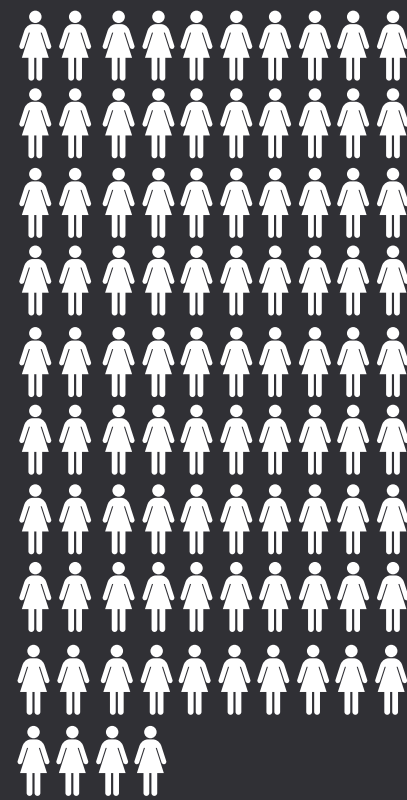


CivActs has hosted community listening sessions in Bulawayo, Chitungwiza, Goromonzi and Harare (Mbare and Glenview) through partners including NAYO, VISET and Amandla Trust. During the sessions community members voiced concern about Zimbabwe's silent epidemic, Gender Based Violence.

Reported incidences of GBV have increased since the beginning of the government mandated restrictions on movement. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) reports that while families are increasingly unable to sustain themselves, and face economic hardship and stress as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, women are particularly vulnerable and increasingly face Gender-Based violence.



94%
of reports are
from women

Source: Musasa Project, data was recorded between March and December 2020

Types of Violence



55% Psychological Violence



22% Physical Violence



15% Economic Violence



8% Sexual Violence

According to the UN-OCHA Service providers report an increase in the number of GBV cases against adolescent girls, as well as exposure to increased negative coping mechanisms, and consequences, such as child marriage. Teenage pregnancy is a major consequence of GBV against adolescent girls.

Others note that restrictions on movement have limited access to public services and basic commodities including contraception and sanitary ware. Community members report difficulty accessing health services, such as clinics and hospitals for rape survivors.



90% of cases are
intimate partner
violence

Source: UN OCHA Cluster Status: Protection (Gender-based Violence), 19 Feb 2021

CivActs is an initiative that seeks to amplify citizen's voices, facilitate dialogue and co-creation of solutions between communities and leaders to promote accountability in the community development process. The CivActs Campaign gathers concerns and questions from communities across the country to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens.

“If we are to fight discrimination and injustice against women we must start from the home for if a woman cannot be safe in her own house then she cannot be expected to feel safe anywhere.”

AYESHA TARYAM

What Rights do Women in Zimbabwe have?

The Constitution of Zimbabwe (2013)



§17

Section 17 is dedicated to gender and urges the state to promote the full participation of women in all spheres on the basis of equality with men. The section addresses access to resources, elimination of gender based discrimination in policy, law and practice, the protection of women and girls from domestic violence, as well as protection of girls from marriage. The section also provides that both genders must be equally represented in all institutions and agencies of government and women must constitute half of all members of established commissions.

§78

Section 78 of the Constitution is on marriage rights. It provides that every person who has attained the age of 18 years has a right to found a family and that no person can be compelled to enter into a marriage against their will.

§80

Section 80 focuses on the rights of women and highlights the provision for equal opportunities, in political, social and economic activities. It also grants women the same rights as men regarding custody and guardianship of children.



Zimbabwe
Gender
Commission

To report a violation of your rights Contact the Zimbabwe Gender Commission toll free line (08004379)
Call or WhatsApp 0719 524 721 / 717/ 0712 -899 543
complaints@zgc.co.zw
/info@zgc.co.zw

The Laws of Zimbabwe



Domestic Violence Act [Chapter 5:16]

This is an Act to make provision for the protection and relief of victims of domestic violence. The Act addresses physical, emotional, sexual, economic and emotional abuse, and provides for protection and relief to survivors of domestic violence. It aims to protect women and criminalizes domestic violence and such acts as abuse derived from any cultural or customary rites or practices that discriminate or degrade women.

Who can help?

To report sexual and gender-based violence, contact immediately the following toll-free hotlines available 24 hours:



Musasa Project
08080074



Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)
08080131



+263 242 793572 or +263 775 672 770



Family Support Trust Clinics
08080501



MSF Zimbabwe
+263 772 156 175

Report at your nearest ZRP VFU - The Victim Friendly Unit was established in 1996 primarily to proactively police crimes of a sexual nature in a manner sensitive to the victim. The Unit aims to be supportive of victims and to make the environment conducive, private and friendly. Victim Friendly Unit Co-coordinators are trained to deal with victims in a professional, private and confidential manner. The issue of respect is highly regarded. The Victim Friendly Unit offers counselling to victims of sexual abuse in conjunction with its other partners in the multi-sectoral approach.



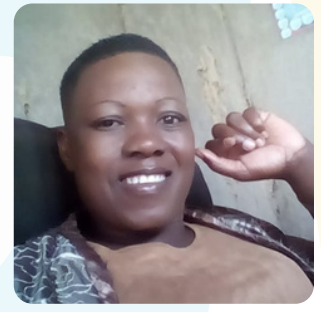
#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE male chauvinism, gender based violence and oppression of women!! Women represent the Present ,not the future only but both the present and the future. They represent Power, Growth. Yes to emancipation of women. Happy international women's day!

AUDREY SHEILA MUKURUVA



I choose to challenge the notion that women are unfit for leadership. To me women represent a group of important members of society that understand the challenges faced by people and what it means to be underrepresented and have the potential to redefine the norms.

COURTNEY MBALENHLE MASUKU



#ISUPPORTWOMENLEADERS because they lead wholeheartedly. I choose to challenge male leaders in participating in economic programmes. To me women represent hard workers in the communities.

CATHERINE MUTIZWA



#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE female politics. I strive to see a generation where women are awarded equal opportunities as men. Not because of their gender but because they deserve to be in leadership positions. For me women represent change. The ability to believe and know that all will be well. That our grievances are going to be met because they have an ear to lend.

PRAISE MAKONI



#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE all societies to realise and support the power in women and involve them in leadership and decision making. I seek also to challenge women to unleash the potential they have and take up space, break all glass ceilings and soar in power making a difference and bringing the change the world needs!

#THEFUTUREISFEMALE

NONTOKOZO MOYO



#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE gender and social injustices. Women represent strength and humility under one banner.

RACHAEL VOKO NCUBE



#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE the traditional practices and norms that exclude women in leadership positions and decision making processes. Women represent honest, hard-working and accountable leadership.

MARGRET CHOGUGUDZA



#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE religious and cultural beliefs that repress women and infringe their rights. To me women represent the marginalized, oppressed, rejected neglected groups of young girls and women. Above all new generations are born through the strength they invest in.

MITCHELLE DHLODHLO



#ICHOOSETOCHALLENGE gender based violence that is affecting a lot of women in our society mentally, physically and emotionally. I also appreciate womanhood as I believe women represent justice, solidarity, change, success and equality.

ROPAFADZO GWAZE



I choose to challenge violation of my rights and that of my family.

LILIAN BUTAWU



I support women in leadership because women are more likely than men to lead in a style that is effective under contemporary conditions. I choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements.

NATALIE GWATISIRA

