

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV)

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) refers to any behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in the relationship.

Examples of types of behaviour are listed below.

- **Acts of physical violence**, such as slapping, hitting, kicking and beating.
- **Sexual violence**, including forced sexual intercourse and other forms of sexual coercion.
- **Emotional (psychological) abuse**, such as insults, belittling, constant humiliation, intimidation (e.g. destroying things), threats of harm, threats to take away children.
- **Controlling behaviours**, including isolating a person from family and friends; monitoring their movements; and restricting access to financial resources, employment, education or medical care.

INTIMATE PARTNER

An intimate partner is a:

- spouses (married spouses, common-law spouses, civil union spouses,
- domestic partners)
- boyfriends/girlfriends
- dating partners
- ongoing sexual partners Intimate partners may or may not be cohabiting.
- Intimate partners can be opposite or same sex.
- If the victim and the perpetrator have a child in common and a previous relationship but no current relationship.

WHAT IS FEMICIDE?

Femicide is broadly defined as the killing of women by a male partner. It is also known as “the killing of females by males because they are females.”

A white ribbon is normally worn throughout the campaign to show support for the campaign.



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Commission for Gender Equality

A society free from gender oppression and inequality



GENDER BASED
VIOLENCE



BACKGROUND

365 days campaign of no violence against women is the outcome of the Kopanong Declaration in May 2006. The declaration marked the 10th anniversary of the South African democratic constitution. It is a call to extend the annual 16 days campaign to 365 days given the scourge of gender-based violence in South Africa.

Over 260 representatives of various stakeholders agreed that a national plan of action with measurable outcomes and indicators should be developed. Later in the years, efforts on social network platforms like #365, #CountMeIn, twitter and Facebook were made to extend the 16 days to 365 days campaign. This included the Digital clock on.

The South African Police Services, Community Police Forums, the Commission for Gender Equality, Lead SA and several men's and civil society organisation further pledged to participate in the campaign and uphold human rights and the dignity clauses in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution.

SA CONSTITUTION: S187 of the Constitution require the CGE to promote respect for, and the protection, development and attainment of gender equality.

CGE ACT NO 39 OF 1996: The CGE mandate is to monitor and evaluate legislation, policies and practices of the state, statutory bodies and private businesses, as well as indigenous and customary laws and practices; research and make recommendations to Parliament; receive and investigate complaints of gender discrimination; and conduct public awareness and education on gender equality. CGE has powers of subpoena and litigation.

PEPUDA ACT 4 OF 2000: Obligates the CGE to institute proceedings of unfair discrimination on the grounds of gender.



VISION:

The CGE vision is a society free from gender oppression and all forms of inequality.

MISSION:

The Commission for Gender Equality shall advance, promote and protect gender equality in South Africa through undertaking research, public education, policy development, legislative initiatives, effective monitoring and litigation.

DEFINITIONS:

GENDER: Gender refers to socially constructed attributes and opportunities associated with being male or female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys, as well as the relations between women and those between men. These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization processes. They are context/ time-specific and changeable. Gender determines what is expected, allowed and valued in a woman or a man in a given context.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: Gender-based violence (GBV) is used to distinguish violence that targets individuals or groups of individuals on the basis of their gender from other forms of violence. It includes any act which results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological / emotional and economic abuse of gender relations (UN CEDAW Convention). The CGE defines GBV as all acts of abuse, physical, psychological, and financial, as well as using cultural and religious mores that are harmful to others, based on gender and sexuality.

Therefore Gender-based Violence can encompass a wide variety of abuses that includes rape, sexual threats, exploitation, humiliation, assaults, molestation, domestic violence incest, involuntary prostitution (sexual bartering), torture insertion of objects into genital openings and attempted rape.

WHAT IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT?

SEXUAL HARASSMENT:

Common words used to describe this form of abuse include: 'rape', 'date rape', 'gang rape', 'being forced to have sex', 'sexual violence', 'being abused', 'flashing' and 'unwanted touching.' Such behaviours exist along a continuum and range from unwanted touching and sexual comments through to rape and rape-murder.

HARASSMENT:

(Protection from Harassment Act 17 of 2011)

Harassment is defined in the new Law as direct or indirect action that a reasonable person knows or ought to know would cause harm or inspires the reasonable belief that harm may be caused to the victim or a related person. Examples of harassment include following, watching, pursuing or accosting of the victim or a related person, as well as sending, delivering or causing electronic communication to be sent to the victim or related person. Harassment also includes loitering outside of or near the building or place where the victim or related person lives, works, carries on business, studies or happens to be and includes sexual harassment. The definition of harassment in terms of the Act is quite wide and is done so purposefully in order to provide for most if not all possible scenarios in which harassment or stalking could take place.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic Violence is a pattern of behaviour that is criminal and transgresses the right of the other person irrespective of age, sex, or race in a domestic setting. This pattern of behaviour can be physical, economic, or and emotional. The violence can also be sexual including but not limited to rape, spousal rape. In South Africa, domestic violence is criminalised under the Domestic Violence Act. The purpose of the Act is to provide victims with protection from domestic violence by creating obligations on law enforcement bodies (SAPS) to protect victims as far as possible.