

**“The South African Domestic Violence Act:
Lessons from a Decade of Legislation and Implementation”**

26–28 November 2008

**The Parktonian Hotel Braamfontein
Johannesburg, South Africa**

Conference Programme

DAY ONE

Wednesday 26 November

- 08:00-09:00 Conference registration
- 09:00- 10:00 Conference opening
Ms Adele Kirsten – Executive Director Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation
Mr. Bafana Khumalo – Commissioner Commission on Gender Equality (TBC)
- 10:00-10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30-13:00 **Plenary session 1 – Inputs**
- Theme - Taking Stock: Domestic Violence legislation and policies*
Facilitator: Dr Lillian Artz
- Clarifying the Duty of the State to Protect: Reflection on CEDAW and the Optional Protocol –*
Wendy Isaacs, Legal Adviser, People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA)
- Lessons from a Decade of Legislation and Implementation –* Ms Joy Watson, Gender Researcher
with the South African Parliament
- Reflections from NGOs & CBOs Working in Rural Communities on Implementation of the*
Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998 – Findings from Workshops – Naomi Webster, Department of
Justice and Constitutional Development – Gender Directorate
- Championing Safety: Domestic Violence Prevention Interventions by the Kwa-Zulu Natal*
Department of Community Safety and Liaison (KZN DCSL) – Yasmin Bacus
- Questions and plenary discussion.
- 13:00 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:15 **Plenary session 2 – Inputs**
- Theme: Services for women in domestic violence situations**
Facilitator: Delphine Serumaga
- Exploring Women’s Use of Services in the Aftermath of Domestic Violence: A Case Study of*
Acornhoek, Mpumalanga - Lisa Vetten, Francois van Jaarsveld, Phineas Riba & Lufuno
Mokwena, Tshwaranang Legal Advocacy Centre to End Violence Against Women

Gains and Challenges of the Domestic Violence Act as experienced by the Saartjie Baartman Centre – Fatima Ismail & Charmaine Morris

Implementation of the Domestic Violence Act Over the Past 10 Years: Analysis and Reflection – Service Provision for Women Survivors of Domestic Violence: Shelters. What part do they play? - Linda Fugard, Sisters Inc

A Psychosocial Intervention with Children Affected by Domestic Violence - V. Arendse, Z. Joseph & W. Wichman, Trauma Centre for Survivors of Violence and Torture, Cape Town

15:15-15:30 Coffee break

17:30 Conference delegates leave for Constitution Hill

18:00-20:30 **Opening of exhibition “Healing and Empowerment: 10 Years of Public Awareness Raising and Education on Domestic Violence” and “Written on Her Face” at Constitution Hill**

Guest speaker: Ms Matsilo Motsei (TBC)

Busiswa Gqula: Feminist Poet

Lunch of the “I stories” – Gender Links

Entertainment with Mamela Nayamaza – Move 1524 Project

Conference dinner at Constitution Hill

DAY TWO
Thursday 27 November

08:45-09:00 Recap from day one

09:00-10:30 **Plenary session 3 – Inputs**

Theme - Domestic Violence: From the Private to the Public through the Criminal Justice System

Facilitator: Wendy Isaacs

Victim Retraction or System Reluctance?: An Investigation into the Attrition of Domestic Violence Cases within the Criminal Justice System – Dr Lillian Artz, Director Gender, Health & Justice Research Unit, Faculty of Health Sciences University of Cape Town

Monitoring and Evaluation of Domestic Violence: a Methodology for Non-governmental Organizations - Marieta de Vos, Executive Director Mosaic Training, Service & Healing Centre

The Domestic Violence Act and HIV/AIDS: Amend, Expand or Interpret? - Lorenzo Wakefield & Heléne Combrinck, Community Law Centre, University of Western Cape

The Role of the Victim Empowerment Programme in the Monitoring & Oversight of the Domestic Violence Act and Victim's Charter - Fiona Nicholson, director Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Centre

Access to Justice and Domestic Violence: the case of the Argentinean Supreme Court – Josefina Duran, lawyer with the Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género (Latin American Justice and Gender)

- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00-13:00 Plenary session 3: Questions and plenary discussion.
- 13:00 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:00 **Plenary session 4: Inputs**
- Theme – Working with perpetrators: a real alternative to end domestic violence?**
Facilitator: Nditsheni Maanda
- ‘Once the Hitting Stops’ Myths about batterer intervention programs* – Marcel Londt - lecturer in the Department of Social Work at the University of the Western Cape, Cape Town
- What working with violent men in intimate partner relationships has revealed about the nature of intimate partner violence in South Africa: A review of the NICRO Programme for Perpetrators of Intimate Partner Violence* - Vanessa C.T. Padayachee, National Manager Research and Programme Design - NICRO
- Exploring men’s subjective accounts of intimate partner violence* - Collet Ngwane researcher with the CSVR Gender-based Violence Programme and Malose Langa, lecturer in the School of Community and Human Development at the University of the Witwatersrand and Community Counselling Psychologist with the CSVR Trauma Clinic.
- Is there a Place for Restorative Justice in Responding to Domestic Violence?* - Restorative Justice Centre
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30-17:00 Plenary session 4: Questions and plenary discussion
- 19:00 - 20:30 Night at the movies in The Parktonian

DAY THREE
Friday 28 November

- 08:45-09:00 Recap from day two
- 09:00- 10:00 **Plenary session 5: Inputs**
Theme: Beyond responses: effecting the socio-cultural changes needed to prevent domestic violence
Facilitator: Angelica Pino
- Campaigning To End Domestic Violence In India: Challenges And Gains* – Anuradha Mohanty, People’s Cultural Centre – Orissa, India
- Traditional Leaders and the Implementation of the Domestic Violence Act in Zimbabwe* - Sithokozile N. Thabethe – lawyers with the Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association
- Ten Years of the Domestic Violence Act: Public Awareness and Education Campaigns on Domestic Violence* – Ms Nditsheni Maanda, Outreach Manager Nisaa Institute for Women’s Development
- Gender Based Violence in a Masculine Society* – Jeffrey Monakisi, Engender Health Men as Partners Programme

10:00-10:30 *Coffee break*

10:30-13:00 Plenary session 5: Questions and plenary discussion.

13:00 14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 **Plenary session 6: Conference conclusions and recommendations**
Facilitator: Lisa Vetten

16:00-16:30 Conference evaluation and closure