



Brothers for Life Statement on the killing of UCT Student: Uyinene Mrwetyana

Brothers for Life, the national men's campaign that seeks to end violence against women and children joins other civil society partners in condemning the acts of violence that have shocked the nation recently.

In reference to the most recent incident of the University of Cape Town student Uyinene Mrwetyana, who was raped and killed in Cape Town and numerous other cases that involved the kidnapping and brutal killing of women and children, Brothers for Life would like to call upon all sectoral organisations and communities to stand against gender-based violence in society

"We know that there are millions of men who are against violence against women and children and we call on those men to stand up and be counted, be the ones who protect women and children in our communities. Most importantly isolate those who perpetrate these heinous acts.

We also need to have sustained efforts to positively influence young boys as they grow. Boys need to learn from an early age on how to interact with society" says Claudia Shilumani, CEO of the Centre for Communication Impact, a non-profit organisation that develops and implements behavioural change programmes including Brothers for Life and Zazi.

Survivors of gender-based violence are reminded and encouraged to use a 24-hour call centre dedicated to providing support and counselling.

The Gender-Based Violence Command Centre has attended to a number of emergency situations including indecent assault, physical violence, rape, abandoned children and verbal abuse.

The centre has also dealt with cases involving stalking, emotional abuse, sexual harassment, forced marriages, forced prostitution, elderly abuse and bullying. It has even intervened in family disputes.

The toll-free number to call to speak to a social worker for assistance and counselling is 0800-428 -428 (0800 GBV GBV).

Callers can also request a social worker from the command centre to contact them by dialling toll-free *120*7867# from any cellphone.

The Brothers for Life campaign together with its fellow civil society partners in the Men's sector will mobilise men and boys from all corners of South Africa with a mission to curb violence and promote healthy and safer communities.

#NO2GBV