

Ending Sextortion

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Tanzania Women Judges Association (TAWJA)

- **Vision : Equal Justice for All**
- **Mission: To sensitize the judiciary, law enforcement agencies and the public at large to respect, promote and enforce human rights for everyone.**

The Sextortion Program in Tanzania

- **Program under Millennium Goal 3**
- **Along with the Philippines and Bosnia Herzegovina were beneficiaries of the Sextortion MDG3 Program which was sponsored by the Royal Netherlands Government. The program ran between 2010 and 2012. The IAWJ were the implementing partners.**
- **2012-2015: UNWOMEN facilitated TAWJA's Sextortion and Anti-corruption Program**

Sextortion

- **What is Sextortion?**
- **It is a recent terminology coined by the IAWJ**
- **Comprises of two words:- sex & extortion**

SEXTORTION

- **The perpetrator must be a person in legitimate authority, who abuses that authority, demanding or accepting a sexual favour in exchange for the exercise of that authority.**
- **It is corruption except the 'quid pro quo' is sex rather than money or other material gain**

SEXTORTION

- **It occurs where the victim desires and seeks the benefit whether, the benefit flows directly to the victim or to another person.**
- **It applies to both men and women.**
- **BUT: most victims are women and girls**

Sextortion Elements

- ***Abuse of Authority*** –e.g. A judicial officer who demands sexual favours in exchange for a favourable decision or police officer who demands sexual favours in order to let free a suspect

Sextortion Elements Cont'd

- ***Quid pro quo- this for that exchange- a sexual favour in exchange for some benefit that a person in authority is empowered to withhold or counter.***
- ***Psychological coercion rather than physical force.***

NB Abuse of authority implies an imbalance between the perpetrator and the victim.

Legal Framework

➤ **Section 25 of the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Act, 2007 makes “Sextortion” an act of corruption**

punishable by custodial sentence of between 3-5 years or a fine of between shs 1,000,000/= to shs 5,000,000/=.

“any person being in a position of power or authority, who in the exercise of his authority, demands or imposes sexual favors on any person as a condition for giving employment, a promotioncommits an offence.....”.

➤ **-Michael Ngilangwa case**

Tanzania Legal Framework on Sextortion Contd

- **Section 130 (3) of the Penal Code makes it rape when people in authority abuse their positions to exhort sex. Such positions include:-**
- **people in official positions of leadership, religious leaders, traditional healers, management or staff of a remand home or other place of custody, management or staff of a hospital, teachers, lecturers.**
- **Examples: Onesphory Temu, Seif El Abadan cases**
- **Redress may also be sought through civil justice system- example Omar Mahita case.**

Role of TAWJA

- **Provide training to both male and female judicial officers and stake holders in justice administration.**
- **Sensitization and awareness creation through seminars, Radio/TV talks and publications to policy makers, law makers and public at large including schools, institutions of higher learning and those in the grassroots**
- **Coalition with other NGOs in fighting the vice as the war cannot be won singlehanded.**
- **NB. Training is provided by specially trained personnel (both male and female)**

Role of the Judiciary

- **If human rights have to be implemented at national level, the judges and magistrates have to play leading roles.**
- **Courts are critical institutions in dealing with human rights violations..**

Impact.

- **Awareness has been raised to those who have been reached.**
- **Knowledge acquired through brochures has been used in seeking redress.**
- **Judicial officers capacity built.**

Support & goodwill

- **TAWJA enjoys full support of the Tanzania Judiciary and the Government in its programs.**
- **IAWJ, UNWOMEN and other development partners have enabled us to come this far.**

Challenges

- **Deep rooted discriminative customs and traditions**
- **Unwillingness of victims to come forward due to fear of repercussions, stigma...**
- **Low ethical, moral standards.**
- **Lack of sufficient resources to carry out our activities**

Why we must all join hands to end sextortion

- **It humiliates and lowers the dignity of women**
- **It fuels the spread of HIV/AIDS**
- **Leads to institutional draw backs and generally**
- **Hampers national development**

Way Forward

- **Sextortion must be named, shamed and ended.**
- **Capacity building for organs dealing with law enforcement.**
- **Economic empowerment of victims who are mainly women and girls.**
- **Study on extent of problem for making informed decisions on policy**
- **Emphasis of ethics and morals from early child hood**



THANK
YOU