

Gender- Based Violence



What you should know

KHOSI'S STORY

Khosi is 57 years old, married with two children. She sews clothes from her home to try to make ends meet after she was retrenched from her garment factory job five years ago.

Her husband abuses her financially and emotionally. The relationship is broken and he has stopped providing financial support to her and the children.

He uses Khosi's money without her consent to contribute to church activities and, when Khosi raises her dissatisfaction, he tells her that she is nagging and blames her for losing her job.

Khosi caught her husband cheating with one of the women from the same church. When she confronted him, he lied about the incident and turned the church against her as an unsupportive wife.

Khosi is unhappy in her marriage but yields to the pressure from church and feels that she cannot leave her 30-year marriage.

Are you in a similar situation to Khosi? Or do you know someone who is?

You are not alone.
Help is available.



POWA

Cell: 076 694 5911 (every day 8.30am-6.30pm)

Email: info@powa.co.za

Facebook: [Powa.Berea@facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/Powa.Berea)

TEARS FOUNDATION

Phone: *134*7355#

accessible 24/7 in all 9 provinces

Email: info@tears.co.za

GBV COMMAND CENTRE

Toll free: 0800 428 428

Please Call Me SMS: *120*7867#

SMS "help" to 31531 for people with disabilities

Skype address: "Helpme GBV" for members of the deaf community

FORMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Any physical contact that is intended to cause pain, including punching, pushing, slapping, pinching, biting or kicking.



RAPE

Any time a man has sex with a woman without her consent, whether he is in a relationship with her or not.



SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Any unwanted touching, physical contact, sexually suggestive comments or stalking.



EMOTIONAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

This comes in many different forms:

Intimidation - frightening her by using looks, actions, gestures, smashing things, displaying a weapon, cornering her, blocking her way.



Threats - threatening to hurt her, leave her, commit suicide, expose her secrets, publish her private photos.

Verbal - putting her down, insulting her, making her feel bad about herself, calling her names. Making her think **she is crazy**. Humiliating or shaming her. Making her feel **guilty or dirty**. Treating her as if she is **worth less than you**. **Controlling** what she does, who she sees, who she speaks to, what she watches.

ECONOMIC ABUSE

Using money for control, such as preventing her from getting a job, making her beg for money, not allowing her to buy things she needs.



STRUCTURAL ABUSE

When the treatment of women as “less than” is built into societal or organizational norms. This is often very subtle. One example of this is a company whose directors make important decisions on the golf course without inviting the female executives. Another is a family gathering where the women are expected to do all the cooking, cleaning and serving even if they have also worked a full day.



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PEOPLE OPPOSING WOMEN ABUSE

WIEGO
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Adapted from FAN