact their violence where there is less consequence and where they assume the dominant position.”

The statistics for intimate partner violence are not clear; however, the report showed that 22,864 cases of common assault by a boyfriend/girlfriend, ex-partner or a

spouse were reported, 14,020 cases of assault with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm were recorded, while 817 cases of murder by the aforementioned perpetrators were documented.

With regards to femicide, an instance cited in the report is that of the murder of a woman and her three children whose home was burnt down by her ex-boyfriend in Harare, Khayelitsha.

The statistics do not include crimes reported during the hard lockdown, although there were reports that gender-based violence “surged” during this period with victims forced to remain at home with their perpetrators. According to Police Minister Bheki Cele, one week into lockdown more than 87,000 cases of gender-based violence were reported across the country.

“To contextualise the implications of lockdown on GBV: the violators who are often perpetrating at work, schools or in public spaces are now confined to their homes, so it is not unfounded that the violence will now move to a domestic setting. In addition, substance abuse, financial distress etc will agitate abusers and as a coping mechanism, they will take out their frustrations on those in their home,” said Mhlanga.

A rapid assessment conducted by associate professor of psychology at Wits University, Professor Mzikazi Nduna and Oyama Tshona during the March to May lockdown found that reports of intimate partner violence (domestic violence) increased despite the alcohol ban.

“With lack of data on alcohol use during the lockdown, it is difficult to delink this unexpected hike in domestic violence from alcohol use. Alcohol consumption may have continued in a number of places that could not be policed at the beginning of the lockdown,” the study read.



---

Overall, common assault against women was up by 0.6%, while attempted rape against children rose by 4.3%.

“Excessive and binge drinking in the early days of the lockdown may have accompanied the psychological panic in a way that mimics the ‘panic buying’ that was reported a few days before the lockdown came into effect,” it was also suggested.

The study also postulated that gender-based violence may not have increased during the lockdown, but more people were coming forward to report perpetrators.

Overall, sexual offences increased by 1.7%. Incidents of rape increased by the same percentage. In addition, rape and sexual assault made up 93.9% of the total number, of which rape was the primary contributor at more than 79%.

“I do not believe that the 1.7% statistic is a true reflection of the rise in sexual offences in South Africa. I believe that sexual violence is more prevalent. With regards to the rise, SA is a highly violent society which is compounded by the fact that it is a patriarchal society,” said Mhlanga.

Inanda in KwaZulu-Natal was identified as South Africa’s “rape capital”, followed by Umlazi, also in KZN. Although Mhlanga could not comment on the potential reasons behind this, Cele attributed the high incidence to alcohol consumption, saying the majority of the cases occurred as people were leaving shebeens. Both areas were also in the top five stations in terms of murder.

The statistics for crimes against women and children were not yet verified but it was reported that from the previous year, crimes against women decreased by 4.8% while crimes against children decreased by 6.4%. Gauteng had the most number of crimes against women, followed by Western Cape. For children, Western Cape had the highest number followed by KwaZulu-Natal.

Overall, common assault against women was up by 0.6%, while attempted rape against children rose by 4.3%.

“One of the by-products of patriarchy is violent masculinity wherein men engage in violent ways to assert their power, eg, sense of entitlement on the feminine body. In addition, there is a lack of ongoing responsiveness and dire consequences for those who perpetrate sexual violence,” said Mhlanga. DM



---

Tags: [Bheki Cele](#), [Crime statistics](#), [gender-based violence](#), [Nokhetho Mhlanga](#), [Rape](#), [Sexual assault](#)

---

Engen is 'still killing us', says Durban community body after explosion at refinery

By Desiree Erasmus

---

Cartoon Tuesday by Rico

By Rico

---

Twelve years on, Judge Hlophe finally appears before a tribunal to determine if he tried to interfere in Zuma's trial

By Marianne Thamm

---

Nearing the finishing line: What the latest Covid-19 vaccine results mean

By Aisha Abdool Karim

---

How Eskom board whisked through a R1.68bn agreement that benefited the Guptas

By Greg Nicolson

---

A Public Protector of reprehensible conduct

By Professor Balthazar

---

'It's all groovy at the NEC' – Ace Magashule

By Ferial Haffajee

---

Bad to Worse

By Zapiro

---

Leadership in Question (Part Four): Can the ANC recover

Twelve years on, Judge Hlophe finally appears before a tribunal to determine if he tried to interfere in Zuma's trial

By Marianne Thamm

---

Nearing the finishing line: What the latest Covid-19 vaccine results mean

By Aisha Abdool Karim

---

How Eskom board whisked through a R1.68bn agreement that benefited the Guptas

By Greg Nicolson

---

A Public Protector of reprehensible conduct

By Professor Balthazar

---

'It's all groovy at the NEC' – Ace Magashule

By Ferial Haffajee

---

Bad to Worse

By Zapiro

---

Leadership in Question (Part Four): Can the ANC recover and lead a democratic project?

By Raymond Suttner

---

SA vs England ODI series called off amid increasing acrimony between the parties

By Craig Ray

---

**Daily Maverick**

---

## CHAPTER 6

### CONCLUSION

1. This study has arrived at the following conclusions.

The abuse and killings of women and children is comparative low in my study area

The problem also account to a lesser percentage on the overall national percentage but low as it appears, it is still a worrying and concerning matter as even one instance of abuse or killings is one too many to be accommodated or to derive some comfort from as killings of women and children cannot in anyway be justifiable since it is a transgression to the law and a direct opposite of Ubuntu which characterises the African way of living.

There are a number of national behind this low percentage of abuse and killings and one notable reason is that the Sekhukhune area of Limpopo province is predominantly the Magosi area where communal, societal, traditional and cultural heritage still value the life of people as paramount to any other selfish and devilish punishment one can execute to the other person.

People here still help each other in resolving conflicts through families and traditional meetings or shall I say courts.

The kind of interventions applicable are the ones that holistically look into the matter regardless of the gender bias and encourage forgiveness and peaceful co-existence.

2. The study also has arrived at the following human behavioural patterns which seems to perpetrate the over increasing problem which has also been elevated into a pandemic, which among others are:

#### 2.1 Anger in men

Men of South Africa are overwhelmed by anger. The socio-economic pressures that men go through has compromised the men of our country to be creative in solving their relationship problems.



Most perpetrators are unemployed, or retrenchment. They are so angry and very much irritable and will react harshly at the slighted provocation. It is high time that anger management be prioritized in this country.

These angry men are mostly not disclosing their plight to whoever and they are just volcanoes ready to explode when they cannot keep their anger any more.

Let men be encouraged to speak out their problems and be offered the necessary support. That also include when they also report cases of abuse in the police stations and the police must refrain from laughing and mocking then.

## 2.2 Hopelessness

Men and women of our country seems to be hopeless in their general relationships. Men and women are not working hard to build and rejuvenate their love relationship.

They are not committed to their relationship. They see relationship as manna that must forever be there, instead of talking among themselves over their challenges, they will rather seek advice outside of their relationships most of which are not professional and considerate and become a futile exercise.

Love relationships needs be given priority by both partners and there should not be any competition but rather collaborations by the partners.

## 2.3 Unemployment

The continuous loss of jobs creates stress to relationships.

Companies and government retrench people day in and day out.

The material love which is a norm to the modern society will have no peace if there is no money, there will be conflicts in families.

People are blaming the loss of jobs to corruption by leaders on one hand and by politicians on the other hands.

participants have also have blamed illegal foreigners who take their jobs at compromised salaries or wages which employers offer as South African employers want to maximise profit by employing cheap labour.

## 2.4 Reactive society

South Africans are generally reactive in addressing problems

It is shown in this study that everybody is crying about gender based violence. Whenever a woman is killed or a child is killed, there will be marches, burning of tires, blaming of men, police and call for harsher sentences.

The people of our country have themselves to blame for the rising of this pandemic.

Politician also are not helping in resolving the problem.

Theirs is to use the pandemic for electioneering and sloganeering so as to woo votes from the frustrated masses of our women

The freedom charter says the people shall govern.

The study has shown that people are saying the constitution is failing them by not providing a death sentence that will help to bring an end to the pandemic.

The study have seen that people fail to exercise their rights to bring the changes to the constitution so that the constitution can serve to protect them.

The call for viva ANC, viva EFF and viva to other political parties will not bring any change if it has to be meaningful here in South Africa

The South African society must learn to take part in drafting the laws that will protect them over the laws that protects the perpetrators that is to proactive rather than being reactive.



## 2.5. The dependency syndrome

The South Africans particularly the women of our country are overwhelmed by the dependency syndrome no matter how abused the women can be in their relationships, the syndrome will keep them glued to the relationship until they get killed. Women must learn that you try, to fix relationship that is working and if it is not working, you simply save energy of saving it by leaving it.

## 2.6. Alcohol and substance abuse

Another notable conclusion that the study arrived at is that men of our country are great alcohol and substance abusers. So many of them seems to run away from the problems and challenges they are faced with in their relationships and the general life demands.

Most of them are allergic to sober mindedness and they have resorted not to entertain their problems and only to be violent to their partners so as to suppress them for any family engagement.

There is this disturbing tendency by men to shift their abuse to alcohol and substance abuse. Every time they commit their abuse to women and children, they will say it is because of the alcohol and substance abuse.

It is surprising that they don't stop alcohol and substance abuse if they know it makes them to be abusive.

Most worryingly is the fact that this alcohol and substance abuse is also the cause of money problems in their families and their relationships as they spend more money on this substance as supposed to be supporting their loved ones with it. It is even shocking to hear that they even buy on credit these alcohol and substance during the month and spend more money in the repayment of the credit when paid salaries and wages.

It is worth noting that the sooner men prioritise their families over alcohol and substance, the better because relationships deserve the commitment of both partners.

## 2.7. One-sided approach to abuse of women and children

The study also uncovered that there is also a one sided approach to this pandemic.

The focus is always only on men as abusers and killers even through there are also women who abuse and kill men and children.

The problem of abuse and killings is also much focused on men as if women are angels.

One understand that abuse and killings is more of men to women than the opposite but it is equally important to confront abuse and killings as social crimes that are mostly practised by men.

The bottom line should be how best we can do away with this pandemic as a society.

## 2.8. Men don't forgive

It must be pointed out that the study came to a conclusion that in deed men don't forgive and don't forget on the wrongs by their partners.

They pose themselves as pure of doing wrongs particularly cheating. Men cheat and don't want to be cheated on. Cheating is taboo to love relationship but if problems like this was discovered and talked about, it should be laid to rest and let it not be a song to be sung whenever a person is angry.

It is better to walk out of the relationship because of cheating rather than kill a woman and children.

## 2.9. South Africans are not a reading nation

The study also showed that South Africans are generally not a great reading nation.

To prove this there are not enough literature available on the abuse and killings of women and children.

There are also not enough authors of these reading materials.

South Africans should provide enough literature on this pandemic and such literature should be as accessible as humanly possible like the study has proposed.

This also calls for books at schools which must include the gender-based violence on a wider scope.

## CHAPTER 7

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 1. Women empowerment

Women empowerment is critical to the solution of abuse and gender base violence. Women empowerment should take a holistic approach whether be it socio economic, educational, cultural and legal approaches.

##### 1.1 Socio-Economics

In order to adequately address the gender based violence with its related women and children abuse the state should play a meaningful role in advocating socio economics initiatives as outlined below

##### 1.1.1 Economic empowerment

Women for most obvious reasons become vulnerable to abuse as a result of not being economically empowered. The majority of women in South Africa are unemployed and if employed, they either earn low salaries they are self-employed with unreliable or fluctuating income.

Men of our country take advantage of this vulnerability and want to totally take control of their lives in which case if there is some kind of resistance, they will then abuse them. This dependency also make women to continuous if find themselves having to subject themselves to abusive relationships. Gender equity, women empowerment and their elevation to management positions in the employment sector will empower them to resist oppression by men.

To those self-employed, they must be helped to have access to funding either through the state funding initiatives which may even include empowering funding through the main banks with low interests. This shall include but not limited to, cooperatives earmarked at women empowerment. The sad reality is that women now have it all by themselves to fight this

pandemic which they don't win as men are only playing a leap service because they only strongly talk about gender based violence with no convincing actions. Talk alone will not solve the problem. Equally there should be actions taken to gender based pandemic as actions are taken to covid19 pandemic.

It cannot just be business as usual where politicians, must use women for electioneering by promising them to end the abuse of women and their killings as well as the killings of children by men of our country.

### 1.1.2 Social Empowerment

It goes without saying that majority of women in South Africa generally and particularly at the area of my study, are still faced with social injustices levelled against them those that which needs government intervention even at this time and age.

The long held notion that was inherited from the unjust passed beliefs that men are superior to women, which will loosely be translated to "*the man is the head of the family*" and cannot be engaged on family matters and should do as he wish and the woman must follow sheepishly must be reviewed with the necessary education campaign.

There should be a greater awareness that women are equal to men and should enjoy the same status in the society. That should be preached in meshate/ chiefs or any community gathering and political spaces in the communities.

The observed bone of contention is seen when a woman will demand a say in the monetary issues even when the couples shall have entered into in community of property matrimonial vows. That does not mean that in any marriage contracts women don't have a say in the monetary issues of the families.

The notable social issues to be addressed is with regard to lobola issue.

Lobola is has been and it will still be an inherent cultural heritage of entering into family relationship by the two families through marriage.

By its nature it meant was meaning that a man should protect, provide and support his family and the lobola was an indication of that commitment by men.

Unfortunately it is viewed to some other men as meaning that a woman is forever indebted to them and that they can as an when they feel like controlling them for their personal selfish benefit.

That goes well to the imbalance of power to both genders which the society has held that men should be seen to enjoy power status over women.

## 2. Educational Approach.

Hence it is established that there is little literature to bring awareness of gender based violence and abuse and killings of women and children, it is strongly recommended that:

### 2.1 Educational There be available literature

There be literature available across languages, culture and across age structures that seeks to address this pandemic. In schools the life sciences books and life orientation should contain materials on the abuse and killings of women and children.

There must also be the community libraries with such literature to bring more awareness of this pandemic more especially to youth to whom the future of this country belongs.

On a greater scale there must be some mini libraries with just literature books on gender based violence in every liquor selling outlets whether be it bottle stores or shebeens because most abuser are alcohol abusers and therefore alcohol must go hand in hand with literature discourage gender based violence.

The government should make it a law that all alcohol sale outlets must display materials on gender based violence that will lead to but not limited to gender based violence (GBV) prayer, children's call for the and to gender based violence and also the women call not to be abused.

Education has the power to change the world order and can be manifested in different ways.

Women and particularly young girls should be empowered with the survival skills to change their financial dependency to men.

The power of education should not be limited to books but rather elevated to arts and music.

For so long music has been crafted to entertain and criticises the world injustice-arts and poetry which must also helped to shape the world country towards a peaceful coexistence between men and women of our country.

The time is now that artists should be encouraged and to some extend be funded to come up with arts festival and generally the government should come up with competition to address the pandemic head on.

That goes to the role played by female actors in TV stories should be looked into that it does not encourage women and children abuse. There should a new normal to bring an end to the end of the killings of women and children

### 3. Legal approach

The South African Constitution from which all laws takes departure, and the constitution which is seen and praised by all and Sundry as one of the best ever, cannot go unchallenged on its human rights issues enlightened in this study.

One cannot also ignore the fact that this constitution was crafted under severe pressure with the hope of bringing peace and human co-existence between the then racial tensions prevailing at an era prior to the first much awaited elections which to be specific compromised capital punishment which more people are calling for

There was also an element of anger towards death sentence which was viewed to be only applicable to the black community of South Africa. It was due to that this constitution was drawn the right to life was produced across all law transgression.

As a matter of fact people view that the escalation of the pandemic is as a result that you take someone's precious gift of life which is life itself in order to preserve as per the dictate of this constitution.

The way to go in addressing the pandemic should be a referendum to ascertain the call by people that capital punishment must be the highest price that perpetrators to women and children killers should pay. That of course goes to the women who kills men and children. It is not going to help talking and talking marching and marching and calling for the harsh sentence to the perpetrators of this pandemic while they enjoy the protection by the law that they can only be sentenced to life no matter how many times.

That also goes to the bail conditions of the perpetrator which should be denied until the end of the prosecution of the perpetrators.

If the country and its president continue to cry about gender based violence and its related women and children killings then let the law be the answer.

For twenty six years of democracy people have been failed by their beloved constitution what else do we have to hope for so that the victims must as well enjoy the constitutional right and more importantly the constitutional protection in their country?

The police system of dealing with gender based violence must also be modified.

There must be a special and well trained police unit to deal with this pandemic those that will be specifically skilled to deal with abuse of women and gender based violence. With this initiative it is hoped that the police will be better placed in attending all legal processes that will enable the state to win cases for the victims of this pandemic.

#### 4. The children's upbringing

There is a great need for the parents to play a pivotal role in the upbringing of children especially the boy child. This must be done by every parent without fail



The different role players being the parents, churches, politicians, educators, Magoshis, government and None government organisation (NGO) must all join hands in the upbringing of a boy child into being a responsible citizen of our country.

The focus should be on the boy child to realise that women are equal to men and should be treated and respected as such.

The reason for the focus on the boy child should take departure from the fact that there are imminent gaps that needs to be closed because this abuse of women and children by men of our country, shows that men had a false fallacy that they are superior to women and this should own and treat women as their properties.

Men seems to be slow learners in the supreme law of the country which is the constitution of South Africa.

## 5. Stop Corruption

The most dangerous invisible and indirect cause of gender based violence and the killings of women and children in South Africa, that needs to be tackled head on is corruption. It is here in South Africa where corruption and general criminality is not adequately punished.

The writing is but on the wall that no corrupt government can fight corruption. To be precise 1994 elections in South Africa marked an era of the reign of corruption in our country under the leadership of ANC particularly under the leadership of Comrade Jacob Zuma. Because ANC led-government under the leadership of Thabo Mbeki was economically viable to meet the needs of the citizens of South Africa. The economy was able to provide jobs.

The law-abiding citizens of this country have been calling on the state to take a strong action against corruption particularly under Jacob Zuma administration. The government has been promising to bring an end to corruption but bringing to book all those are implicated says the opposite. What happens is that no corruption leader can bring to look another corrupt leader because they all have smaller or bigger skeletons as has been said by one ANC women's leader,

For the purpose of this study let me outline how corruption is fuelling the abuse and killing women and children

### 5.1 Lack of services

People largely women and children are faced with the lack of services because more of the tax-payer's monies are used to bail out state owned enterprises (SOEs) whose leaderships are the ANC's deployed comrades who are milking these enterprises dry.

We know that every budget will bail one or both SABC, SAA which is under administration now, Denel and Eskom and Prasa.

When these monies are mismanaged and looted there is no arrest or paying back the stolen money by the perpetrators.

The services like housing water and sanitations, health services, education and other important infrastructure suffers because of lack of funds in which funds fund the corruption.

The beneficiaries mostly women are socially and economically abused. Most men also remain unemployed and that adds to the stress and depression which leads to them committing the crimes under study.

At worse these enterprises also shed some jobs through retrenchments which also has a bearing on the pandemic because stresses associated with being unemployed.

### 5.2 Employment Opportunities

Nepotism is a major corrupt activity in South Africa.

If you are not close or related to people offering employment opportunities forget about getting a job in South Africa.

This also play part in the abuse of women who are in majority in seeking for employment through having to pay through bed (sex) in exchange for employment opportunities.

Majority of women and children have been denied the opportunity of getting even food parcels during the lockdown in South Africa as a result of the corona virus. The ANC corrupt leaders were misdirection food parcels to their friends and relatives.

Corruption is so life here in South Africa that has an influence on the innocent and law abiding citizens of our country particularly women and children.

### 5.3 Corruption in police services

Most worryingly most of the police officials are corrupt and they play part in failing victims of abuse by taking bribes from the perpetrators so many rape cases and domestic violence dockets have gone missing.

Corruption fails the victims, it fails the justice system and it fails the government and its people.

I strongly recommend that all South African fight gender based violence and the killings of women and children alongside the fight to corruption which adds to gender based violence.

## 6. Political will

There should be some kind of a political will to stop this pandemic. The kind of a political will advocated here should be across the party political that always seeks to score political points over very pertinent issues such as this where the precious lives are lost daily and the souls of the victims are at mercy so people should stand up united in the slogan that enough is enough and not in my name and under my watch should the gender based violence and the killings of women and children shall continue unstopped.

## 7. The effective and efficient strategies women can employ.

### 7.1 Stop Cheating

The study has established that central to gender based violence and the killings of women and children is cheating. Men who abuse and kill the women and children in most often that not, complain about women cheating with other men more especially men who are having financial muscles than them as if they (men) are not cheating.

To South African women I recommend that they must not cheat because simply because their partners are also cheating on them.

The point here is that two wrongs do not make right. If a woman start emotional cheating to pay a revenge, in most instances as the study has established, they got caught and killed. The women should be reasonable enough to either walk out of the cheating relationships in order to have peace of mind.

## 7.2 Balance love and the rights

The fact that women and men are always in conflicts is that men claim that women are prioritising rights over the love to their male partners.

The study recommends that women should balance the issue of rights and love.

If they complain of their rights being disrespected, it should be in a loving way that will make the hardest man to understand and women should learn to appreciate that relationships are about love and not about the rights

Women should work harder to make men feel loved and the poor creatures will stop the violence. By this the study is not saying that love should only be displayed by women only but rather that women in the nature of their creation, were meant to bring joy and a fulfilled eternal peace in men.

## 7.3 Women should stop competitions

In their very nature women are competitive. They compete with other women over material possessions they get from their partners. They more often presses their partners to make them compete with those other women a thing which unfortunately stresses and depresses men who when they can't take it anymore, end up being violent. Women must run their own races within their available means. Women should love their partners for who they are and not for what they should offer.

#### 7.4 Women should offer support

Women should learn to support their partners.

Women should always ask themselves as to what is it that they can do to their partners that will encourage and inspire them to work harder to make their families more progressive and peaceful.

#### 7.5 Women should have self-reliance attitude

Women should believe in themselves and their capabilities of shaping their own lives destinations because over-reliance to men often make them indebted to men for their own survival which in most case turn men to feel that women are their properties which cannot do anything without them.

#### 7.6 The raising of children

Women are having the proper skills of how children.

Women are nation builders but there are those that needs employment not for the fact of raising children. By this the study recommend that the issue of supporting children should not be shifted only to men but should be seen as a collective responsibility of course there are those women who will not help their partners financially in raising their children. They will say men found them without a child and therefore should do everything for the children. This is one of the things that causes unnecessary conflicts in families.

On a societal platform, they say it take the society to raise a child. People of South Africa generally men and women should play a part in raising children and creating peaceful societies leading up to a peaceful country. It should be love thy neighbour as you love yourself.

#### 7.7 Professional advises on women

The study has realised that women mostly don't uses the services of professionals in advising them on their family problems.

There is a tendency by women of our country to seek advices of their problems with their partners from their friends and in most cases those advises are ineffective.

It should be noted that not one solution can fit all the problems

Every relationship is unique and its problems are unique as well.

The other challenges is that some women take the advices as raw as they are given without checking whether it can be modified to suit their situations.

It is strongly recommended that women should engage the services of professional bodies in order to save their relationships.

8. The ANC led government must introspect itself on its numerous failures.

The African national Congress (ANC) which is the governing political party in South Africa should do a serious introspection on its numerous failures.

There is the three eyes that the ANC should see itself through.

The first eye is that ANC is looking into itself through its history of having liberated this country from the oppressive apartheid regime.

It keeps telling people during the election campaign that it liberated the country from oppression and ushered in the new democracy.

The second eye is the continued promise on delivering to the promise of a better life for all to the previously disadvantaged masses of our people the promises which are none other than sloganeering and electioneering rhetoric.

The third eye is the failure of the ANC led government to deliver on those promises.

The name just but a few is the failure on the education system which is irrelevant to the economic needs of this country which end up producing more graduates most of which remain unemployed and add up to the unemployed masses of this country.

ANC is failing to provide jobs and fail to grow that will the economy provide jobs.

ANC is failing to bring to an end to the crime in this country.

The same ANC has collapsed the state owned enterprises (SOEs) and they are continuously bailed out with millions of rands which were supposed to be used for delivery of services to the poorest of the poor.

This ANC is also failing women and children by dealing with the perpetrators of the gender based violence and the killings of this problem the same victims.

This is a wakeup call that this chain of failures by this government to really work hard to deliver on the better life for all slogan they are so good to sing during election time must make laws to serve victims and not laws that protect perpetrators with the present laws the war on gender based violence cannot be won.

9. Let's also involve parents and traditional councils to solve the problem of warmed couples.

The contributions made by Magosi in my area of study are that people in this area should go back to solve problems related to families through engaging both the parents of women and men as was done by our parents.

They say that if both parents cannot come up with solutions, then they can approach traditional councils for solutions.

They say that people are getting more westernized in approaching courts, applying for protection orders and opening of cases with police which eventually don't help.

The use of parents and traditional councils is echoed by also church leaders who say apart from prayers and counselling, the parental and traditional councils should still be pursuit.

Together these church leaders and Magosi are saying that people must not also disregards their culture and tradition of addressing our own problems in our way.

10. Never lose hope on the pandemic

The people of this country particularly women and children should always pray for the end of this pandemic and should take courage by the scripture reading from the holy book

*2 Chronicles 20:15* which says

He said, 'Listen to me, King Jehoshaphat and all you people living in Judah and Jerusalem. The LORD says this to you: Don't be afraid or discouraged because of this large army. The battle is not yours, it is God's.

The scourge of women and children abuse including their killings is high in our country. Women are crying and no one is safe be it at home, at work, at church and everywhere else a woman occupies space.

The women and children of our country must take this battle as not their but God's and God shall win the war for them and they shall for ever live in peace.

Where the people and the laws of this country fails women and children God will not fail them as they are his creatures and no evil power is above Gods power.

In the same breath let God save South Africa and his people.

Other important Recommendations

11. Registering of perpetrators

The study recommend that the input by some studies that there be a register for perpetrators for viewing by all and sundry in every district, province and national gender based violence and killings of women and children centres be implemented.

This will in a way to some extend discourage criminality over women.

12. No withdrawal of reported cases

The justice systems should be strict on the victims not to withdraw cases of abuse once opened.



Once the case is opened it must be a state case and the victim must not interfere with it.

This will protect women who are convinced by the perpetrators to withdraw cases with the promise that the offences will not be repeated.

It has been proved on numerous occasions that this action end up in continuous abuse and possible murder.

This is because men sometimes take advantages of the forgiving nature of women.

### 13. Stop reliance on foreign constitutions

South Africa is known for its super copying of foreign constitution to address its own unique problems.

If you look at other problems like the problem of land, education just to name but a few are addressed like in other countries even if they country is said to be a sovereign country.

South Africa is now found wanting with this pandemic as opposed to the speed with which the covid-19 pandemic is addressed due to how the country copies other countries.

South Africa must have a backbone of taking unpopular decisions in solving the country's problems even if it means changing the constitution to serve its people satisfactorily contrary to satisfy other countries.

### 14. The role of social media

It is strongly recommended that the social media issue be discussed among the citizens of this country.

The social media seems to be only focusing on the bad behaviour publicity where abuse is circulated.

This serves to highlight the plight of abuse of course but be it as it may, it may also encourage the very same criminality to some other people.

Let the social media also focus on the good relationship of people out there for the people to envy them.

15. An awareness/Campaigns to parents to respect their children.

There must be campaigns to parents to make them respect their children by not fighting in front of them.

This tendency of parents fighting in front of their children is damaging the minds of the young ones.

It is teaching them abusive behaviour that will be hard to erase and it breeds abusive characters more especially to a boy child.

Parents should be responsible enough not to teach their children irresponsibility. Let parents not encode what will be an undesirable decoding in future.