



COLLOQUIUM

Overcoming barriers to
safe abortion in the African region:
REALISING WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

23 – 24 January 2020

*Venue: Room 1-48, Law Building,
Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria
Hosted by the Centre for Human Rights*



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**Centre for
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Colloquium Programme

DAY I: THURSDAY 23 JANUARY 2020

- 09:00 – 09:05 Welcome address
Dr Nkatha Murungi
Assistant Director, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria
- 09:05 – 09:15 Background to Colloquium
Charles Ngwena
Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria
Ebenezer Durojaye
Dullah Omar Institute, University of the Western Cape
- 1ST PAPER**
Moderator – Joy Ezeilo
- 09:15 – 09:35 Overcoming Barriers to Safe Abortion in Africa
Nonopa Vanda, Thabo SP Magubane and Victoria Balogun-Fatokun
- 09:35 – 09:50 **Reviewer – Ebenezer Durojaye**
- 09:50 – 10:00 Plenary discussion
- 10:00 – 10:15 Tea/coffee**
- 2ND PAPER**
Moderator – Babere Kerata Chacha
- 10:15 – 10:30: Abortion services in rural areas: implications of current research
Catriona Macleod, Ulandi du Plessis, Martha Nicholson and Sakhile Mhlongo
- 10:30 – 10:45 **Reviewer – Charles Ngwena**
- 10:45 – 10:55 Plenary discussion
- 3RD PAPER**
Moderator – Labila Sumayah Musoke
- 10:55 – 11:10 Access to safe abortions in the context of conflict and post-conflict states and the women, peace and security agenda: The case of Kenya
Emma Khisa Senge Wabuke
- 11:10 – 11:25 **Reviewer: Nkatha Murungi**
- 11:25 – 11:35 Plenary discussion
- 4TH PAPER**
Moderator – Charles Ngwena
- 11:35 – 11:50 Human rights and access to safe abortion through modern technology in Africa
Tabitha Griffith Saoyo, Sofia Rajab-Leteipan and Chrispine Sibande

11:50 – 12:10 *Reviewer – Ngeyi Kanyongolo*

12:10 – 12:20 Plenary discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

5TH PAPER

Moderator – Ebenezer Durojaye

14:00 – 14:15 What is the interest of women in all of this? A critical analysis of the gender stereotypes underpinning legal barriers to abortion services in South Africa
Lucía Berro Pizarossa

14:15 – 14:30 *Reviewer – Rebecca Cook*

14:30 – 14:40 Plenary discussion

6TH PAPER

Moderator – Ulandi du Plessis

14:40 – 14:55 Nurses' performative contradiction in conscientious objection: The limits of abortion reform
Satang Nabaneh

14:55 – 15:10 *Reviewer – Bernard Dickens*

15:10 – 15:20 Plenary discussion

15:30 Tea/coffee

DAY 2: FRIDAY 24 JANUARY 2020

09:00 – 09:10 Recap

7TH PAPER

Moderator – Nkatha Murungi

09:10 – 09:25 From women rights to reproductive rights: Feminism transnational mobilization and abortion politics in Kenya, 1963-2015
Babere Kerata Chacha

09:25 – 09:40 *Reviewer – Ngeyi Kanyongolo*

09:40 – 09:50 Plenary discussion

09:50 – 10:10 Tea/coffee

8TH PAPER

Moderator – Emma Khisa Senge Wabuke

10:10 – 10:25 Restrictive laws and policies: The next hurdle in making medical abortion drugs available to women and girls in Uganda
Labila Sumayah Musoke and Joy Assasira

10:25 – 10:40	Reviewers – Ulandi du Plessis and Sakhile Mhlongo
10:40 – 10:50	Plenary discussion
	9TH PAPER Moderator – Ngeyi Kanyongolo
10:50 – 10:30	Family planning acceptability and use of contraceptives among commercial sex workers aged between 15 to 30 James Lule
10:30 – 10:45	Reviewer – Ebenezer Durojaye
10:45 – 10:55	Plenary discussion
	10TH PAPER Moderator – Sakhile Mhlongo
10:55 – 11:10	Regulation of traditional reproductive health care practices: A panacea to addressing morbidity and unsafe abortion in Nigeria Folake Tafita
11:10 – 10:25	Reviewer – Joy Ezeilo
11:25 – 11:35	Plenary discussion
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
	11TH PAPER Moderator – Ebenezer Durojaye
14:00 – 14:15	Intersectionality and the politics of abortion: Evolving an inequality paradigm for maternal mortality in Nigeria Ibrahim Obadina
14:15 – 14:30	Reviewer: Rebecca Cook
14:30 – 14:40	Plenary discussion
	12TH PAPER Moderator – Chrispine Sibande
14:40 – 14:55	Judicial interpretation as a tool for overcoming restrictive understandings of abortion laws: A Kenyan case study Benson Chakaya
14:55 – 15:10	Reviewer: Bernard Dickens
15:10 – 15:20	Plenary discussion
15:20 – 15:30	Closing remarks
15:30	Tea/coffee

Profiles of Participants



PROF FRANS VILJOEN

Frans Viljoen (MA, LLB, LLD (Pretoria); LLM (Cambridge)) is Director of the Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria. He is also the academic co-ordinator of the LLM (Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa), presented by the Centre, in collaboration with eleven partner law faculties across Africa.

Frans has taught on the African and other regional human rights systems on numerous Master's programmes, including at the University of Peace, Costa Rica and the University of Oxford. He has published numerous articles dealing with international human rights law, and the book *International human rights law in Africa* (Oxford University Press, 2007). He is editor-in-chief of the *African Human Rights Law Journal* and co-editor of the English and French versions of the *African Human Rights Law Reports*. He has further acted as consultant to the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Organization of African Unity/African Union. The University of Pretoria has acknowledged him as an exceptional achiever, and the South African National Research Foundation recognised him as an internationally recognised researcher.



DR NKATHA MURUNGI

Dr Nkatha Murungi is an Assistant Director of the Centre for Human Rights, and a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria. She holds a Master of Laws (LLM in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa) in human rights from the University of Pretoria, and a Doctorate in Law from the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. She oversees the Centre's Women's Rights, Disability, and Children's Rights Units. Dr Murungi is a qualified advocate of the Kenyan Bar, and a lecturer and researcher in human rights with a keen focus on the rights of vulnerable groups such as children, women and persons with disabilities, and sexual and reproductive health rights. She has extensive experience in pan-African human rights programming and advocacy, civil society engagement with the African Union and its mechanisms, as well as human rights research, particularly in Africa. Her research covers a range of human rights issues including child rights, education, sexual and reproductive health rights of women and girls in Africa, disability rights, and access to justice.



PROF CHARLES NGWENA

Charles Ngwena, LLB, LLM, LLD, Barrister-at-Law, is Professor of Law in the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria and works across disciplines. He has published on issues at the intersection between human rights and health, including HIV/AIDS and reproductive and sexual health with a focus on the African region. He also works in the fields of disability rights, and race, culture and sexualities. He serves as the Convening Editor of the *African Disability Rights Yearbook*, Section Editor of *Developing World Bioethics* (for Law and Bioethics) and associate editor of the *International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics*. He is co-editor of *Employment equity law* (Butterworths); co-editor of *Health and human rights* (Ashgate, 2007); and co-editor of *Strengthening sexual and reproductive rights in the African region through human rights* (Pretoria University Law Press, 2014).

He is the author of *What is Africanness? Contesting nativism in race, culture and sexualities* (Pretoria University Law Press, 2018), available online at: www.pulp.up.ac.za/monographs/what-is-africanness-contesting-nativism-in-race-culture-and-sexualities.

You can listen to the podcast on this book at: www.chr.up.ac.za/art-episode-11-prof-charles-ngwena.

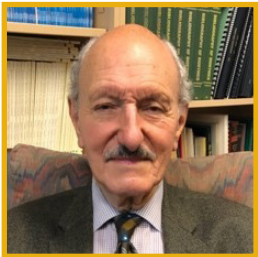
E-mail address: charles.ngwena@up.ac.za or charlesngwena@gmail.com



PROF REBECCA COOK

Rebecca Cook, A.B. (Barnard), M.A. (Tufts), M.P.A. (Harvard), J.D. (Georgetown), LL.M. (Columbia), J.S.D. (Columbia), called to the Bar of Washington, D.C., is a Professor in the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Medicine and the Joint Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto; and Co-Director, International Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Programme, University of Toronto. She is ethical and legal issues co-editor of the *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, and serves on the editorial advisory boards of *Human Rights Quarterly* and *Reproductive Health Matters*.

She is the recipient of the Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Contribution to Women's Health by the International Federation of Gynecologists and Obstetricians, the Ludwik and Estelle Jus Memorial Human Rights Prize, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.



PROF BERNARD DICKENS

Bernard M. Dickens, LL.B., LL.M., Ph.D. (Law-Criminology), LL.D. (Medical Jurisprudence) (London), LL.D. (Sherbrooke, h.c.), a member of the English Bar and the Ontario Bar, is Professor Emeritus of Health Law and Policy in the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Medicine, and the Joint Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto. He is legal articles co-editor of the *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics*, and co-editor of ethical and legal issues of the *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Professor Dickens's writing includes over 450 publications, including books, chapters in books, articles and reports, primarily in the field of medical and health law. His most recent book, co-edited with Rebecca J. Cook and Joanna N. Erdman, is *Abortion Law in Transnational Perspective: Cases and Controversies*, published in 2014 by University of Pennsylvania Press.



PROF EBENEZER DUROJAYE

Ebenezer Durojaye is Professor of Law and Head of the Socioeconomic Rights Project at the Dullah Omar Institute, University of the Western Cape, South Africa. His research interests include human rights issues raised by access to HIV/AIDS treatment, the intersection between gender inequality and HIV/AIDS response in Africa, women's health and adolescents' sexual and reproductive rights in Africa.

He has written widely on these issues in international journals. He is one of the Independent Experts of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Committee on the Protection of the Rights of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and those at Risk, Vulnerable to and Affected by HIV.



PROF JOY NGOZI EZEILO

Joy Ngozi EZEILO is a professor of public law, an activist and versatile legal scholar recognized as a leading authority in the field of human rights, especially on the rights of women and children in Africa. Current Dean of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus. She pioneered, since 1997, the teaching of the Course, "Women, Children and the Law" making her Faculty and University the first to do so in Nigeria. She is a Member of the recently constituted United Nations Civil Society Advisory Board on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. Also, Member, the Body of Benchers, Nigeria and the Governing Council of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS).

Nigeria and the Governing Council of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS).

She was appointed in 2008 as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children, and served in that capacity globally until July 31st 2014. She was also appointed in December 2013 by the UN Secretary General as a member of the 5 persons Board of Trustees UN Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking. Professor Ezeilo is the founding director of Women Aid Collective (WACOL) and Tamar Sexual Assault Referral Centre. Professor Joy Ezeilo was a former Commissioner for Gender and Social Development, Enugu State, a federal delegate to the National Political Reform Conference and served also as a member of the Governing Council, Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA).

She has won many national and international honours/awards, including being recognised in 2013 by Newsweek/Daily Beast, USA, as one of the leading 125 Women of Impact in the World for her global work to end human trafficking. She was conferred with a Nigerian Government national honour of Officer of the Order of Niger (OON) in 2006 by the then President Olusegun Obasanjo (GCFR) in recognition of her outstanding contributions in the area of nation building, legal scholarship, advocacy, civil society movement and community service.

Professor Joy Ezeilo is a recipient of the prestigious British Chevening scholarship (1995) and a grantee of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Funds for Leadership Development (1998).

Professor Joy Ngozi Ezeilo's work spans the globe and she has brought global recognition to Nigeria as a nation and to the University of Nigeria where she works. She is impacting thousands of lives through her humanitarian work, especially providing free legal aid and pro bono services to women, children and the poor. She has impeccable credentials as a versatile scholar and activist. Prof. Ezeilo has an enviable public service record and has been honoured nationally and internationally for her work.



DR NGEYI RUTH KANYONGOLO

Ngeyi Ruth Kanyongolo is an Associate Professor of Law and former Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Malawi. She is a visiting lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe (SEARCWAL). She has a PhD from the University of Warwick (UK), a Masters degree in Law from the University of London (UK) and a law degree from the University of Malawi. She has published widely on Women and Law especially in relation to equality in labour, business, politics and social security. She serves as a director on the Boards of Standard Bank Malawi; Tilitonse Foundation Malawi; University of Zimbabwe Women's Law Centre; Equality Effect of Canada and SASPEN, a regional group on Social Security Experts in Africa

Paper No 1: Overcoming Barriers to Safe Abortion in Africa: The Role of Technology



MS NONOPA VANDA

Nonopa Vanda is a final year Bachelor of Laws (LLB) student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg. She is an activist and experienced student leader who has been actively involved in humanitarian organisations that seek to improve people's quality of life. On campus she served as Chairperson of Black Lawyers' Association Student Chapter in two consecutive years, founded a Moot Court Society during her tenure as Chairperson which hosted and coordinated the largest and first regional Moot Court Competition in KZN, she was the team advocate of the Runner-Up team of the Foreign Direct Investment Moot 2019 and represented South Africa in the All-Africa rounds and was in the Top-Ten Best Advocates in Africa receiving Honourable Mention Advocate, she is a South African Black Woman in Law (SABWiL) alumna where she was recently briefed to be lead counsel for the respondent's in the SABWiL Human Rights Court 2019 and had the minority judgement in her favour. She entered her research paper titled 'The Inclusion of same-sex battering in the Battered Woman Syndrome' in the South African Law Reform Commission Legal Essay Writing Competition 2018 and received an impressive score and positive feedback of an 'informative, interesting and organically thought essay'. She is currently serving as the Vice President of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).



MR THABO SP MAGUBANE

Thabo Magubane is a third-year Bachelor of Laws student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg. He is a member of the Black Lawyers' Association Student Chapter, and part of the team that is responsible for the establishment of the Moot Court Society, which provides practical legal education to students, and represented South African in the Foreign Direct Investment Arbitration Moot against various African countries. He is involved in space law development amongst young people, through the Space Generation Advisory Council, which is committed to building future legal practitioners to protect the outer-space from exploitation and degradation, and the use of Technology to uphold the rule of law. Lastly, he is part of the South African Black Women in Law, which is a movement that specializes in legal education, protection, and recognition of the Rights of the previously disadvantaged, specifically the Rights of women.



ADV VICTORIA BALOGUN-FATOKUN

Victoria Balogun-Fatokun is a law lecturer and the co-founder of the Access to Justice programme at the University of KwaZulu Natal (UKZN). 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 some consultancy work for various organisations including the A2J, UNICEF, UNFPA, LEAD, CCJD, Street Law, IPLT, Commission for Gender and Equality and the AU.

Paper No 2: Abortion services in rural areas: implications of current research

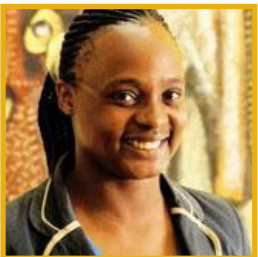


DR ULANDI DU PLESSIS

Ulandi du Plessis (PhD, Rhodes) is Senior Researcher at the Centre for Critical Studies in Sexuality and Reproduction (CSSR) at Rhodes University (Makhanda) and lead researcher on the Marie Stopes-funded project assessing abortion seeking behaviours and preferences in rural Eastern Cape communities. Ulandi's doctoral research focused on the post-1994 formation of the South African programme of health governance with a specific focus on maternal health care. She received the British Psychological Society's Psychology of Women and Equalities Section (POWES) and *Feminism and Psychology* Postgraduate

Award for a paper submitted based on her doctoral thesis. Her interests include governmentality studies, postcolonialism, health and illness, health policy and reproductive health issues.

Paper No 3: Access to safe abortions in the context of conflict and post-conflict states and the women, peace and security agenda: The case of Kenya



MS EMMAH SENGE WABUKE

Emmah (LL.M, Harvard) currently works at Strathmore Law School as an Assistant Lecturer and the Faculty Director of Strathmore Law Clinic. She has an interest in gender, peace and security in Africa, and has published and made conference presentations in the said area, including, Female Militancy in Terrorist Groups and the African Union Counter-Terrorism Response (*African Peace and Security Journal*, 2018); Framing A Legal Response To Isis 'Sex Slave To Bride Continuum' Of Violence Against Women In Iraq And Syria (*LSE WPS Centre*, 2018) and Not All Amnesty Deals Are Made the Same (*Foreign Policy Magazine*, 2017).

Paper No 4: Human rights and access to safe abortion through modern technology in Africa



MS SAOYO TABITHA GRIFFITH

Saoyo Tabitha Griffith (LLB (Moi University), Post Graduate Diploma (Kenya School of Law) LLM (University of Pretoria)) is the Deputy Executive Director of the Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network (KELIN) and an Aspen New Voices Fellow, 2019. Ms Saoyo holds a Masters in Law on Human Rights and Democratization in Africa from the University of Pretoria. Professionally, Saoyo has previously engaged in private practice, served at the Federation of Women Lawyers-Kenya and consulted for UNDP in contextualizing HIV and the linkages to sexual and gender-based violence. She has a special bias for

Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights and has for the last eight years worked on sexual violence, access to safe abortion, discrimination on the basis of HIV and forced sterilization of women. In 2019, Ms Saoyo was awarded the Law Society of Kenya Pro-bono Jurist of the year Award (first runner up) and enjoys teaching in her spare time. She has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Pretoria's Centre for Human Rights since 2016, Strathmore University (2018) and has also taught Kenyatta University and Riara University School of Law.



MR CHRISPINE GWALAWALA SIBANDE

Chrispine Gwalawala Sibande, LLD Candidate at Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria under the Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Africa Programme. He holds Masters in Human Rights (LLM) specialising in Sexual and Reproductive Rights from University of Free State, South Africa and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from University of Malawi. He has 14 years' experience in human rights litigation, advocacy, training, coalition and partnerships building. His main area of work is abortion, sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI), sex work, HIV and AIDS and human trafficking. He is the

immediate past Country Director of Ipas in Malawi, an American organisation that focuses on improving sexual and reproductive rights of women and girls in the world where he worked for six years. He was the National Coordinator for the Coalition for the Prevention of Unsafe Abortion (COPUA) in Malawi for six years. He worked as Deputy Director for Legal Services for five years at Malawi Human Rights Commission, the national human rights institution established under Paris Principles. He litigated the famous Mandatory HIV Testing Case of Sex Workers in Malawi High Court where the court declared the action by government, health workers and police unconstitutional and in violation of human rights.



MS SOFIA RAJAB-LETEIPAN

Sofia Rajab-Leteipan is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a distinguished feminist lawyer whose practice is focused on human rights, democratic governance, constitutionalism and public law. She has a strong commitment to promoting women's rights and gender equality and is keen on contributing to African feminist discourse and legal scholarship. She holds an LLB from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and a Masters of Arts in International Studies from the University of Nairobi.

In the recent years, Sofia has contributed immensely to implementing policy and legal strategies to reduce maternal mortality from unsafe abortion and increasing women and girls' access to comprehensive abortion care in Kenya. Her passion has led her to pursue an LLM in Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Africa at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.

Paper No 5: What is the interest of women in all of this?": A critical analysis of the gender stereotypes underpinning legal barriers to abortion services in South Africa



DR LUCÍA BERRO PIZZAROSSA

Lucía Berro Pizarossa (PhD) is a post-doctoral fellow at the Global Health Law Groningen Research Centre and the Network and Partnerships Coordinator for MAMA (Mobilizing Activists for Medical Abortion Network). Her academic work has been published in renowned peer-reviewed journals such as Reproductive Health Matters, Harvard Health and Human Rights and BMC International Health and Human Rights.

She also works as a legal advisor for MYSU (Women & Health in Uruguay) where she designed, fundraised and is currently implementing the first strategic litigation project oriented to the realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

She is a Women Deliver fellow and has worked as an advocate for women's access to sexual and reproductive rights in forums such as the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and the High-Level Political Forum.

She obtained an INSPIRE Grant (European Union) to conduct research and support the projects of the Socio-Economic Rights Project at the University of Western Cape in South Africa. Lucía has worked for, among others, the Brazilian Constitutional Court, Committee members of the United Nations Human Rights Committee and Oxford Pro Bono Publico (OPBP). She is one of the academic coordinators of the Gender & Diversity Summer School at the University of Groningen, a board member of the Centre for Gender Studies and a member of the Steering Committee of the Audre Project that seeks to understand the experiences of LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual) youth and young adults with their time in out-of-home care.

Paper No 6: Nurses' performative contradiction in conscientious objection: The limits of abortion reform



MS SATANG NABANEH

Satang Nabaneh recently completed her LLD at the Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria and was a PhD Fellow at the Centre on Law and Transformation, Norway. She holds a Master of Laws (LLM) in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa from the University of Pretoria and Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from University of The Gambia. Ms Nabaneh's doctoral research focused on how laws, politics, socio-cultural and institutional factors shape the provision of abortion services

by nurses and midwives in South Africa. The study was funded by the Norwegian Research Council through the *Political determinants of sexual and reproductive health: Criminalisation, health impacts and game changer* project based at the Centre on Law and Social Transformation, Christian Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway. She also received a grant through the African Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowship (ADDRF) 2018-2020 coordinated by the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC). Ms Nabaneh currently serves as the Coordinator of the Centre's LLM/MPhil in Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Africa programme. She teaches courses in the LLM programmes at the Centre and has taught at the Faculty of Law, University of The Gambia. She also supports the work of the Women's Rights Unit at the Centre, responsible for providing technical support to the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa. Her research interests include a broad range of issues related to human rights, women's rights, democracy and constitutionalism. She is a co-founder of Think Young Women (TYW) and co-convenor of the Sexual and Reproductive Rights Network in The Gambia. She is also the Founder & Editor, Law Hub Gambia (www.lawhubgambia.com), a legal resource and knowledge platform on The Gambia.

Paper No 7: From women rights to reproductive rights: Feminism transnational mobilization and abortion politics in Kenya, 1963-2015



MR BABERE KERATA CHACHA

Babere Kerata Chacha is the Director and founder of the Centre for Human Rights at Laikipia University. He is also a Senior Lecturer in African History in the Department of Public Affairs and Environmental Studies at Laikipia University in Kenya. Chacha has been a fellow School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Junior fellow St. Antony's College University of Oxford; Fellow, Wolfson College Cambridge and more recently, Global fellow, University of New South Wales, Australia. In the past he has taught as an Adjunct Lecturer in history and development Studies at the University

of Eastern Africa, Baraton. Chacha teaches Human Rights, Police Science at the Kenya Military Academy in Lanet. His main research interest includes in political assassinations and human rights, but he also has wide interests in environment, terrorism, reconciliation, religion, and sexuality. He offered advisory to the Truth Commission in Kenya on political assassinations, and spearheaded the launch of the police science programme and the study of human rights as a common core course at Laikipia University.

Paper No 8: Restrictive laws and policies: The next hurdle in making medical abortion drugs available to women and girls in Uganda



MS LABILA SUMAYAH MUSOKE

Labila Sumayah Musoke, Legal and Policy Manager at Women's health and justice initiative, is a lifelong social justice activist and an advocate of the High Court of Uganda. She is a human rights and reproductive justice lawyer at Women's health and justice initiative- a non-profit organization that strives for reproductive justice for all. Her current areas of interest include, public-private partnerships for health, addressing social determinants of health and gender equity. Labila recently joined the coordinating committee of the People's Health Movement-Uganda to support work to

bring together grassroots activists to advance health for all, particularly access to essential medicines. Labila is always exploring ways to deepen legal research in peace, solidarity and development with individuals and institutions willing to demand and organize for collective social justice. She has a postgraduate diploma in Sustainable development and global justice from Antwerp University, Belgium and a Bachelor of Laws from Makerere University, Uganda. Labila is a mother of three amazing children. In her spare time, she enjoys yoga and proving to Google that she is not a robot.



MS JOY ASASIRA

Ms Joy Asasira is a leading Ugandan advocate for gender equality, health and rights of women and girls. She boasts of a global advocacy footprint focused on challenging laws and policies like the Global Gag Rule that negatively impact on the reproductive health and rights of women and girls. Joy served as the National Coordinator for the Coalition to Stop Maternal Mortality due to Unsafe Abortion in Uganda from 2012 to 2019. She is also the winner the Uganda Law Society Women in Law; Best Female Human Rights Lawyer Award 2018/2019 and was recognized as an emerging mid-career woman leader in Global Health at the 2017 Women Leaders in Global Health Conference, Stanford University. Joy holds a Master of Public Health Leadership (Save the Mothers) from Uganda Christian University and also a Bachelor of Laws from Makerere University.

Paper No 9: Family planning acceptability and use of contraceptives among commercial sex workers aged between 15 to 30



MR JAMES LULE

James Lule works with National Forum of People Living with HIV/AIDS Networks in Uganda (NAFOPHANU) as a Programs Officer; he is a member of Men engage Uganda Network. James is a professional Social Worker and human rights advocate with over 13 years' experience in HIV and AIDS field. James Lule is a second year student doing bachelors of Social Work and Social Administration with Metropolitan International University. His key competences include; Program design, implementation, research and advocacy. James has served as Community Advisory Board (CAB) member for Makerere University-Johns Hopkins University (MU-JHU) Research Collaboration, Member on the Regional Community Advisory Board (RCAB), Africa Region, served as a member on the International Maternal Pediatric Adolescents AIDS Clinical Trials Group community Advisory Board. James has expertise in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) programs for Key populations.

Paper No 10: Regulation of traditional reproductive health care practices: A panacea to addressing morbidity and unsafe abortion in Nigeria



DR FOLAKE MORENIKE TAFITA

Folake Morenike Tafita, Ph.D is a law teacher, scholar and researcher, supervisor/clinician at the women's aaw clinic, Faculty of Law, University of Ibadan. Dr Tafita earned a Masters in Reproductive and Sexual Health Law, University of Toronto, Canada; LLM at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria; Bachelor of Laws, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria; and Diploma in Nursing, University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria. She is a fellow, MacArthur Fellowship, Reproductive and Sexual health Law. Her research interests include; reproductive and sexual health law; clinical legal education; international humanitarian law; health law and policy; women and children's rights; and research ethics and human experimentation.

Paper No 11: Intersectionality and the politics of abortion: Evolving an inequality paradigm for maternal mortality in Nigeria



MR IBRAHIM OBADINA

Ibrahim Obadina is a law lecturer at the University of Lagos, Nigeria in the department of Private and Property Law. He teaches Law of Torts, Family Law, Environmental law, Gender and the Law and Human Rights. He obtained his LL. B degree from the University of Lagos in 2010 and a B.L. degree from the Nigerian Law School. He holds an master's degree in law from the University of Oxford and currently a Doctoral Researcher at the Center for Health Law, Policy and Ethics, University of Ottawa, Canada with focus on Reproductive Rights in Africa. He has written papers on protection of rights of women including reproductive rights like abortion and labor rights of women during corporate restructuring in Nigeria, Decriminalization of Abortion in Nigeria from a feminist perspective. In addition to the training received

through formal education, he is a qualified lawyer in active practice in Civil, Criminal, and Family law. He is also an external advisor for a prominent NGO in Lagos, Nigeria: Women Advocate Research Documentation Centre (WARDC) and was actively involved in the drafting of the domestication of VAP Act Violence Against Persons Act 2015 in Two states (Ekiti and Ogun State) in Nigeria. His research also includes health law generally and particularly women's reproductive rights and other rights of vulnerable groups in developing countries.

Paper No 12: Judicial interpretation as a tool for overcoming restrictive understandings of abortion laws: A Kenyan case study



MR BENSON CHAKAYA

Benson Chakaya is currently an LLM/MPhil (Sexual & Reproductive Rights in Africa) student at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria. He earned an MA (Political Science), University of Nairobi, Kenya and BA (Communication and Media), Maseno University, Kenya. Mr Chakaya is the National Coordinator for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Adolescent and Youth at Family Health Options Kenya, a member association of International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). He previously worked at Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) as a thematic

Expert where I facilitated the evaluation of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights projects in Eastern Africa. He also worked as Programmes Advisor at the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) under Equality and Non-Discrimination programme where he worked on enhancement of participation of targeted marginalized groups in political governance. In 2013-2014, he worked at Independent Medico-Legal Unit (IMLU) on Torture Prevention and Police Reforms. It coincided with the time the Kenyan police was undergoing reforms at different levels including; institutional, legal frameworks and operational reforms. He joined the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) 2014 and worked with National Human Rights Institutions in Africa, where he had the opportunity to gain experience in addressing systemic inequality and discrimination and marginalization among other gross human rights violations.



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