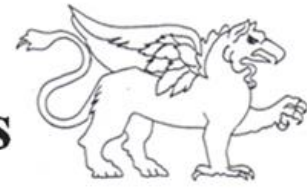




Specialised
Security Services



PROJECT:
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE
WOMEN'S MONTH
AUGUST 2023
(PART 1)

**NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATES
THE STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE OF WOMEN AND
THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETY AND COUNTRY.**

**IT FORMS PART OF SOUTH AFRICA'S
WOMEN'S MONTH WHICH PROVIDES
AN OPPORTUNITY TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE
GENERATIONS OF WOMEN WHOSE
STRUGGLES LAID THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE
PROGRESS MADE IN EMPOWERING WOMEN
AND ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY TO DATE.**

**BUT JUST HOW MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE?
WHAT PERCENTAGE OF OUR POPULATION REALLY
ENJOYS GENDER EQUALITY?**

**IN SOUTH AFRICA TODAY, RAPE, MURDER AND
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IS RIFE -
WE NEED TO TAKE STOCK AND SEE JUST
HOW FAR WE HAVE REALLY COME.**

As part of our continued efforts to fight gender-based violence, we have decided to dedicate a series of projects this women's month - to not only raise awareness of the very serious situation that some women and children find themselves in, but also to encourage them to reach out and seek help, because there is always a way out, although many might not believe this to be true.

Personal privacy and respect should always be present in a healthy relationship.



RECENT STATISTICS AND STUDIES SHOW:

- In South Africa, three women die at the hands of their partners daily, amounting to over 1,000 deaths annually.
- It paints a picture of the daily reality of women in the country, with three women losing their lives every day due to violence perpetrated by their partners.
- 35% of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime.
- Almost one-third (27%) of women aged 15-49 years who have been in a relationship report being subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner.

CRIME STATISTICS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2023 IN SOUTH AFRICA, ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER OF POLICE:

The reported cases of violence committed against women and children include:

- 360 more attempted murder cases were registered and investigated by the SAPS involving minors.
- There were 1,485 attempted murders of women in South Africa in the first three months of this year.
- A total of 969 women were killed in the same period.
- Over 15,000 women were assaulted, and the SAPS are investigating assault GBH cases.

MORE DATA STUDIES INDICATE:

- 1,101 women were murdered between October and December 2022.
- 319 children were killed in the same period.
- This translates into roughly 12 women and three children murdered daily in South Africa over 90 days.
- Another 21,434 children and women suffered attempted murder or grievous bodily harm.
- More than half of these instances were at the hands of an intimate partner.

WARNING SIGNS OF AN UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP:

- **ISOLATION**
 - Spending time together is almost always the focus of a new relationship. You should never feel obligated or pressured to isolate yourself from your friends and family.
 - Abuse most often starts on an emotional level and more often than not, you will be too blinded by your emotions to notice - your friends and family may notice that something does not seem right.
 - In many cases the abuser will encourage isolation by making it seem that your friends and family are jealous and that they do not want you to be happy; the goal is to isolate you from those that see the warning signs.
 - Never allow yourself to be isolated as that is usually the first step towards a cycle of abuse.

- **CONTROL**

- Control comes in many different forms but in an abusive relationship, control is usually implemented over a period of time.
- It may start with what you are allowed to wear or when you are allowed some private time; it then usually escalates to financial control.
- Financial control is the reason that most women and children live in circumstances filled with:
 - *Emotional abuse.*
 - *Physical abuse.*
 - *Constant fear.*
 - *Emotional neglect.*
 - *No sense of self-worth.*
- Women stay in circumstances like that because they feel trapped; they have no idea where to turn or how they will be able to provide for themselves and their children should they decide to exit the relationship.
- Never allow yourself to be controlled in any way - physically, mentally, or financially.

- **INTIMIDATION**

- Once you find yourself in a situation where you are isolated and controlled, the abuser uses intimidation tactics to exert and maintain control over you. Whenever you stand up for yourself or disagree with the abuser, you will hear statements like:
 - *Who pays for this house?*
 - *How do you think you will make it on your own?*
 - *Nobody will do for you what I do for you.*
 - *Just remember that the children will stay with me because I have the means to feed them.*
 - *Who else would want you anyway.*
- These statements are all intimidation tactics used to force you to allow the abuser to maintain control.
- They are meant to make you believe that you have no options, that you cannot leave the situation and that you simply must accept your fate.

- **MANIPULATION**

- When all else fails and you realize that you have options, the abuser might attempt manipulation methods to persuade you to stay, to forgive and forget and that everything will be different.
 - Abusive people stop at nothing to keep control over someone, you can expect anything from using emotional manipulation to threatening suicide or other types of self-inflicted injury.

Beware of being caught in the "better the devil, you know" trap. You never have to stay in an abusive relationship because you feel you have no other options.

There are many options available to assist women and children in getting back on their feet. Abusive people will always limit your options to keep your knowledge of possibilities limited.

Never accept the devil, you know, when you could be living with no devil at all.

We encourage all women and children who find themselves in abusive situations to reach out to family, friends, and colleagues or call the National GBV Helpline on 0800 150 150.

VIEW OUR OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE OR WEBSITE FOR MANY SIMILAR WARNINGS REGARDING THESE ATROCIOUS INCIDENTS AND THE TRAUMATIC EFFECTS IT HAS ON THE VICTIMS.

**CONTACT MR MIKE BOLHUIS FOR ADVICE,
RECOMMENDATIONS, SECURITY, PROTECTION,
OR AN INVESTIGATION IF NEEDED.**

**ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED WITH THE
UTMOST PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY.**

***You may forward this document and
share it with as many people as possible.***

Regards,

Mike Bolhuis.
Specialist Investigators into
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EXTREMELY IMPORTANT: All potential clients need to be aware that owing to the nature of our work as specialist investigators there are people who have been caught on the wrong side of the law - who are trying to discredit me - Mike Bolhuis and my organisation Specialised Security Services - to get themselves off the hook.

This retaliation happens on social media and creates doubt about our integrity and ability. Doubt created on social media platforms is both unwarranted and untrue.

We strongly recommend that you make up your minds concerning me and our organisation only after considering all the factual information - to the exclusion of hearsay and assumptions.

Furthermore, you are welcome to address your concerns directly with me should you still be unsatisfied with your conclusions. While the internet provides a lot of valuable information, it is also a platform that distributes a lot of false information. The distribution of false information, fake news, slander and hate speech constitutes a crime that can be prosecuted by law. Your own research discretion and discernment are imperative when choosing what and what not to believe.

STANDARD RULES APPLY: Upon appointment, we require a formal mandate with detailed instructions. Please take note that should you not make use of

our services – you may not under any circumstance use my name or the name of my organisation as a means to achieve whatever end.

POPI ACT 4 of 2013 South Africa: Mike Bolhuis' "Specialised Security Services" falls under Section 6 of the act. Read more here: <https://mikebolhuis.co.za/popi-act-4-of-2013-section-6-mike-bolhuis/>

SSS TASK TEAM:
<https://mikebh.link/Task-Team-2023>



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