MOVING THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE TOWARDS COMBATING SEXUAL OFFENCES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2021

Making strides through this campaign

A

South Africa’s 16 Days of Activism Campaign will be launched on the 25th December. It is an annual international campaign that runs from 25 November to 16 December, aiming to raise awareness around violence against women and children.

This year’s theme is “Moving the wheels of justice towards combating sexual offences.” The campaign aims to raise awareness and advocate for stronger laws and effective implementation to protect women and children from violence.

The Department of Justice and Constitution Development and Reform (DoJ & CD) is spearheading the campaign, with various partners and stakeholders joining in to support the cause.

The campaign will focus on the need for a comprehensive approach to addressing sexual violence, including prevention, response, and prosecution. It will also highlight the importance of involving survivors and their communities in the process of justice.

Several government departments and civil society organizations are partnering with the DoJ & CD to make this campaign a success. These include the South African Police Service (SAPS), the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), and various non-governmental organizations.

The campaign will feature a range of activities, including community meetings, workshops, and awareness sessions. Social media campaigns will also be used to reach a wider audience.

The DoJ & CD is calling on all South Africans to join the campaign and make a commitment to end violence against women and children.

The campaign is supported by a range of partners, including the South African National Council of Women (SANCW), the South African Women’s Network (SAWN), and the South African Network of Women in Law (SANWOL).

The DoJ & CD is working towards a society where all women and children are safe from violence. This year, the focus is on sexual violence, but the campaign is part of a broader effort to end all forms of violence against women and children.

By working together, we can make a difference and create a safer and more inclusive society for all.

The DoJ & CD

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and Reform

www.justice.gov.za

NIRSO - PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN AND PERSONS WHO ARE MENTALLY DISABLED AGAINST SEXUAL OFFENCES

Did you know that every day in South Africa, many children and persons who are mentally disabled are sexually abused? Many of these cases go unreported because of the fear of stigma and shame.

The National Institute for Research on Sexual Offences (NIRSO) is working towards protecting these vulnerable individuals. They provide support and resources to survivors and their families, and work to raise awareness about the issue.

They are currently working on a new project to develop a support system for children and persons with disabilities who are at risk of sexual abuse. This project is expected to be launched in the coming months.

The DoJ & CD is proud to support the work of NIRSO and all those working towards ending sexual violence against children and persons who are mentally disabled.

The DoJ & CD is committed to creating a safer and more inclusive society for all. This year’s 16 Days of Activism Campaign is a step towards achieving this goal.

Let’s all work together to end violence against women and children. It is time to break the silence and take action.

The DoJ & CD

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and Reform

www.justice.gov.za
Moving the Wheels of Justice Towards Combating Sexual Offences

Q: What does LGBTI stand for?

Q: What is a transgender person?
A: This is a person whose gender identity does not align with their assigned gender role.

Q: What is a bisexual person?
A: This is a male or female person who is sexually and emotionally attracted to other males/females/same-sex attraction.

Q: What is a gay person?
A: This is a male who is sexually, romantically, mentally and emotionally attracted to other males.

Q: What is a lesbian person?
A: This is a female who is sexually, romantically, mentally and emotionally attracted to other females.

Q: Are gender and sexual orientation mutually exclusive?
A: No. It is an incorrect assumption. Just like many responsible heterosexuals, many practice safe sex. There are many organizations that provide counseling and assistance to them on practicing safe sex and give guidance to feel confident in who they are.

Q: Can gay, lesbian and transgender people change their sexual orientation or gender identity?
A: This is an incorrect assumption. Do not make assumptions of their sexual orientation as there are chances of changing their mind. They have the right to know what they like. They do not discriminate their sexual orientation against being asked. We have to respect who they are.

Q: What is a bisexual person?
A: This is a male or female person who is sexually and emotionally attracted to other males/females/same-sex attraction.

Q: Are bisexual people promiscuous and do they have sex with anyone and everyone at all times?
A: This is an incorrect assumption. Bisexual people are attracted to both men and women. It does not mean that they are promiscuous and sleep around. Many bisexual people are very monogamous, just like anyone else.

Q: Do lesbians, gay and transgender people always indulge in unsafe sex?
A: No. This is an incorrect assumption. Just like many responsible heterosexuals, many practice

Q: Is it true that whenever a gay/lesbian person approaches you it is always to propose sex with you?
A: No. This is an incorrect assumption. Just like all human beings they have a right to choose who they are attracted to. Gay people want to be attracted to men just because they are male, and women don’t see men as sexual just because they are men. So, everything is about sexual attraction. They could just be trying to be friendly or any other reason would.

Q: Are gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender people mostly sick and do they have the HIV?
A: No. It is an incorrect assumption. There have been many studies and research to support that this has been around the world and in Africa for centuries. It was not necessarily called the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the 20th century, rather it was simply expressed as it was expressed.

Q: Is it true that LGBTI persons are not religious?
A: This is an incorrect assumption. Many gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex people are practicing their traditional religious activities. Still, there are many people, including many Christian churches, welcome and accept all gender-identity people just like any other people, do this because they know how they feel comfortable. There is a diversity of gender expression among all众生 (men) and gender expression among all women (women).

Q: If a gay/lesbian person adopts children, will they make them gay?
A: No. Just like heterosexual couples, they will love and nurture that child. Just like any parent, they will expose that child to the environment that will make them old enough to endure the nature of their relationship in relation to other children.

Q: Are homosexuals people populous, watch pornography and sexually abuse their children?
A: There is no evidence to support this. Just like any heterosexual people, they indulge in adult fantasy. There is no evidence to support that gay or lesbian people abuse children any more than heterosexual people. They are normal members of society.

Q: Are there gay and lesbian people that are scared to declare their status because they are afraid of being stigmatized and marginalized?
A: Unemployment, yes. They have different reasons but many are scared of being ostracized against at home, work, and even in the broader society.

Q: Are gayness and lesbianism contagious?
A: No. It is not a disease or an illness. They are people just like everyone else and should be treated with the same dignity and respect that every member of society expects to be treated with.

Frequently Asked Questions on LGBTI

LGBTs, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgender & Intersex rights are Human Rights

The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development of the Republic of South Africa (doj&cd)

NIRSO – Protecting our Children and Persons who are Mentally Altered against Conviction of a Sexual Offence

MUST NOT DELAY,
Restitution of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development of the Republic of South Africa

WWW.JUSTICE.GOV.ZA

It’s not always straight forward . . .