

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

11 OCTOBER 2019

The 1.1 billion girls of today's world are challenging the status quo. They **and YOU** are redefining girlhood and are doing so against the odds.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BMgV8jj9IU>

Advancing the Girl Child Movement :

A potential mechanism to curtail sexual gender-based violence in South Africa

By Jessica Burn

2019

UCT Department of Public Law

The research for this report was conducted as a Masters Dissertation based on a request for such research by the **Children's Resource Centre (CRC)**.

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Why are we here today?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



SINOXOLO MAFEVUKA



UYINENE MRWETYANA



FRANZISKA BLÖCHLIGER



LEIGHANDRE "BABY LEE" JEGELS



ANENE BOOYSEN



HANNAH CORNELIUS

And so many others.

Why are we here today?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

widespread, common, and deeply entrenched in ALL societies, but at a chronic level in South Africa

- “**Violence**”: physical, emotional, psychological, financial - often a mixture
- “**Femicide**”: the intentional killing of females (women or girls) because they are females
- “**Sexual violence**”: rape, sexual assault and other sexual offences
- These are listed as crimes in the Sexual Offences and Related Matters Act 32 of 2007 (SORMA)
- “**Gender-based**”: linked to the power dynamics between genders
- Disproportionately affects women and girls

Why are we here today?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

South African Police Service Crime Statistics

- South Africa's crime statistics for 2018/19 were released in parliament on 12 September 2019.
- The number of reported sexual offences increased to **52,420 in 2018/19** from 50,108 in 2017/18.



Total sexual offences recorded in South Africa in 2018/19	
Crime	Number
Rape	41,583
Sexual assault	7,437
Attempted sexual offences	2,146
Contact sexual offences	1,254
Total	52,420

Why are we here today?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

South African Police Service Crime Statistics



- SAPS recorded 41,583 rapes in 2018/19, up from 40,035 rapes in 2017/18.
- This means **an average of 114 rapes** were recorded by the police **each day**.

Why are we here today?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

What's scarier?

These statistics are **NOT accurate**, they represent only the *known cases*

Many rapes and other sexual offences go unreported

Reasons for under-reporting:

- Fear of perpetrator
- Police incompetence or insensitivity
- Women being second-guessed
- Accused of lying
- Blamed.



Why are we here today?

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

- Difference between healthy sexual activities and rape = **LACK OF CONSENT**
- **Consent** : permission for something to happen or agreement to do something
- Silence does not necessarily mean yes
- Video Clip to understand consent – **just remember tea!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGoWLWS4-kU>

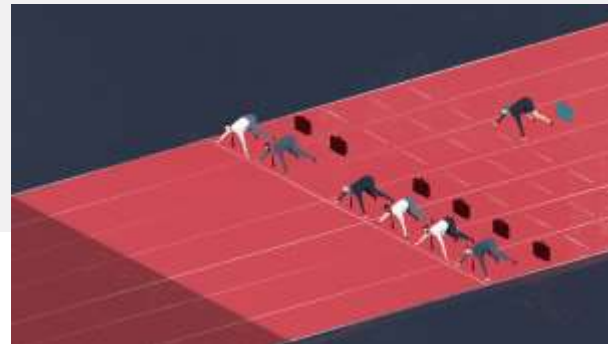
- Consent seems quite easy to understand, **so why do sexual offences happen?**



POWER DYNAMICS BETWEEN MALES AND FEMALES

GENDER INEQUALITY, PATRIARCHY AND TOXIC MASCULINITY

- **Gender Inequality** The belief that men and boys are more important than women and girls and are, therefore, entitled to act in a certain way, be in charge and receive more benefits in life.
- **Patriarchy** A system of social structures and practices in which men dominate, oppress and exploit women, publicly and privately.
- **Toxic Masculinity** Qualities or attributes believed to be characteristic of men and boys, however, these are described as 'toxic' because they can further the cruel and unfair treatment of women and girls.

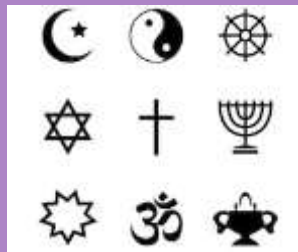


POWER DYNAMICS BETWEEN MALES AND FEMALES

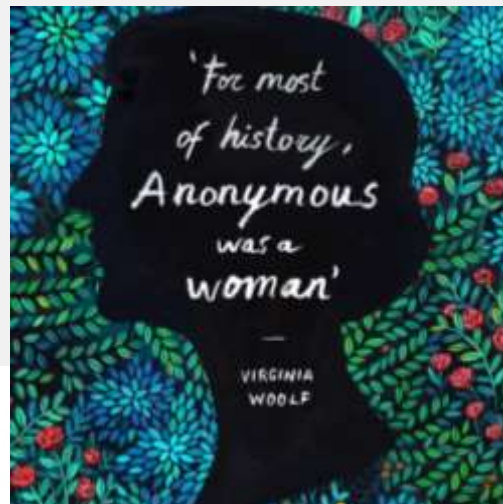
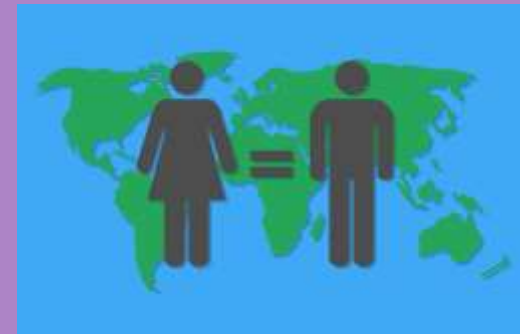
GENDER INEQUALITY, PATRIARCHY AND TOXIC MASCULINITY

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Cultures and religions
 - How to we balance:
- Invisibility of women in history lessons



VS



POWER DYNAMICS BETWEEN MALES AND FEMALES

GENDER INEQUALITY, PATRIARCHY AND TOXIC MASCULINITY

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Ideas about what is “masculine” and what is “feminine”

Traditional Gender Stereotypes.

Feminine.

*Not aggressive.
 Dependent.
 Easily influenced.
 Submissive.
 Passive.
 Home-oriented.
 Easily hurt emotionally.
 Indecisive.
 Talkative.
 Gentle.
 Sensitive to other's feelings.
 Very desirous of security.
 Cries a lot.
 Emotional.
 Verbal.
 Kind.
 Tactful.
 Nurturing.*

Masculine.

*Aggressive.
 Independent.
 Not easily influenced.
 Dominant.
 Active.
 Worldly.
 Not easily hurt emotionally.
 Decisive.
 Not at all talkative.
 Tough.
 Less sensitive to other's feelings.
 Not very desirous of security.
 Rarely cries.
 Logical.
 Analytical.
 Cruel.
 Blunt.
 Not nurturing.*



GENDER BIAS

By the

age of 6,

girls already consider boys more likely to show brilliance and more suited to “really, really smart” activities than their own gender.

UN Women

Legal Obligations to prevent Violence against Women and Girls

INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

- The Doctrine of State Responsibility
- “Ratification”
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) – Articles 1, 2 & 5(a)
- General Recommendation Nos. 12, 19 & 36
- Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (DEVAW)
- Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action – Article 29



Legal Obligations to prevent Violence against Women and Girls

REGIONAL OBLIGATIONS

- The African (Banjul) Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Charter) – Articles 2, 17, 18, 19 & 28
- Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) – Articles 2,
 - **The most far-reaching codification of women's human rights**
- Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa
- Guidelines on Combatting Sexual Violence and its Consequences in Africa



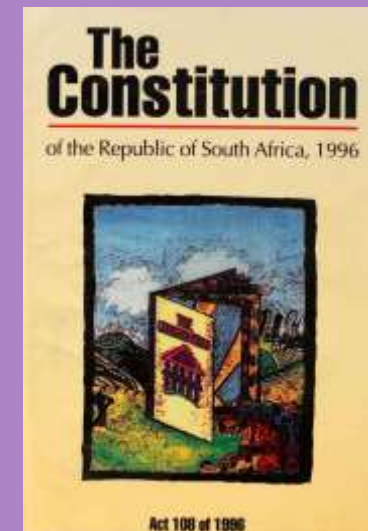
DOMESTIC/STATE OBLIGATIONS

- The South African Constitution

Regarded as the **best** constitution in the world!

- Section 9: Equality
- Section 10: Dignity
- Section 12: Freedom and security of the person
- Section 15: Freedom of religion, belief and opinion
- Section 28: Children
- Section 29: Education

- SORMA and Domestic Violence Act



Legal Obligations
to prevent
Violence against
Women and Girls

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a diverse group of children of various ethnicities and ages, all smiling and holding open books. The children are depicted in a dense, overlapping arrangement, creating a sense of a busy, engaged classroom or library. The colors are bright and cheerful, with a mix of skin tones and book colors.

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights: ‘Education shall be directed to ... the strengthening of respect for human rights’
- HRE is about ‘empowering the individual to both recognise human rights abuses and commit to their prevention’.
- Convention on the Rights of the Child - Article 29
- Used in South Africa, during and after apartheid, to challenge racial discrimination

CHILDREN'S RESOURCE CENTRE & THE GIRL CHILD MOVEMENT

- CRC was established in 1983 to mobilise girl and boy children to overcome the barriers of segregation, discrimination and prejudice enforced by the apartheid regime.

CHILDREN ARE POTENTIAL AGENTS FOR CHANGE

- 1990s, girl children in Mitchells Plain initiated a 'Girl Child Campaign' to **encourage mutual respect between girls and boys.**
- GCM was formally launched in 2006.

EMPOWER GIRLS NOW. SECURE A BETTER FUTURE.

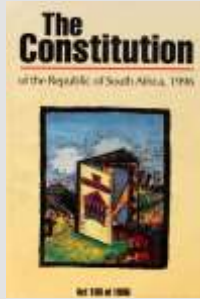


CHILDREN'S RESOURCE CENTRE & THE GIRL CHILD MOVEMENT

- GCM to help change sexist attitudes of boys - attitudes which could socialise boys into becoming abusers of girls and women.
- A space to **UNITE** and explore ways to address problems facing girls.
- Current focus area has been provision of reusable sanitary pads.

What if we could apply the same creativity to combat violence against women and girls?





IMPLEMENTATION OF HRE THROUGH GCM



Several ways to practically implement HRE more formally through GCM

- Research & make presentations on powerful women and girls
- Review, perform and discuss feminist literary pieces
- Educational resources designed by Twinkl Educational Publishing
- Complete worksheets using Constitutions
- Learn about the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Discuss and debate stereotypes
- Design a strategy to help boy children understand the difficulties and challenges which women and girls face
- Suggest ways to make your community safer for women and girls



UNITE FOR GENDER EQUALITY
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16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women And Children
25 November – 10 December

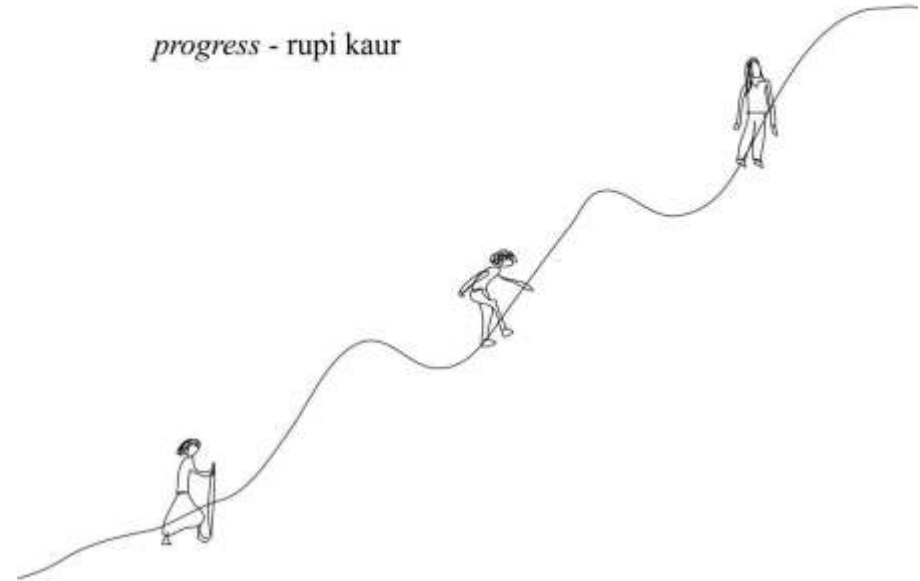
i stand
on the sacrifices
of a million women before me
thinking
what can i do
to make this mountain taller
so the women after me
can see farther

legacy - rupi kaur



our work should equip
the next generation of women
to outdo us in every field
this is the legacy we'll leave behind

progress - rupi kaur



#GCMsaysEnough

T-SHIRTS FOR CHANGE

Billybaa's
CAKERY



WEXFORD



THANK YOU!

The **UCT Knowledge Co-op** facilitated this collaborative project with the **CRC**.

See <http://www.knowledgeco-op.uct.ac.za> or
Contact us at barbara.schmid@uct.ac.za / 021 – 650 4415

