Committee: Commission on Status of Women

Topic: Elimination of Gender-Based Violence

Country: South Africa

Violence towards women is defined as “any act of gender-based violence that result in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffer to women, including threats of such act coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life” by world health organization. Gender-based violence is always a serious issue, not only in South Africa, also in every single country in the world. South Africa has trying to fill the gap in gender inequality and eliminating gender-based violence since 1996.

President of South Africa have said “our relationships with the world must change. We must deal with each other as equals.” (9 Inspiring Quotes About Equality In African Economies, 2015) Amount of gender-based violence happening is always criteria to see how developed a country is. Trying to raise awareness of gender equity and supervise programs on this issue, South Africa support planning and implementation of gender-focused policies by establishing state institutions; we set constitutionally mandated Gender Equality Commission, office on the Status of Women and changed into Ministry of Women in 2014 and located in the Presidency, along with the accompanying provincial structures; and the joint monitoring committee on the Improvement of the Quality of Life and Status of Women. The Constitution outlines a human rights framework for promoting gender equality. This has been translated into a plethora of legislative and policy initiatives. (Millenniumgoals 2015 MDG Report)

Elimination of gender-based violence is always grabbing attentions not only from peoples, but also the politics. We found that gender-based violence is a violence from how people behave on gender, reducing gender-based violence should start from eliminating gender discrimination. South Africa believe that law is the best evidence to show people what is right, and what is the government believe in; we should legislate to protect woman from gender-based violence, from both physical, verbal, mental and cultural; we could raise punishment of gender-based violence. At the same time, funding more institution that in charge of difference part of the service on support for female; provide service that prevent female from being harmed and after-harmed service.

South Africa have a long way toward reaching SDGs, and will keep trying hard to get close as possible, as gender-based violence is a serious issue in terms of long term development and stability of a country. South Africa will really like to corporate with other African country that want to change the situation, we are all close together and are different on exact issue, but close need of help and have similar problem to face.

# References

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