



# STAKEHOLDERS REPORT 2019

WFOZ

Eradicating Violence against Women and Girls through mainstream women's audio visual narratives in marginalised urban and rural communities.

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarises the findings of the project by Women Film Makers of Zimbabwe (WFOZ) on Eradicating Violence against Women and Girls through mainstreaming women's audio visual narratives in marginalised urban and rural communities.

Women Filmmakers of Zimbabwe (WFOZ), is a leading women filmmakers' organization in the country. WFOZ was founded in 1996, and aims to increase the participation and production capacity of women locally and regionally in the audiovisual industry. It aims to bring women's issues to the attention of the cinema viewing and television watching public. Over the years WFOZ has engaged in various industry related activities including founding the International Images Film Festival for Women (IIFF) in 2002. IIFF, the only women's festival South of the Sahara, which has become an integral part of the local and regional film calendars and is a focal point for WFOZ's activities. Through the IIFF initiative, WFOZ has managed to create spaces and stimuli for societal engagement with critical issues ordinarily not engaged with adequately in the mainstream.

#### Vision

A Zimbabwe that serves as a model of democratic tolerance, integrity and sustainability for its people, the region and the continent through the provision of uplifting and motivating film narrative.

#### Mission

To strengthen gender and related tolerances in Zimbabwean society by narrating women's stories and experiences, whether told by women or men, or any other gender, powerfully through the medium of film.

#### Values and Guiding Principles

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Commitment
- Innovation

The methodologies adopted for this analysis included surveys and interviews. Films that involve violence against women and girls were sought and screened in different communities, followed by discussions. The films were used as tools to gather information in the communities's understanding of VAWG as well as to raise awareness on issues and impacts of VAWG. A monitoring and evaluation exercise that measures changes before and after the screenings was also carried out.

In Zimbabwe, screenings were held in urban and peri-urban areas of Harare, Chipinge and Binga. Harare had the following communities, Epworth, Mufakose, Highfield and Harare city centre. Binga in Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Intale fishing camp, Mankobole church of Christ, Sianzundu Secondary School, Siachilaba Business Centre, Donga Primary School, Ntengwe Drop in Centre (Manjolo) and Twalyokezya Business Centre. Chipinge in the villages of Bangira, Tafara, Muswirizi, Muswera and Chinaa/Pfidza townships. Also in Kenya at Multimedia University, Kenyatta University and Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC).

This stakeholders report fulfills the last report of AWDF. The purpose of the report is to share information gathered from communities engaged to prevent and obtain feedback on how WFOZ methodologies can be used in the future.

## II. ACRONYMS

WFOZ	Women Film Makers of Zimbabwe			
GBV	Gender Based Violence			
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls			
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund			
COPAZ	Community Organisation for Poverty Alleviation in Zimba- bwe			
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women			
SGBV	Sexual Gender Based Violence			
ZUBO TRUST	Zubo Zambezi Valley Trust			
ZRP VFU	Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit			
NBSLEA	National Baseline Survey on Life Experiences of Adolescents			
CNN	Cable News Network			
UN ZIMBABWE	United Nations in Zimbabwe			
HIV	Human Immuno- Deficiency			
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency			

#### III. BACKGROUND TO THE WFOZ COMMUNITY SCREENINGS

WFOZ brings women's issues to the attention of the cinema viewing and television watching public by traditional screenings and community outreaches in Zimbabwe and beyond. Community screenings are an integral part of the WFOZ outreach project in uplifting and motivating film narrative about women followed by solution oriented focused group discussions. WFOZ works with other women's organisations which includes ZUBO in Binga, Mama Africa Film Festival in Kenya and COPAZ in Chipinge to provide back up to communities where actions emanate from. This approach has been most effective in cases of sexual violence where women are survivors, or where women have been targeted for protecting minors, often also as a result of WFOZ programmes.

Our Screenings have proven to be an effective way to bring communities to speak of GBV issues in an open manner. This is particularly effective with issues which are tabooed in Zimbabwe. Issues which mainly deal with sexual violence. We have created safe space where marginalised women are grateful as they can come and speak freely and exercise their rights.

The project addresses specific women's rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Anchored on this declaration is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women which sets the tone for gender equality. According to UNFPA Zimbabwe 2017 women play a critical role in sustainable development, yet VAWG undermines opportunities for women and girls and denies them the ability to fully utilise their basic human rights.

Based on statistics in Zimbabwe and Kenya the following issues have been identified as the most problematic in these 2 countries contributing to VAWG. These issues include:

# 1. Physical, Sexual and Gender Based Violence:

According to UN Zimbabwe, about 1 in 3 women aged 15 to 49 have experienced physical violence and about 1 in 4 women have experienced sexual violence since the age of 15. In Zimbabwe 1 in 3 women face violence through out their lifetime and 78 percent of women and girls report their spouses as the perpetrators. According to NewZimbabwe.com 2016, 45000 cases of SGBV were reported in just one year as per police records. UN Women Kenya report 2014 reiterates that women and girls who experienced physical/sexual intimate partner violence in the last 12 months stood at 26 percent.

Zimbabwe Statistical Agency (NBSLEA) 2011 report states that unwanted first sexual intercourse is prevalent at 53 percent among 13-17 and 61 percent among 18-24 age groups. According to Human Rights Watch and CNN 2017 rape and sexual violence were widespread during the 2017 tumultuous elections in Kenya. Human Rights Watch documented dozens of rape and sexual assault cases perpetrated by the uniformed forces and state agents. The electoral process has been tainted by violence including rape and sexual assault for decades and 2017 cycle was no different with women and girls bearing the brunt of this state of affairs. This is the same trend in Zimbabwe according to the Centre for Study of Violence.

#### 2. Child Marriages:

UN Zimbabwe also notes that Zimbabwe has the highest child marriage rates in the world with 50 percent of girls based in the rural areas less than 18 years of age. UN Women Kenya 2014 report notes that child marriages are still too high with a national average of 23 percent per year.

#### 3. Female Genital Mutilation:

According to UN Women Kenya report 2014, Female genital mutilation stands at 21 percent per year.

#### 4. Believability of VAWG

Feminist writer Pumla Gqola has engaged with the issue of believability in cases of women and girls reporting rape and other forms of VAWG. This believability depends on how closely the ~VAWG resembles her society's idea of what VAWG looks like, who commits VAWG, who can have VAWG committed against them, when and how. Stories are believed or doubted based on the relationship between plausibility and credibility. Plausibility depends on a range of things dependent on the audience, Credibility factors relate to the narrator. This results in a situation where survivors of VAWG are reluctant to seek justice.

#### **IV. OBJECTIVES**

- 1. To engage in transformative education processes in the public domain through bringing narratives on VAWG in public spaces in marginalised urban and rural communities in Kenya and Zimbabwe by July 2020.
- 2. To foster the feminist practice of amplifying women and girls voices, discussions and dialogue on ending VAWG in the public domain in marginalised urban and rural communities through engaging key stakeholders and service providers.
- 3. To contribute to literature on VAWG through documenting personal women and girls' stories in marginalised urban and rural communities in Zimbabwe and Kenya and uploading on the findings to the WFOZ-ICAPA website for accessibility to all stakeholders.
- 4. To contribute to debate on policy and laws that prevent VAWG by engaging policy makers and government organisations, civic society and other key stakeholders with findings from marginalized and under served rural and urban women and girls

#### V. METHODOLOGY

The community outreach screenings are a strategic way of reaching out to many community members. The content screened included documentaries, short and feature films featuring women's narratives made by or for women from all over the world. With the help of our supporting partners, screenings were possible in and out of Zimbabwe.

In Zimbabwe, screenings were held in urban and peri-urban areas of Harare, Chipinge and Binga. Harare had the following communities, Epworth, Mufakose, Highfield and Harare city centre. Binga in Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Intale fishing camp, Mankobole church of Christ, Sianzundu Secondary School, Siachilaba Business Centre, Donga Primary School, Ntengwe Drop in Centre (Manjolo) and Twalyokezya Business Centre. Chipinge in the villages of Bangira, Tafara, Muswirizi, Muswera and Chinaa/Pfidza townships. Also in Kenya at Multimedia University, Kenyatta University and Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC).

Discussions were generated around the topic of the films screened. The films were as follows:

Harare	Binga	Kenya	Chipinge	
Ruvimbo's wedding	Mukanya	Mukanya	Damaru	
Sound ot tears	E-do- enough	Ruvimbo's wedding	Ruvimbo's wedding	
Nyasaland	Dina	EDO (Enough)	Dina	
Tamala	Damaru	Sound of Tears	EDO (Enough)	
Mukanya	Yeukai	Damaru	Sound of tears	
EDO (Enough)	Coming home	Dina	Tamala	
Damaru	Nyasaland	Alma	Nyasaland	
	Alma	Aya	Peretera Maneta	
	Marginalised	Nyasaland		
	women in jeopardy			
	Peretera Maneta			

#### Alma

Cameroon, Short film, 22 mins

Alma is a beautiful young woman living with her husband in a fishing village in rural Cameroon. What seems an idyllic existence in the beginning soon turns into a harrowing story of domestic abuse, which unfolds in the context of a community that does nothing. The film bluntly explores the tragic consequences of gender-based violence when un-denounced.

#### Damaru

Cameroon, 2014, 23mins, Short

From the abyss of despair, a young deaf girl strives to achieve her earnest desire for special education. But first, she has to overcome the eccentricities of her society.

#### Dina

Mozambique 2010 23 min Short Film

When Dina a 14-year old teenager falls pregnant, Fauzia her mother, begins to understand that her husband Remane's violent behavior has reached extreme heights. After a big fight that leaves Fauzia in the hospital, Dina convinces her mother to open a case against her father. In court Fauzia confronts Remane for the last time.

#### E-DO Enough

Cameroon, 2016, Short film, 23 mins

Domestic violence - a child's point of view.

#### Mukanya

Zimbabwe, 2018, Short Film, 21mins

From a past marred by drunkenness and violence, the village menace, Mukanya, embarks on a journey to redeem himself by saving his son, who has become a reflection of Mukanya's failures as a father. This is the journey of two men transforming into fathers.

#### Nyasaland

Malawi, 2017, Feature, 72 mins

A very successful and independent young woman returns to her village to see her ill father only to find him dead and buried. What follows is her encounter with the hyena that is terrorising the village and it happens to be a human being. With the help of a young man she takes the hyena head on and saves her village.

#### Peretera Maneta

Zimbabwe, 2005, 24 mins

A young university graduate teacher discoves a terrible secret at a rural school.

#### Ruvimbo's Wedding

Zimbabwe, 2017, 5 mins

Ruvimbo's wedding is a short film about child marriages. The film was written and directed by Ben Mahaka, scored scored by hope Masike and includes poetry by Chirikure Chirikure. It features a cast of 1st time actors led by Millicent Dolasi and Ernest Musvaire.

#### Sound of tears

Canada/2015/15 mins/ Short Film

A young woman from a patriarchal community is forced into an arranged marriage to save the family honor. Amina and her family have fled the city to escape her estranged lover Josh and the stamp of shame from their patriarchal community; but Josh tracks them down.

#### Tamala

Tanzania, 2017, Short Film 11mins

After her parents died, Tamala (15) is taken from the village to go work in the city where she struggles with violence and sexual harassment. She then decides to turn to the street for little comfort. The streets aren't so nice for street children but Tamala fights her best fight in order to return to her grandmother back in the village.

#### Yeukai

Zimbabwe, 2014, DVD, 6mins, Short Film

A young orphaned lady lives with her not so friendly grandmother and regrets the outcome of her life. She wishes she had gone to school and had a normal life like other young ladies her age. Due to her vulnerability, she is date raped by a friend who visits her at her grandmother's house.

#### Coming home

Namibia, 2014, 24mins, Short

Burdened by vague but unsettling childhood memories, Nia returns to her desolate hometown years later to face her stepfather. Coming Home is a young woman's emotional journey of redemption.

#### Marginalised Women in Jeopardy

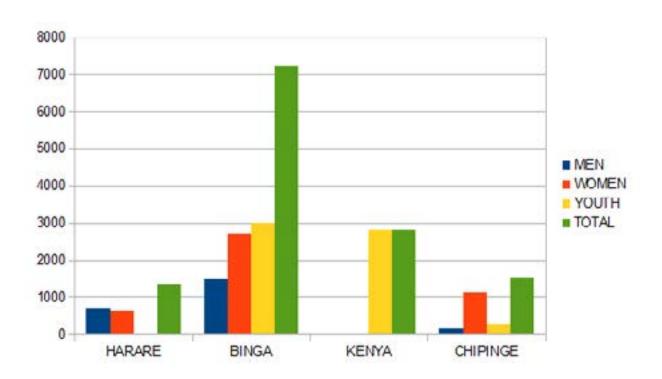
Zimbabwe, 2015, 8mins, Short Doc.

An account of aggravated violence against women and girls in the Hoyuyu Resettlement area of Mutoko, whilst early child marriages are rampant in Hoyuyu, the area recorded the highest cases of GBV and rape in Zimbabwe in 2013.

#### **VI. AUDIENCE STATISTICS**

The screenings were attended by stakeholders at district level and village heads, men, women, boys and girls from the different villages at the various screening venues. The majority of the audiences at the screenings was made up of women which was ideal as they are the target audience but men also turned up in good figures.

Location	Men	Women	Youth	Total
Harare	711	654	-	1365
Binga	1512	2712	2995	7219
Kenya			2826	2826
Chipinge	144	1137	260	1541
Total	2367	4503	6081	12951



#### VII. RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

After the screening of each film a discussion was held facilitated by our partners and WFOZ representatives. The findings were recorded as below:

#### CHILD MARRIAGE FILMS

#### Ruvimbos wedding

 Child marriage is still happening and it is not only Ruvimbo in the film who

is a victim but there are many girls who are forced to leave school and get married at a tender age. One of the female participants in Mufakose said she would even make it a police case than let her child be married off at school going age. Child marriage is a very bad thing as it affects the girl child's future. All children, either boys or girls have the right to go to school and should not be forced to marry when they are still young. Parents should let kids be kids and not force them to be parents at a tender age like in the case of Ruvimbo in Ruvimbos wedding. Mothers should have the power to fight for the rights of their children to go to school and not let the father decide on what happens to the children all the time. Ruvimbo's mother should have objected to Ruvimbo's early marriage.

• The community should learn to take responsibility when they see that

there are some bad things happening to children in the community, people should learn to always apply the proverb "It takes a village to raise a child" as this can help them to protect all children even those that are not biologically theirs. The community should have stood up and protected Ruvimbo from being married off whilst she was still young. It was also advised that community

members should always have telephone numbers for the police and other organizations that help fight child abuse so that they can call at any time when they witness any form of child abuse or any form of gender based violence.

 It was also said that poverty is the biggest driver of child marriage
 as parents marry off their children to try and run away from poverty.
 Sometimes parents just focus on

to try and run away from poverty.

Sometimes parents just focus on trying to end their immediate financial problems without considering the future of the child. All men who marry underage girls should be arrested.

 Some religions oppress women and force them to do things that they

do not want to do such as arranged marriages. Arranged marriages are still happening especially in some apostolic sects where young women are forced to marry men that they do not love, this is violence against women and this film (ruvimbo's wedding) must be taken to those people so that they learn from it, as child marriage is very high among the people who attend this church. Children must be guided by the elders not to be involved in early marriages.

 Peer pressure among the girl child and hence leading to early marriages.

#### Sound of tears

 he events in the movie (Sound of tears) are very sad as the young woman was killed just because she did not want to marry the man that her family had chosen for her. No one deserves to be killed for not loving somebody because everyone has a right to choose their own life partner. Killing is a crime and the police should always bring the perpetrator to book and not be biased like is noticed in the film (Sound of tears) when the young woman Amina is stabbed to death in their watch and they let the murderer get away simply because they believed that she was doing a wrong thing of falling in love with a person from a different race than hers. Families should never disown their children for choosing a partner from a different race, culture or religion. Race should not be used against anyone weather in marriage or in any other sphere of life.

 The audience advised each other to be very careful with some cultural practices that put the lives of the girl child at risk.
 Some cultures are very oppressive of the girl child such that they do not let them choose their own partners. Everyone should be allowed to choose their own partners.

# VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS (VAWG) FILMS

Nyasaland; Tamala; Mukanya & E-Do (Enough)

- Members of the audience showed disapproval of the culture that was portrayed in the film 'Nyasaland' where the girl child was sexually abused in the name of tradition. The events portrayed in the film 'Nyasaland' are real and still happening in other parts of Zimbabwe so this film should be taken to very remote areas such as Mbire district where the Doma people live. This may help them to learn that there are some cultural practices that should be abolished. These cultural practices should not be followed as they disadvantage children especially the girl child. For example, the appeasement of the spirits through cleansing and sacrifice.
- The issue of wife inheritance was raised

and the audiences indicated that it is a bad practice especially in this day of HIV and AIDS. The elderly women in most rural areas also need to watch this film (Nyasaland) as it can help them to understand their rights and avoid being chased away from their matrimonial homes in case their husband dies like what almost happened to the widow in the film.

- Communities should have the power to denounce wrong cultural practices as this can help to free some people especially women and girls from bad cultural practices. The community should always learn to report any cases of sexual violence if they suspect anything. People should not hide behind culture to abuse women and girls, anyone who does that should be arrested. Community tends to ignore cases of GBV in fear of retribution from the perpetrator and from mere individualism as in the film EDO. Officer Zvirevo from the Victim friendly Unit Chipinge, said campaigns by ZRP are done in most communities whereby people are advised to report all forms of domestic violence. She said all information received is followed up and treated with secrecy. Victim friendly unit is also available for such cases so people should not be afraid to report in fear of the perpetrators finding out.
- Poverty can cause the girl child to be exposed to many dangers as in the case of Tamala. Education is very important and every child deserves to get an education, whether boy or girl. It is important to send the girl child to school as this can help them later in future to fight for their own rights as well as the rights of other oppressed women. Parents should make an effort to give their children a good education so that the children can have better lives and better jobs when they grow up and not to be involved in bad deals as in (Mukanya). Fathers should make an effort to provide for their families and send their children to school and not to let the women bear the burden of raising children alone.

- Girls should be empowered to be able to speak out if anything bad is happening to them and not to run away from home and be street children, like what (Tamala) did because there may be more dangers out there than at home. There is need for both children to be educated on sexual and reproductive health to help them avoid getting into early parenthood. When young adults get into a relationship and end up having a child out of wedlock it is usually the girl child who suffers as she usually drops out of school while the boy in most cases continues to develop himself and most of the times denies to take responsibility of the child and the girl whose life would have been ruined as she has to start raising a child at a very tender age.
- Fathers should lead their families by setting a good example because if they are abusive they tend to pass that on to their children as we see with Taku in (Mukanya) who was always violent and was beating up his wife like he used to see his father do although he reformed in the end when he was giving his son Taku advice but it was hard for Taku to listen to his father since he was used to the abusive behaviour.
- t was also mentioned that the girl child should be protected from bad male relatives who are abusive. The cases of girls who are raped by their own fathers, uncles or other male relatives are very high among orphaned children and something must be done to help end this problem.
- The audience also learnt that communities should not associate certain jobs with gender as this can discriminate against other people in the work place. As long as a person has the ability to do the tasks associated with the job they should be free to do it and not feel out of place because the environment is male dominated.
- A young man indicated that it would be

- good to also have films of boys who are suffering from gender based violence so that the young boys can learn how to deal with the problem of gender based violence. The WFOZ team was able to respond to this by advising all young men and boys to report any case of gender based violence if they are victims or if they witness another person being abused. The audience were given advice to report to the police, Child Line and other organizations that focus on gender based violence.
- he audience also requested that if the organization can organize more community outreach programmes like this one as they were very important and they taught men how to desist from violence against women.
  - Social environment can affect the upbringing of a child. Family as the primary socializing Institution has a duty to shape the social development of a child educationally and emotionally. As in the film (Edo) the circumstances at home led the child to isolate herself in class and tend to be violent often fighting with the other kids. The abusive behavior of the family portrayed in the film resulted in the child being alienated by other children. If socialization fails to happen at an early stage it develops at puberty. A child who grows up under these abusive conditions develops into or is prone to more abuse or to being an abuser themselves. Some men usually blame their wives if they fail to be successful in life and always shift all the blame on their wives especially when they are forced to stay together because of unwanted pregnancy. Some men even go to the extent of hating their children as if the children are responsible for their failures. One of the women audiences indicated that there is a man in her neighborhood who hates his step daughter to the extent that he does not want that child to be given food that he buys. The woman asked if there is anything that can be done to help that child because the mother wants to keep her marriage and only feeds the child in the absence of her

husband. It was also observed from the films that when the mother is constantly beaten they sometimes forget to attend to their children's immediate needs because of stress as we notice with the little girl who was always sitting outside alone whilst hungry. Women have their rights and those rights must be respected too.

ne man who was part of the audience

up his wife and he had learnt a lesson from the film and promised never to beat up his wife again and also asked his friends who were also there to watch the film to help him to achieve this. Perpetrators of violence against women usually realize their mistake when it is too late to reverse the consequences of the violent behaviors as is noticed in the film E-Do. One woman indicated that it is not wise for women to stay in abusive relationships, it is better to leave the abusive man than to wait until he kills you or your child.

### DISABILITY FILMS

#### Damaru

Disabled people have rights and those
rights should be respected. Any form
of disability should not be used against
anyone. All children have the right to go to
school despite having any form of physical
disability.

- A young woman stated that some men take advantage of people who are disabled and in most cases disabled girls are usually raped because they have no ability to fight back. If anyone witnesses such behavior they should report to the relevant authorities.
- n cases where a girl is raped and
   falls pregnant, they should be allowed

to continue with their education and relatives must be supportive. The WFOZ team also advised the audience that if anyone got raped they should report to the police immediately and also seek medical attention so that they can the Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) treatment to avoid falling pregnant and also to avoid contacting HIV. One of the men stated that members of the community should strive to help families who have disabled children so that those children can go to school as most disabled children are kept at home because the parents do not have information on how to get social welfare support for their children. Members of the audience highlighted that in most families physically challenged children are usually discriminated against and in most cases they are not treated with respect and dignity. Parents who have children that are deaf and dumb should make an extra effort to learn sign language so that they can understand their children when they try to communicate.

#### VIII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## Government departments, Policy makers and Referral centers

Government departments responsible for prevention & protection that is health, social security, women affairs and justice as they are the main parent service providers mandated to provide multi sectoral and comprehensive VAWG services to be engaged, to influence existing policy, infrastructural, technical and financial gaps and structural barriers that are fuelling VAWG so that they take necessary corrective action. Policy makers such as relevant parliamentary port folio committees and international agencies also to be engaged. They are referal centres all over the country that some people are not aware of like the social welfare department. It has awareness personel in each ward around the country that they work with to educate/ inform people about services provided by the social welfare.

# Target areas of raising campaign awareness

People now have a belief that GBV prevails mostly in rural communities hence their response and advocacy on GBV issues in urban arears is lacking. This belief has to be corrected and awareness campaigns to be held in both rural and urban areas. Officer Zvirevo from ZRP VFU Chipinge said that statistics of GBV cases are most prevalent in urban areas now compared to rural areas.

#### Engaging with community leaders

Women stay in abusive relationships because of culture. Male chauvinism is rife in some communities. Even if they know that VAWG is wrong cannot speak up because the man's word is final as in the film Ruvimbo's wedding. Men should be educated to desist from this. Community leaders, chiefs, Members of Parliament as social influencers can best convenience the communities they lead to desist from GBV. A follow up can be then done in their communities to see the changes in GBV after the leaders

have been engaged.

# Socio Economic empowerment of women

Source of income was also noted as the reason why women keeps holding on to abusive relationships. There is need to empower women so that they can sustain themselves. Catch, Chipinge said it is good to have these film discussions but the program should not end there. Ways and means of empowering women from these abusive relationships to start up self sustaining projects should be found. The abused can have access to medical care and justice if they are economically empowered.

#### More outreach programs

WFOZ observed there is need for more community outreach programs as often as possible. This will also help communities to always remember and see the negative effects of child abuse and Gender Based Violence as well as making it easier to measure and monitor impact or progress.

#### Ministry of Education clearance

There are real issues that audiences relate to that the films portray as such the use of film to teach people is very good and people tend to understand it better than reading pamphlets. Young children who attended the film screenings learn t quite a lot from the films and expressed interest in the method of teaching through film. WFOZ suggests an appeal to the Ministry for clearance to access to schools.

#### Effects of social norms

Silence on VAWG is rooted in the social construct of gender that is inculcated at a very early age and is often build upon unequal power relations, unjust attitudes, practices and beliefs. These same norms governing gender power relations influence how VAWG is viewed and tolerated in different contexts. These norms, gender biases and discrimina-

tory attitudes and behaviours also permeate the various sectors within government, whose public officials are likely to hold many of the same views as those in the society they grew up or live. The silence on VAWG is as endemic and pervasive as the violence itself. Women and girls hide their suffering in the camouflage of loyalty, submissiveness and peace while their silence legitimizes VAWG. The silence on VAWG grounded in the patriarchal system and multiple forms of inequality between women and men across all societies enable violence against women and girls to continue in both public and private spheres. Usually customary laws contradict international human rights standards and access to justice by women and girl survivors is hindered by obstacles such as gender bias and discriminatory attitudes, social stigma and financial constrains. Traditional and religious leaders as custodians of tradition, culture and beliefs their involvement is critical for sustained eradication of harmful and discriminatory attitude, beliefs and practices.

#### Poor Governance

This leads to policy gaps and poor government

accountability in comprehensively addressing VAWG is a significant obstacle to ending the problem. Generalized acceptance of VAWG, inadequate legal protection and enforcement, insufficient resource allocation and poor implementation of national commitments contribute to pervasive impunity. Rarely are government commitments accompanied by adequate budget allocation, requisite institutional support, staffing and skills development, which would be an effective recommendation to be actioned in curbing this issue.

# Lack of information and access to VAWG services

There is a lack of information and access to VAWG services by marginalized women and girls and ending VAWG requires a multi sectoral approach and coordination by all service providers to ensure comprehensive access to protection, prevention and response services by survivors. The current ad hoc, piece meal and inconsistent efforts are inadequate. Media to be engaged to influence the mainstreaming of women issues and reducing reinforcement of gender inequality through the media.

#### IX.LIST OF THE STAKEHOLDERS.

COPAZ, Chipinge

SIMUKAI Child Protection, Chipinge

Childline, Chipinge

Department of Social Welfare, Chipinge

Plan International, Chipinge

FACT (NSC), Chipinge

CATCH, Chipinge

Leonard Cheshire Disability Zimbabwe (LCD2), Chipinge

MWACSMED, Chipinge

ZRP VFU, Chipinge

Bangira, Chipinge

Tafara, Chipinge

Muswirizi, Chipinge

Muswera Chipinge

Chinaa - Pfidza townships, ChipingeEpworth, Harare

Mufakose, Harare

Highfield, Harare

National Arts Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare city centre

B2C, Harare

ZUBO, Binga

Binga Rural District Council (BRDC), Binga

Intale fishing camp, Binga

Mankobole church of Christ, Binga

Sianzundu Secondary School, Binga

Siachilaba Business Centre, Binga

Donga Primary School, Binga

Ntengwe Drop in Centre (Manjolo), Binga

Twalyokezya Business, Binga

Multimedia University, Kenya

Kenyatta University, Kenya

Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC), Kenya

## X. APPENDIX



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