

Stop women and children Abuse



Men attended the awareness campaign against women and children abuse at 3Square

Pic: Jonk Wa Mashamba

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THE Gauteng Province Community Safety invited Alex men to take part in the event called Men As Safety Promoters (MASP) on the 25th August held at 3Square. The event was attended by a handful of men and facilitated by Teboho Ramafhufhi, Social Crime Prevention Officer and former cllr Chris Mabunda.

Men were asked to be united and stand against Violence Against Women Abuse and Children (VAWAC) 365 days a year. Men also shared why VAWAC was prevalent and how it can be stopped.

Ramafhufhi said that according to the study conducted by his department, 77.2% of men and 73.9% of women were aware of the Domestic Violence ACT. He indicated that 55.8% of men and 36.3% of women were aware of Sexual Offences Act.

"25.4% physically abused women were injured while 3.9% of them reported the matter to the police. 12.4% women who experienced sexual abuse or physical abuse were diagnosed with an STI and 10.9% tested HIC positive. 19.1% had at-

tempted suicide," said Ramafhufhi.

Ramafhufhi indicated that most men suffered from pride. "It is easy for your wife to forgive you if she has found you cheating. But if you found her cheating, it's hard to do so. You have taught your kids that the only way to solve a problem is through violence. We inherited it and we passed it to our children. We have a tendency that if you are a man, you are entitled to hit a woman. A child knows voetsek as a norm."

Pastor Joseph Malibogo of Victory in Christ pleaded with men to refrain from unnecessary anger. "Frustration is the root of anger," he said, adding that men needed to go back to God.

Alex FM news anchor, Elvis Chauke, proposed that if a man was able to share their problems, and not accumulate problems, many issues would be solved.

Ex-convict Casper Chiteme, who served a life term sentence in jail, warned that it was not wise for a man not to cry. "The myth that tigers don't cry doesn't work." Chiteme also blamed the law, saying it was biased and favored only women. He said that when a woman re-

ported a crime, the police were very swift in arresting a man and always believed what she said. He indicated that many men are in jail because of women and that women were the main perpetrators. "Police see you as the perpetrator and leave the silent accomplice behind."

Mduduzi Mchumu, an Induna at M2 Nobuhle Hostel said that most men raped children because of unfounded beliefs. "We have a belief that if I sleep with a young person, my HIV / AIDS will go away. That's very wrong. Let's protect women and children because they are our children as well."

Austin Dube said it didn't sit well with him that men were trash. Dube said men were also abused but feared to report it. "Many men are insulted, abused and called trash every day. The problem is that we react physically. But domestic violence can stop if we come together."

Amongst the dignitaries were Alex Police spokesperson, Captain Malatjie and King Bungeane the third

For more info, call Ramafhufhi on 0832445029 or Mabunda on 0723165415 / 0825508461.



Isaac Mangena, Alex FM interim board chairperson

Alex FM board saga ends

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THE unconstitutional retention of the former Alex FM board members that resulted in staff members boycotting work has been ultimately put to an end by the rule of law.

The Johannesburg High Court, under Judge Mollahlehi ordered that former board members should be interdicted from interfering with the day to day running of Alex FM.

They were also ordered to hand over the accounting books of Alex FM to the new directors.

Isaac Mangena was appointed interim board chairperson, and said they were hopeful that the order settled the issue. "The community of Alexandra will finally reclaim the station

and that starts a new chapter which will see the interim board work towards turning around the station and hand it over to the community at the AGM."

Mangena said they were pleased to have been vindicated.

"I am particularly happy because the staff of Alex FM who are really the people who make the Alex FM what it is will no longer have to endure the pain of going another month without salaries withheld by the previous board, and subsequently the remnants of that same board that held on the purse and the whole station at ransom".

"It doesn't have to come to this, but it was necessary that the court put it straight to them to understand. It is time to work to fix Alex FM for Alexandra community."



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