

A GLOBAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA GLOBAL HEALTH INSTITUTE (UCGHI)

FEBRUARY 2020

# PARTNERING WITH AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES TO PREVENT CAMPUS-BASED SEXUAL ASSAULT AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



**A SPECIAL PROJECT OF THE**  
UCGHI WOMEN'S HEALTH, GENDER AND  
EMPOWERMENT CENTER OF EXPERTISE

UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CALIFORNIA

Global Health  
Institute

UC  
GHI Women's health,  
gender, and  
empowerment



# OVERVIEW

## **STRENGTHENING THE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO CAMPUS-BASED SEXUAL AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE ON FOUR AFRICAN UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES**

### **A CALL TO ACTION**

Sexual violence (SV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) are pervasive problems on college and university campuses, worldwide. Although anyone can experience SV or IPV, research from the United States suggests women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) identified folks are disproportionately impacted. Survivors of violence have increased risks for many negative health outcomes, including anxiety and depression, migraines, sexually transmitted infections (including HIV), unintended pregnancy and adverse reproductive health (relative to those unexposed to violence).

College students who experience SV/IPV are uniquely at risk for additional adverse consequences. For instance, women sexually assaulted

during their first semester of school tend to have lower grade point averages than women not assaulted, and one in three survivors of SV/IPV will transfer or drop out of college altogether.

Additionally, college women with histories of partner violence, relative to those with no such history, are more likely to experience reproductive coercion (i.e., pregnancy coercion, birth control sabotage, etc.), increasing likelihood of unintended pregnancy. It is imperative that colleges/universities employ strategies to account for students' experiences of violence by improving awareness, response, and prevention programs and policies surrounding all forms of violence against women, LGBTQ, undocumented students and other key individuals and groups with unmet needs.

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# GLOBAL CAMPUS VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The Women's Health, Gender and Empowerment Center of Expertise (WHGE-COE) is an 10-campus initiative of the UCGHI. We envision a world in which equitable gender norms lead to healthy and empowered women — including college and university students. The Center promotes research, education and community engagement both globally and locally to reduce gender and health inequities.

The WHGE-COE recognizes that sexual assault and intimate partner violence are pervasive problems on college and university campuses, worldwide. Our COE is committed to supporting work and building partnerships that contribute to the transformation of global campus culture. Our vision is for all college and university students around the world to be part of an academic environment where they can enjoy sexual safety, respect and autonomy and have the greatest chance at personal, intellectual and academic success.



## OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Through this focused collaborative, we aim to support, learn from and establish a research and advocacy network with academic partners working on campus violence prevention in the Global South.

This report profiles the innovative, interdisciplinary research being done by four university teams in Kenya, South Africa and Zambia. We provide details on the research and programs they are leading to assess the scope, determinants and consequences of campus-based violence, and to design, improve and evaluate policies, programs and resources to prevent and respond to violence and harassment on and around their campuses



# TESTING THE ACCEPTABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF THE MEN WITH CONSCIENCE SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION INTERVENTION

## AT TWO UNIVERSITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

The men with conscience (MWC) intervention uses a participatory approach using role-play, group discussions and critical reflection to encourage men to engage in gender equitable relationships with women by addressing personal values and belief systems, societal prescriptions of men’s behavior, and by defining rape, bystander interventions and healthy relationships. The study is conducted at two universities in Cape Town, South Africa: Western Cape University and Stellenbosch University. The study aims are to: 1) Estimate the prevalence and risk factors of sexual violence among students and (2) Assess the acceptability and feasibility of the MWC sexual violence prevention intervention through a pilot randomized controlled trial on these two campuses.



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR  
**DR. TANIA DE VILLIERS**  
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

### CO-INVESTIGATOR



**DR. NAEEMAH ABRAHAMS**  
A MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL  
GENDER AND HEALTH  
RESEARCH UNIT

### CONSULTANT



**RODNEY FORTUIN**  
SONKE GENDER JUSTICE  
NETWORK

### RESEARCH ASSISTANT



**CELESE WILLIAMS**  
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN



# END VIOLENCE ON CAMPUS (EVOC)

## STUDENT-DRIVEN VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN KENYA

The End Violence on Campus (EVOC) study is testing a comprehensive, low-cost, student-driven model of monitoring and preventing violence, and providing high quality victim services at Moi University (Main Campus) in Eldoret, Kenya. Partners include Moi University, the Centre for the Study of Adolescence (Nairobi), and the UCLA Bixby Program. The team created a gender-balanced undergraduate EVOC Club which leads EVOC activities, such as freshmen orientation sessions, and gives input into monitoring tools. To improve victim services, EVOC launched youth-friendly initiatives at Moi University Health Centre and introduced CARE counselling. EVOC also conducted a survey of sophomores to quantify attitudes, experiences of violence, and whether they received assistance.



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR  
**DR. WILLICE ABUYA**  
MOI UNIVERSITY, KENYA

### CO-INVESTIGATORS



**ALBERT OBBUYI**  
CENTRE FOR THE STUDY  
OF ADOLESCENCE,  
NAIROBI



**HELLEN OWINO**  
CENTRE FOR THE STUDY  
OF ADOLESCENCE,  
NAIROBI



**DR. PAULA TAVROW**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES



# CLOSING THE GAP BETWEEN SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA



This study aims to increase awareness about sexual harassment in the work and learning environments, and streamline procedures for reporting sexual harassment within the university setting. This project involves sexual harassment awareness campaigns, targeting students and staff at University of Zambia, and an evaluation of current sexual harassment policy implementation and sexual harassment reporting structure to identify gaps and barriers. Findings will be used to recommend revisions to the campus' sexual harassment policy and to create an online user-friendly resource for dealing with harassment.



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

**DR. J. ANITHA MENON**

UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA HIV AND  
AIDS RESPONSE UNIT (UNZA)

## CO-INVESTIGATORS



**DR. MARY  
SHILALUKEY  
NGOMA**  
UNZA



**DR. CHARLES  
MICHELO**  
UNZA



**DR. CLEMENTINA  
LWATULA**  
UNZA



**GAINZANI  
MWALE**  
UNZA

## MAP OF PROJECT SITES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA





# RESISTANCE AND EMPOWERMENT: ASSESSING THE FEASIBILITY OF A SEXUAL ASSAULT RESISTANCE PROGRAM IN SOUTH AFRICA



This project will assess the acceptability, feasibility and fidelity of the Enhanced Assess, Acknowledge, Act (EAAA) sexual assault education and resistance program at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.



PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

**MERCILENE MACHISA**

SOUTH AFRICAN MEDICAL  
RESEARCH COUNCIL (SAMRC)  
AND UNIVERSITY OF  
WITWATERSRAND (WITS UNIVERSITY)



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Study investigators will conduct qualitative research with student and support staff on South African Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) college campuses to assess their experiences with the EAAA intervention and to develop links with colleagues undertaking similar work in the region to share tools, methods, approaches, and learning. Key products of this study will include refinement of the EAAA training manual, policy brief on acceptability of EAAA for college students in South Africa, and building of regional knowledge on campus-based gender-based violence prevention efforts through linkages between similar projects in the region and globally.

## CO-INVESTIGATORS



**PINKY  
MAHLANGU**

SAMRC  
WITS UNIVERSITY



**DR. YANDISA  
SIKWEVIYA**

SAMRC  
WITS UNIVERSITY



**ELIZABETH  
DARTNALL**

SAMRC



**MANAGA  
PILLAY**

HIGHER EDUCATION &  
TRAINING, WELLNESS &  
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



**RACHEL  
JEWKES**

SAMRC  
WITS UNIVERSITY

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# FOR MORE INFORMATION

## THE UC GLOBAL HEALTH INSTITUTE


The UCGHI is a UC-wide initiative that stimulates, nurtures, and promotes global health research, education, and collaboration to advance health in California and worldwide.

### **UC Global Health Institute Administrative Core**

550 16th Street, 3rd Fl | San Francisco, CA 94158

✉ [ucghi@globalhealth.ucsf.edu](mailto:ucghi@globalhealth.ucsf.edu)

 <http://www.ucghi.universityofcalifornia.edu/>

 <https://www.facebook.com/UCGHI/>

 <https://twitter.com/ucghi>

## UCGHI WOMEN'S HEALTH, GENDER & EMPOWERMENT CENTER OF EXPERTISE

The UCGHI Women's Health, Gender and Empowerment Center of Expertise is an initiative of faculty, students and staff from the 10 main UC campuses, and UC Hastings.

 <http://www.ucghi.universityofcalifornia.edu/centers-of-expertise/womens-health-gender-and-empowerment>

 <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ucghiwhge/>

## UC SPEAKS UP ~ UC-CAMPUS VIOLENCE PREVENTION

To learn about our US-based efforts to address and prevent sexual assault, harassment and dating violence on college/university campuses, visit the UC Speaks Up page:

<http://ucspeaksup.org/>

