



Faith ACTION
to end Gender-Based Violence

STATEMENT



**Be a part of the validation of the
Draft Interfaith Statement of Commitment!**

**WE WILL
SPEAK OUT**  **SA**
FAITH COMMUNITIES ENDING SEXUAL AND
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



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Join the Faith Action Collective to End GBV and add your voice to the faith movement against gender-based violence and femicide (GBVF) as we validate and shape the joint Interfaith Statement of Commitment!

Together, we're embarking on a transformative campaign to mobilise and equip faith leaders and communities in the mission to prevent GBVF and respond effectively to it, as outlined in the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide.

This Statement of Commitment is not just a piece of paper. It's a collective effort, meticulously crafted by dedicated scholars and passionate activists from different faith traditions.

The aim is to bring us all to a place where we can own it, sign it and act decisively on it, to become part of building a violence-free and harmonious South Africa where all can thrive!

The Draft Statement is now going through two months of validation – thank you to the diverse faith groups who are involved. Please join us if you would like to have a look at the first draft and bring your suggestions to help shape the final Statement.

The different faiths are taking different approaches in the validation process. If you would like to take it into your faith community or attend a general validation meeting, get connected to one of the coordinators to make sure your contributions are addressed as part of the process:

Contact Person	Faith tradition	Contact Number	Email address
Hailey Fudu	Bahai	083 647 4460	haileyfudu@gmail.com
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Reverend Molefi Letimela	Council of African Independent Churches (CAIC)	065 027 4123	mcmajako@gmail.com
Pundit Arthi Shanand	Hindu	083 784 1897	arthishanand@gmail.com
Rabbi Emma Gotlieb	Jewish	0662931660	rabbieremma@templeisrael.co.za
Mahadi Buthelezi	Catholic/CatholicCorrespondent with the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC)	083 992 0387	mahadi.buthelezi@gmail.com
Karabo Mamabolo	South African Council of Churches (SACC) Christian member churches	071 418 9739	karabo@sacc.org.za
Siki Dlanga	The Evangelical Alliance of South Africa (TEASA) Members (evangelical churches)	0676643607	sdlanga@gmail.com
Saydoon Nisa Sayed	Muslim	0732413260	saydoons@gmail.com
Usha Jevan	Brahma Kumari	081 534 4446	usha.jevan@za.brahmakumaris.org

GUIDELINES

You will know best what is the best approach to work with the draft statement in your local context. You wish to:

- Send it on email to key scholars, activists or leaders who can act as 'critical readers'
 - Ask for it to be put on the agenda of a regular meeting of your religious institution or organisation, send it in advance and open a space for feedback – record all suggestions and feedback, and send this to your faith rep as above;
- Or
- Host a specific meeting or workshop centred around the statement (summary of the full statement) as a tool to open the conversation around GBV and work in groups or plenary obtain feedback – but also begin to talk about what the document is saying to you in your local context.

PROPOSED PROCESS

1. Familiarise yourself with its contents – both the summary and detailed document
2. Ensure that you or whoever introduces the document briefly is able to pinpoint the main ideas, and explain the flow of the document
3. Don't try and read it all out loud when you meet and expect useful responses and suggestions;
4. Ensure you understand the questions below- and adapt them if you need to, to fit better with your faith community.
5. If possible, allow small groups to engage deeply with the document before expecting any feedback – either in small groups or *if the group number is under 20 in a single group
6. Allow enough time and safety for everyone to contribute – watch out for domineering voices or those who judge others' contribution – ensure people are given time to finish and are heard.
7. While it is important to reach some sort of consensus for the specific feedback =- but if this is not possible – indicate in your report back what the divisions, views and tensions were.
8. Write up clear summary notes of the main feedback and the main suggestions for editing

The validation process will involve comments and responses around key questions:

- What is your overall feeling or view of the Statement?
- What aspects do you identify with most?
- Which aspects are you uncomfortable with and what do you suggest as alternative phrasing? (Please make specific references to the places in the document where you would like to make a change, deletion or addition)



Once you have collected inputs through a meeting or in writing, please compile them neatly and then please send your completed responses to the person responsible for your faith tradition.

It is vital that the final Statement of Commitment is one that we can all own and sign up to – so your input into its final shape is very important.

Together as the faith sector, we can turn the tide against GBVF.

In early November, the interfaith campaign coordinating team will meet for a final Validation Workshop, where the Statement will be finalised taking into account all submissions.

The final Statement will then be launched at an Interfaith GBVF Summit on 16th November (venue to be announced).

For further information, contact sonian0612@gmail.com or coordinator@wwsosa.org.za

<https://www.wwsosa.org.za/interfaith-action-to-end-gbv-statement-and-campaign/coordinator@wwsosa.org.za>