



INVITATION

Corporate Relations Division
cordially invites you to attend an awareness seminar on

BLESSERS' SYNDROME = LINKAGES WITH PROSTITUTION

in commemoration of Human Rights Month

Venue: Colin Webb Hall, Pietermaritzburg Campus

Date: 28 March 2017

Time: 12h30 – 14h00

[RSVP HERE](#) (Best viewed on Firefox or Chrome)

LECTURE OUTCOMES:

- The dynamics of the Blessers' Syndrome and Prostitution - similar to 'sugar daddy' practices
- The possible nexus between the syndrome and trafficking for sexual purposes, medical and social ills - the implications of the conduct(s) for the benefactor and society at large
- The psychological and psycho-social repercussions of the practice
- Criminal liability arising from this practices.

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SPEAKERS:

Adv. Victoria Balogun is a senior law lecturer and the co-founder of the Access to Justice programme at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, KZN-RSA. She specialises in Sexual and Reproductive Rights, which is an integral part of medical law. Her work focuses on different aspects of women's rights and health law. She has a particular interest in sexual and reproductive rights, medical law, human rights, access to justice, disability rights and human and drug trafficking, especially in the African context. She has done consultancy work for various organisations including the UNICEF, UNFPA, CCJD, Street Law, IPLT, Commission for Gender and Equality and the AU.

Ms Thora Mansfield is the Director and founder of The Open Door Crisis Care Centre, a "one stop" multifaceted, multi-disciplinary non-profit organisation established in 1997 to address serious issues in all forms of violence against women and children. The Centre is recognised as a leader, both nationally and internationally, working in the field of Human Trafficking. Their shelter Ikaya Le Themba is the first shelter in KwaZulu-Natal to gain accreditation and is recognised as a best practise for victims of trafficking and all forms of abuse. Thora is known for lobbying for better service provision, fighting injustice and anti-human rights issues. Over 100 000 men, women and children have received counselling, social services and support in their times of crisis and trauma. Thora has won 18 awards for recognition of her work and has been sponsored to travel to the UK, America, Cambodia, Bangkok and Singapore to seek best practises.

Ms Harshna Munglee is a practising attorney for 10 years. In addition to running her private practice, she also serves on the Executive of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (NADEL) as the National Gender Officer. She has been a continuously serving member of Nadel for the past 12 years. Harshna also serves on various committees of the KZN Law Society and Law Society of South Africa. She has been championing the cause of TiPS since 2007, in the form of awareness campaigns and currently through workshops, educating the legal profession throughout the province.

Adv. Omashani Naidoo is a Senior State Advocate at the National Prosecuting Authority, Sexual Offences and Community Affairs Unit. She holds a Masters in Child Care and Protection (University of Kwa Zulu Natal, Durban, 2013). She is currently the operational manager of four Thuthuzela Care Centres in Kwa Zulu Natal, a province in South Africa. She is also part of a national team responsible for the compilation of training material on The Sexual Offences and Related Matters Act 32 of 2007; and trains prosecutors throughout the country on the above mentioned Act. In addition, she also contributes towards research and development of policy and legislation in as far as it related to gender based violence and she has also presented on issues relating to SGBV at national and international conferences.