



# White Ribbon Campaign Namibia

Working To End Men's Violence Against Women And Children

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## NARRATIVE REPORT FOR THE RESPECT HER CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

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PREPARED BY: WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN NAMIBIA FOR GIZ- - NAMIBIA 2021

## RESPECT HER & MEN'S PLEDGE & PROMISE CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

The RESPECT HER CAMPAIGN Project was launched in the capital city of Windhoek with the aim and purpose of involving all sports men and women in violence prevention. The launch was officially opened by the Honorable Deputy Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Honorable Bernadette Jagger at the Disability Resource Centre. More than 48 participants from various organizations such as sports, faith, students, and the media were all invited to the launch that took place on the International Women's Day 2021. The Campaign was launched under the Theme: **"Show violence The Red Card and Respect Her"**.

Honorable Deputy minister of Gender Equality Hon. Bernadette Jagger who was the Key note speaker at the launch reminded the participants that the 08th March is marked as the International Women's Day that is commemorated all over the world and she thanked the White Ribbon Namibia for coming up with such a programme. She further thanked GIZ – Namibia for their support to the initiative through donation of promotion materials.



Deputy Minister of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Honorable Bernadette Jagger addressing

the participants during the launch of Respect Her Campaign

The Hon. Deputy minister expressed her satisfaction with the theme “Respect Her and Show violence The Red Card” and informed the participants that it is in conformity with Article 6 & 10 of the Namibian Constitution which states that “All persons shall be equal before the law” and that “No persons may discriminated against on grounds of sex, race, colour, and ethnic origin, religion, creed or social or economic status. She further added that while the Constitution clearly states that “the right to life shall be respected and protected, gender-based violence continues to increase and this must be addressed with outmost urgency.

The Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare as the national gender machinery, is responsible for ensuring that gender equality and women’s empowerment is achieved in Namibia. The Ministry has a national gender policy (2010-2020) which defines GBV as a general term that captures all forms of violence perpetrated against an individual on the basis of their sex. Honorable Jagger in her concluding remarks encouraged the White Ribbon Campaign Namibia to work hand in hand with members of the community and liaison officers in all regions so that we become one formidable force that speaks with one voice. She also urged the White Ribbon to challenge the attitudes of violence in our society, which perpetuates inequalities.

Rauna Awene, the Advocacy Project Officer for the Girls Speak Up Project also addressed the audience at the event. In her statement, she reiterated that gender-based stereotypes support the use of violence and coercion, and that perpetuates gender inequalities the physical and emotional trauma resulting from violence is extremely damaging to the well-being of victims of domestic violence, who may not always recognize the damage. She also reminded the participants to uphold the theme of the International Women’s Day 2021 Theme: “**Choose To Challenge**” and encouraged men and women to denounce violence in all its forms.

Thank you



Making **violence against women**  
a thing of the past