



## CGE Calls for Respect for Members of The LGBTQI Community

Free State Commissioner Dibeela Mothupi attended LGBTQIA+ awareness event organised by the Free State office of the Premier along with representatives from civil society organisations supporting LGBTQIA+ persons, departments of education, home affairs, and social development. The departments raised concerns on issues that the LGBTQIA+ persons are faced with at schools, issues relating to

identity documents, and issuing of birth certificates, marriages, adoptions, access to justice and HIV and Aids awareness. Commissioner Mothupi presented on the Commission for Gender Equality's (CGE) mandate and raised awareness on the hatred towards LGBTQIA+ persons and the treatment they get from different public service centres. "Government

departments and public institutions have a responsibility of ensuring that LGBTQIA+ persons are treated with respect," said Commissioner Mothupi. "I call upon everyone to stop saying LGBTQIA+ persons choose to be who they are, because it's not a matter of choice, it is who they are, just like everyone else did not choose who they are", concluded Commissioner Mothupi.



Commissioner Dibeela Mothupi presenting on the mandate of the CGE and raising awareness on the hatred towards LGBTQIA+ persons.

## CGE Gives SAPS Station Deadline To Correct Victim Friendly Room

The Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) in Mpumalanga has expressed concern about the conditions found inside a victim friendly room at the Vaalbank police station. CGE arrived at the station on an oversight monitoring visit with the aim to assess the station's operations in assisting victims of gender-based violence. Victim friendly rooms are areas inside police station buildings where victims of rape and other sexual offences should be consulted.

The purpose of the facilities is to provide privacy and dignity to victims who visit police stations to open criminal cases against their perpetrators. "The structure needs renovations and there is a serious problem with water and sanitation," said CGE Commissioner Lindiwe Ntuli-Tloubatla. The Commission gave the police station a deadline to correct the situation and address its situation.



## 100 Day Challenge Leadership Design Workshop

Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) Western Cape Provincial Manager Sixolile Ngcobo attended a leadership designed workshop on end GBVF 100-Day Challenge on Tuesday. Leaders were invited to make a decision on what impact they would like to see in their communities and which impact indicator they will focus on. The World of Impact Team has used the 100-Day Challenge methodology to support leaders and teams to shape and implement the 100-Day Challenges. Leaders including CGE, Western Cape Provincial Manager, Sixolile Ngcobo have worked with local facilitators, the 100-Day Challenge Ambassadors who guided the workshop and provided an overview of the 100-Day challenges and the role leaders need to play to enable the work.



## Trends of discriminatory practices in the Consumer Market

Opinion Piece by Tsietsi Shuping

Consumer rights and gender equality are both critical issues that are closely intertwined. Consumers have the right to fair and equal treatment, regardless of their gender. However, gender discrimination in the consumer market or marketplace is still a widespread phenomenon, which can lead to unequal treatment and limited access to goods and services.

The Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008 (CPA) regulates the South African consumer market and aims to promote fair, accessible and sustainable marketplace for consumer products and services. Section 8 of the CPA prohibits the direct or indirect treatment of any person different from any other, any other, in a manner that constitutes unfair discrimination on one or more grounds set out in section 9 of the Constitution of the Republic of South African, 108 of 1996.

Despite the existence of the CPA and various prescripts protecting the right to equality, women continue to face discrimination when it comes to the purchasing of goods and services. For example, women may be charged more for products that are marketed towards them, such as beauty products or clothing. This is known as the "pink tax," and it can cost women thousands of rands over their lifetime. This perpetuates the cycle of gender inequality.

Harassment in the consumer market is also a form of gender discrimination. Harassment can include inappropriate comments or advances made by salespersons, street vendors, or service providers, as well as the use of sexual images or innuendo in advertising or marketing materials.

(To read the full piece, visit [www.cge.org.za](http://www.cge.org.za) - under Articles)

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END GBVF 100-Day Challenges