



GENDER AND DEATH PENALTY PROJECT

NARRATIVE PROJECT REPORT

Project Duration:

January 2025 – February 2026 (with addendum to 30 April 2026)

Funder:

World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP)

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1. Executive Summary

The Gender and Death Penalty Project was implemented between 20 January 2025 and 20 February 2026, with an extension to 30 April 2026, with the primary objective of contributing to the abolition of the death penalty in law in Tanzania. The project adopted a comprehensive and integrated approach combining empirical research, media advocacy, stakeholder capacity building, and national-level policy engagement to address the gendered dimensions of capital punishment.

A key achievement of the project was the generation of gender-responsive evidence through field research conducted in six major prisons across Tanzania. The findings revealed that a significant proportion of women sentenced to death had experienced gender-based violence prior to their conviction, highlighting a critical intersection between victimization and criminalization. The research further exposed systemic challenges within the criminal justice system, including prolonged case delays, limited access to legal aid, pro bono advocates are not well prepared and administrative inefficiencies such as loss or mismanagement of case files.

Notably, cases such as that of Rehema Ndoje, who was detained for 27 years long period of time and later released after the court and other criminal institutions failed to locate her case records, and this case is a result of data collection and research activity, this illustrates serious procedural gaps that undermine the right to a fair trial. These cases are many which demonstrate how structural and criminal Justice System weaknesses within the justice system that directly affect outcomes for individuals facing capital punishment.

The project also implemented extensive media campaigns, reaching over 22 million people nationwide through radio, television, and digital platforms. These campaigns successfully stimulated public dialogue and contributed to a noticeable shift in public attitudes, with a majority of participants expressing support for the abolition of the death penalty.

At the institutional level, the project facilitated engagement with policymakers, legal professionals, and government officials through targeted meetings and a national dialogue. These platforms strengthened understanding of the human rights implications of the death penalty and generated commitments toward legal reform.

2. Project Overview

The Gender and Death Penalty Project was implemented in Tanzania, with activities conducted at both national and sub-national levels. Media and advocacy activities were primarily carried out in Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro and Dodoma, while research and data collection were conducted in six prisons: Segerea Prison (Dar es salaam), Isanga Prison (Dodoma), King'olwira Prison (Morogoro), Butimba (Mwanza), Kisongo Prison (Arusha), and Ruanda Prison (Mbeya).

The project was implemented jointly by Women Aid and Criminal Justice (WACJ), in collaboration with Tanzania Ex-Prisoners Foundation (TEPF) and Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC).

3. Overall Objective

To advocate for the abolition of the death penalty in law in Tanzania.

Specific Objectives

- To generate gender-sensitive evidence on the application of the death penalty
- To raise public awareness and stimulate national dialogue
- To strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders
- To promote policy and legal reform

4. Activities Implemented

4.1 Research and Data Collection

The research and data collection component served as the foundation of the project, providing credible and gender-sensitive evidence to inform advocacy efforts. The study was conducted across six major prisons using a purposive sampling approach, focusing on facilities with a higher concentration of women sentenced to death.

A combination of qualitative and quantitative methods was employed, including structured surveys, in-depth interviews, case file reviews, and direct observation. These methods enabled the

project to capture both statistical trends and lived experiences of women within the criminal justice system.

4.1.1 Key Findings and Systemic Issues

Beyond identifying 22 women on death row, the research revealed deeper systemic challenges affecting the administration of justice:

Gender-Based Violence as a Precursor to Crime: Approximately 70% of women interviewed had experienced prolonged domestic violence, often contributing directly to the offences leading to their conviction.

- **Prolonged Case Delays:** Many cases involving capital offences were found to take an excessively long time to conclude. Delays in investigations, court proceedings, and appeals contributed to prolonged detention and psychological distress among accused persons.
- **Loss and Mismanagement of Case Files:** The research uncovered instances where critical legal documents were missing or could not be traced. A notable case is that of Rehema Ndoje, who had been detained at Isanga Prison and was later released after the court failed to locate her case records. This case highlights serious administrative and procedural weaknesses that undermine the right to a fair trial and due process.
- **Limited Access to Legal Aid:** Many women reported inadequate legal representation, particularly during critical stages of trial and appeal.
- **Lack of Information on Appeal Status:** A significant number of women were unaware of the progress of their cases, leading to uncertainty and psychological distress.
- **Pro bono advocates:** The court provide advocate for representation of accused person during hearing of the case, but most of pro bono advocate there were not well prepared as they were given short time for preparation to defend the case.

These findings demonstrate that the death penalty cannot be examined in isolation, but must be understood within the broader context of systemic inequalities, gender-based violence, and institutional inefficiencies.

4.2 Awareness, media and campaigns

The project implemented a comprehensive and strategic media awareness campaign aimed at raising public understanding and stimulating national dialogue on the death penalty, with a

particular focus on its gendered impact. The activity was conducted from the first quarter to Fourth quarter. The campaign recognized media as a critical advocacy tool for influencing public opinion, shaping narratives, and creating space for dialogue on sensitive justice issues.

The campaign was delivered through a multi-platform approach, including radio, television, print media, and digital platforms. Key media engagements were conducted through nationally and regionally recognized outlets such as Wapo FM, Dodoma FM, Moshi FM, Banana FM, Kilimanjaro Revival FM, Clouds TV, and Star TV. These platforms were deliberately selected due to their wide coverage and ability to reach diverse audiences across urban and rural settings.

A significant component of the campaign was the use of interactive radio programs, particularly the “Meza ya Busara” program aired on Wapo FM, which provided a consistent and accessible platform for legal education and public engagement. These sessions were designed not only to disseminate information but also to encourage active participation from listeners through live calls and SMS contributions.

4.2.1 Key Thematic Areas Covered

The media sessions addressed a range of critical topics aimed at deepening public understanding of the death penalty and its broader implications, including:

- The legal framework of the death penalty in Tanzania, including offences attracting capital punishment under the Penal Code
- The right to life as guaranteed under the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania
- Tanzania’s obligations under international and regional human rights instruments, including the ICCPR and the African Charter
- The ethical, legal, and human rights implications of the death penalty
- The psychological and social impact of capital punishment on individuals and families
- The intersection between gender-based violence and women’s involvement in capital offences
- The role of legal aid, mitigation, and fair trial guarantees in capital cases
- Alternative sentencing approaches and the need for justice system reform

In addition, specific discussions focused on real-life scenarios, such as women who commit offences in response to prolonged abuse, under themes such as:

“Women Who Kill Due to Gender-Based Violence: Do They Deserve the Death Penalty?”

These discussions were supported by real case narratives and research findings, which helped humanize the issue and foster empathy among audiences.

4.2.2 Reach and Public Engagement

The campaign reached an estimated audience of over 22 million people across Tanzania. Public engagement was notably high, with hundreds of individuals actively participating through SMS messages, live phone calls, and social media interactions.

4.2.3 Listeners engaged by:

- Asking questions about legal procedures and rights
- Sharing personal opinions and experiences
- Proposing reforms such as improved legal aid and alternative sentencing

Importantly, over 75–80% of participants expressed support for the abolition of the death penalty, often citing:

- Its perceived cruelty and inhumanity
- Its failure to deter crime
- The risk of wrongful convictions
- The need for more rehabilitative approaches to justice

4.3 Media Awareness and Campaigns: Stakeholder Workshops

As part of the media awareness strategy, the project organized targeted stakeholder workshops to strengthen engagement with media practitioners and justice sector actors, and to promote informed public discourse on the death penalty.

On 25 September 2025, Women Aid and Criminal Justice (WACJ) conducted a workshop in Dar es Salaam which brought together journalists, civil society organizations, legal practitioners, and paralegals. The workshop aimed to raise awareness on the gendered dimensions of the death

penalty and to strengthen the role of media in highlighting human rights concerns, particularly those affecting women on death row. Discussions focused on the legal framework of the death penalty, its human rights implications, and the lived experiences of women affected by the punishment.

In addition, WACJ in collaboration with Tanzania Ex-Prisoners Foundation (TEPF) organized a follow-up stakeholder engagement workshop that brought together government representatives, including Councilors and legal professionals, alongside media practitioners from major outlets such as Mwananchi media (gazette), Azam Media, ITV, Global TV, Star TV etc. The objective of this engagement was to strengthen collaboration between media and key stakeholders and to sustain advocacy momentum toward legal and policy reform.

These workshops contributed to increased media interest and coverage on death penalty issues, including published articles highlighting the challenges faced by women in the criminal justice system and the underlying factors contributing to capital offences.

4.4 Building the capacities and awareness of parliamentarians, government officials and capital-defense lawyers;

On 26th June, 2025, the project organized targeted meetings and workshops to strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders, including government officials, legal professionals and capital defense lawyers.

A major stakeholder meeting held in Dodoma brought together representatives from government institutions, academia, and the legal sector. Discussions focused on the legal framework of the death penalty, recommendations from the Presidential Commission on Criminal Justice Reform, and opportunities for legislative change.

4.4.1 Outcomes

- i. Participants demonstrated increased awareness of the human rights implications of the death penalty and expressed openness to reform.
- ii. Legal professionals also gained insights into mitigation strategies and gender-sensitive defense approaches.

4.5 Advocacy at the national level in favor of abolition including advocacy with abolitionist in practice countries and abolitionist in law countries to increase visibility of support for the anti-death penalty movement;

On 27th March 2026 and 15th April 2026, a key milestone of the project was conducted in Dodoma, at Morena Hotel, the national-level advocacy dialogue held. This activity brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including parliamentarians, government officials, legal practitioners, civil society organizations, and human rights advocates.

The dialogue aimed to promote informed discussion on the abolition of the death penalty and to build momentum for legal and policy reform by linking national efforts with global abolition movements.

4.5.1 Structure and Content of the Dialogue

The dialogue featured expert presentations on key thematic areas, including:

- The death penalty and gender justice: Understanding Women's realities in the criminal justice system.
- The Presidential Commission on Criminal Justice Reform and (ICCPR)
- Pathways toward abolition in Tanzania

In addition to presentations, the dialogue included interactive group discussions designed to encourage critical reflection and participation. Participants were divided into groups and engaged with key questions such as:

- Whether Tanzania is ready to move away from the death penalty
- Whether the death penalty serves as a deterrent
- Is it justified to deny bail for murder offences in Tanzania?

These discussions generated diverse perspectives and practical recommendations, which were documented for submission to relevant authorities.

4.5.2 Stakeholder Engagement and Contributions

The dialogue was attended by a Member of Parliament from Tabora Urban constituency, who played a significant role in reinforcing the link between advocacy and legislative processes. In her

contribution, she acknowledged that the issue of the death penalty has been discussed in Parliament on several occasions and emphasized her commitment to continue advocating for reform, particularly from a gender perspective.

She further questioned the relevance of maintaining a legal provision that has not been implemented for decades, and committed to mobilizing fellow parliamentarians to ensure that the issue is revisited within legislative forums.

Additional participation from government institutions included:

- An official from the Law Reform Commission, who highlighted their mandate in collecting stakeholder views for legal reform
- A representative from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, who provided insights into prosecutorial processes and challenges contributing to case delays.
- A representative from Director of Criminal Investigations (DCI), who provided the whole procedures of investigation since the arrest of the suspected person.

4.5.3 Targeting and Capacity Strengthening

The activity specifically targeted:

- Parliamentarians
- Government officials
- Capital-defense lawyers
- Civil Society organizations especially women's rights organizations

These groups were engaged through structured dialogue, expert presentations, and evidence-based discussions. The use of research findings, case studies, and real-life narratives strengthened the relevance and impact of the discussions.

4.5.4 Impact of the Advocacy Dialogue

The national dialogue contributed significantly to:

- Strengthening policy-level engagement on abolition
- Increasing awareness among policy and law-makers
- Generating actionable recommendations for legal reform

- Building political will for continued discussion in Parliament
- Push for changes of our Criminal Justice system and to look how far the Government had reached.

The commitments made by stakeholders, particularly parliamentarians, represent an important step toward translating advocacy into legislative action.

4.5.5 Key Results and Impact

The project achieved significant results across its core components of research, media engagement, and stakeholder advocacy.

- Firstly, a strong evidence base was established through comprehensive research and data collection conducted in selected prisons. The findings provided credible, gender-responsive data on women sentenced to death, including the structural and social factors contributing to their involvement in capital offences. This evidence strengthened the foundation for advocacy and policy engagement.
- Secondly, the project contributed to increased public awareness and engagement through extensive media campaigns and outreach activities. Millions of people were reached through radio, television, and digital platforms, with active participation from the public through calls, messages, and discussions.
- There was also a notable shift in public attitudes toward abolition, with a significant proportion of participants expressing support for the removal of the death penalty. Many participants questioned its effectiveness, fairness, and relevance, indicating gradual changes in public perception.
- In addition, the project strengthened collaboration among stakeholders, including civil society organizations, media practitioners, legal professionals, and government actors. These partnerships created a more coordinated and unified approach to advocacy efforts.
- Increased awareness

Finally, the project contributed to increased visibility of gender issues within the death penalty discourse. By highlighting the experiences of women, particularly those affected by gender-based Violence, the project helped reframe the narrative and bring attention to gender-specific injustices within the criminal justice system.

Success story

Success Story from the Data Collection and Research Project on Gender and the Death Penalty

Rehema Ndoji was among the prisoners on death row identified during the data collection phase of the project. Her story was deeply distressing, but through this initiative, a sense of hope began to emerge.

The research team, Tanzania Ex-prisoners Foundation (TEPF), in collaboration with Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), was able to support her case. During interviews, the team sought to understand why she had been imprisoned and why, after 27 years, she had never filed an appeal. Rehema explained that she had never received any legal assistance, and over time, her case files had been lost, making it impossible for her to pursue justice.

Through joint efforts, TEPF and LHRC worked diligently to ensure that Rehema could finally access her legal rights. On February 13, 2026, her case was brought before the court, and she was ultimately acquitted and released.

The project also revealed the loss of critical legal documents that could have enabled her to appeal much earlier. However, through the commitment and intervention of the project team, justice was finally achieved.

This stands as a significant success of the project, highlighting that not all convictions are just, and that systemic challenges can deny individuals their fundamental rights. The death penalty, by its nature, deprives a person of the right to life, and cases like Rehema's underscore the urgent need to reconsider and ultimately abolish it.

5. Gender Perspective

The project placed strong emphasis on integrating a gender perspective throughout its implementation. Findings from the research demonstrated that many women on death row are survivors of prolonged violence, abuse, and socio-economic hardship, which often influence their pathways into the criminal justice system.

However, these circumstances are rarely given adequate consideration during legal proceedings, particularly in sentencing. The project therefore highlighted the need for gender-sensitive approaches within the justice system, including the use of mitigation, access to legal aid, and psychosocial support.

By centering women's lived experiences, the project strengthened advocacy efforts and underscored the importance of reforming legal and institutional frameworks to ensure fairness, equality, and justice.

6. Challenges Encountered

Despite its achievements, the project faced several challenges during implementation.

- One of the key challenges was limited and at times delayed access to institutions, particularly prisons and certain government offices. Administrative procedures for obtaining permits were sometimes lengthy and unpredictable, which affected the timely execution of research and stakeholder engagement activities.
- The project was also affected by broader political and administrative dynamics, including events surrounding 29 October, 2025 to around December 2025, which contributed to delays in implementation and necessitated an extension of the project timeline. These circumstances were beyond the control of the implementing partners but had a direct impact on scheduling and coordination of activities.
- In addition, the fact that the previous year was an election period in Tanzania presented challenges in securing the participation of key stakeholders, particularly Members of Parliament and government officials. Many stakeholders were engaged in electoral processes and related commitments, limiting their availability for project activities.
- The sensitivity of the death penalty issue also posed challenges, as it requires careful handling in both public discussions and institutional engagement, sometimes affecting openness and responsiveness from certain actors.
- Limited access to comprehensive data and statistics on women on death row from relevant authorities.

7. Sustainability and Way Forward

- Building on the progress achieved, the project will continue to promote sustained advocacy efforts toward the abolition of the death penalty in Tanzania.
- Future efforts will focus on strengthening engagement with policymakers and government institutions, expanding media outreach to reach wider audiences, and continuing to use research and data to inform advocacy strategies.
- There will also be continued emphasis on capacity building for legal professionals and stakeholders, particularly in promoting gender-sensitive legal approaches and improving access to justice for vulnerable groups.
- Through these efforts, the project aims to maintain momentum and contribute to long-term legal and policy reforms.
- Disseminating the recommendations generated from the advocacy dialogue to the Law Reform Commission and relevant parliamentary committees to inform legal reform processes

8. Recommendations

Based on the project findings and implementation experience, the following recommendations are proposed:

- There is a need to strengthen policy advocacy efforts, particularly through sustained engagement with parliamentarians and government officials to promote legal reforms in line with human rights standards.
- Media outreach should be expanded and diversified to ensure continued public awareness and to reach underserved communities.
- Efforts should also focus on enhancing the capacity of legal professionals, especially capital-defense lawyers, to ensure effective representation and the use of mitigation in capital cases.
- The project underscores the importance of evidence-based advocacy, utilizing research findings and public feedback to inform strategies and policy discussions.

Finally, there is a need to foster stronger partnerships and collaboration among civil society, media, academia, and government institutions to amplify advocacy efforts and ensure sustainability.

9. Conclusion

The Gender and Death Penalty Project has made a significant contribution to advancing the abolition agenda in Tanzania. Through research, media engagement, and stakeholder advocacy, the project has increased awareness, strengthened dialogue, and highlighted the gendered impact of the death penalty.

While important progress has been made, continued and sustained efforts are necessary to achieve full abolition and to ensure a more just, humane, and equitable criminal justice system that protects the rights of all individuals, particularly vulnerable groups such as women.

ANNEX I: Stakeholders' Recommendations from Advocacy Dialogue

The advocacy dialogue was structured around three key guiding questions, which generated diverse perspectives and practical recommendations from stakeholders representing civil society, legal experts, government institutions, and parliamentarian. The discussions reflected a balance of abolitionist and retentionist views, providing a comprehensive understanding of public and institutional perceptions on the death penalty in Tanzania.

1. Is Tanzania Ready to Move Away from the Death Penalty?

Participants expressed mixed views; however, a significant proportion indicated that Tanzania is increasingly ready to move away from the death penalty based on several key observations:

- **Non-implementation for over 30 years:** Stakeholders noted that the death penalty has not been executed for more than three decades, despite being retained in law. This was viewed as a strong indication that the country is already de facto moving toward abolition.
- **Presidential reluctance to authorize executions:** It was observed that successive Presidents have refrained from signing execution orders, with some expressing moral and ethical reservations, including the belief that only God has authority over life. This consistent reluctance was interpreted as evidence of national readiness to abandon the practice.
- **Establishment of the Presidential Commission on Criminal Justice Reform:** Participants highlighted the formation of the Commission and its recommendations, including the proposal to introduce alternative sentencing or automatic commutation after a specified period. These recommendations were seen as a reflection of public sentiment and institutional readiness for reform.
- **Presidential clemency practices:** The regular commutation of death sentences into life imprisonment was also cited as evidence that the State is already applying alternatives to capital punishment in practice.

However, opposing views emphasized that Tanzania is not yet ready to abolish the death penalty, citing:

- The existence of constitutional and legal provisions (Penal Code and Constitution) that still provide for capital punishment
- Tanzania's non-ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR
- The continued lack of formal implementation of abolitionist recommendations

2. Is the Death Penalty a Deterrent to Crime?

The majority of participants concluded that the death penalty is not an effective deterrent to crime, based on the following arguments:

- **Rising crime rates despite existence of the death penalty:** Participants observed that serious crimes such as murder continue to occur, suggesting that the presence of capital punishment does not prevent criminal behavior.
- **Promotion of a culture of revenge rather than justice:** It was argued that the death penalty contributes to cycles of retaliation and does not address the root causes of crime.
- **Failure to address structural causes of crime:** Stakeholders emphasized that capital punishment does not resolve underlying issues such as poverty, domestic violence, and social inequality.
- **Economic and institutional burden:** Concerns were raised that death row inmates, who are not engaged in productive work, create long-term financial pressure on the State, increasing prison maintenance costs.
- **Human rights concerns:** Participants also noted that the death penalty may conflict with constitutional protections of the right to life.

3. Is It Justifiable to Deny Bail for Murder Offences?

Stakeholders largely supported the position that denying bail for murder-related offences may be justified under certain circumstances, citing the following reasons:

- **Protection of public safety:** In some cases, releasing suspects on bail may expose them to public retaliation due to limited legal awareness and risk of mob justice.
- **Preservation of evidence integrity:** It was noted that in some instances, suspects may interfere with or tamper with evidence if released on bail.
- **Protection of witnesses:** Participants emphasized that witnesses in serious criminal cases may face intimidation, threats, or harm if suspects are released.

However, it was recommended that:

- Bail restrictions should not be indefinite
- A time-bound review mechanism (e.g., within six months) should be considered to balance justice, fairness, and rights protection

4. Key Recommendations from Stakeholders

Following the discussions, stakeholders made the following consolidated recommendations:

- **Strengthen public legal education:** Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) should intensify public awareness on criminal justice processes, including rights of suspects, to reduce mob justice and improve public understanding of the justice system.

- **Enhance abolition advocacy movements:** Stakeholders recommended stronger and more coordinated advocacy efforts to push for legal reform, including open engagement with government institutions without fear of political resistance.
- **Expand access to legal aid services:** Legal aid should be extended to all categories of criminal suspects, including those charged with serious offences such as murder, to ensure fairness and equal access to justice.
- **Improve government collaboration with legal aid providers:** The State should strengthen partnerships with legal aid practitioners and address operational challenges such as delayed payments and limited resources, which hinder effective service delivery.
- **Learn from abolitionist countries:** Tanzania was encouraged to study and adopt best practices from countries that have successfully abolished the death penalty, including regional examples.
- **Advance legislative reform:** Stakeholders urged Parliament to revisit the Penal Code provisions on capital punishment, considering its prolonged non-implementation and evolving human rights standards.
- **Strengthen parliamentary advocacy:** **Hon. Hawa Mwaifunga**, Member of Parliament for Tabora Urban constituency, committed to raising the issue in Parliament and mobilizing fellow MPs to initiate legislative discussions aimed at reviewing the death penalty provisions, particularly in relation to women affected by violence and systemic vulnerabilities.

Conclusion of Annex

The advocacy dialogue demonstrated a broad spectrum of perspectives on the death penalty in Tanzania, with increasing convergence toward reform-oriented thinking. While legal provisions still exist, the consistent non-implementation, evolving public opinion, and institutional discussions indicate a gradual shift toward reconsideration of capital punishment within the national justice system.

ANNEX II: Project Photo Documentation

Activity 1: Research and data collection

Prison Visits and Data Collection Sessions

Research and data collection activities conducted in selected prisons, including interviews with women on death row and engagement with prison officials under the Gender and Death Penalty Project.



Photo 1: Exterior View of Butimba Prison, Mwanza



Photo 2: Photo 2: A TEPF Officer Greeting the Officer in Charge of Butimba Prison Prior to the Commencement of the Research Activity

Activity 2: Media Awareness and Campaigns

Radio and Media Awareness Programs

Live radio awareness session discussing gender justice and the death penalty in Tanzania



Photo 3: The Executive Director of WACJ Participating in a Clouds TV Session to Raise Public Awareness on the Death Penalty and Gender Justice



Photo 4: Advocacy Officer from LHRC, During a Live Radio Session at Dodoma FM in Dodoma Region

Stakeholder Workshops on Gender and Death Penalty

Stakeholder workshops organized by WACJ, LHRC and TEPF bringing together journalists, CSOs, paralegals and legal professionals to discuss the abolition of the death penalty in Tanzania.



Photo 5: A Participant Sharing Insights during the Workshop Held on 25 September 2025 at Grand Villa Hotel in Dar es Salaam



Photo 6: Group Photo with Participants Taken After the Conclusion of the Workshop

Activity 3: Capacity Building and Awareness

Stakeholders Meeting in Dodoma

Meeting with government officials, capital defense lawyers, academicians and human rights stakeholders discussing criminal justice reform and abolition of the death penalty.



Photo 7: Capital defense lawyer (first from left) expressing her *Western Hotel* in opinion on abolition of death penalty in Tanzania



Photo 8 : A group photo taken after the capacity building event at *Best Dodoma*.

Activity 4: National Advocacy Dialogue

National Dialogue on Abolition of the Death Penalty

National advocacy dialogue held in Dodoma bringing together parliamentarians, government officials, legal professionals, media representatives and civil society organizations to discuss pathways toward abolition of the death penalty in Tanzania.



Photo 9: Representatives from WACJ, LHRC, and TEPF Posing for a Group Photo with a Member of Parliament Following the Advocacy Dialogue



Photo 10: A Member of Parliament Reviewing the World Coalition Publication for the 2024/2025 World Day Against the Death Penalty during the Advocacy Dialogue

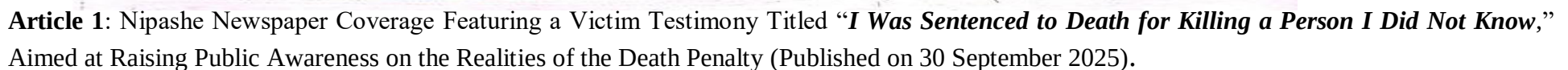


Photo 11: A Participant from TAWLA Sharing Her Views during the Advocacy Dialogue



Photo 12: Photo 10: Some of the Participants in a Group Photo

Selected newspaper articles and media publications covering workshops, advocacy dialogues, and public awareness activities implemented under the project.



KIFUNGO

Kilichojificha wanawake magerezani chafichuliwa

Na Mary Moshia, MOSHI

BAADHI ya wanawake wamejikuta wakikabiliwa na hukumu nzito, ikiwamo kifungo cha muda maisha au hata adhabu ya kunyongwa baada ya matukio yao ya kujitetea dhidi ya ukatili waliokuwa wakifanyiwa.

Hayo yamesemwa na mdau wa haki za binadamu Rose Yona, ambaye alibainisha kuwa wanawake kadhaa waliofungwa magerezani wengi walikabiliwa na matukio ya ukatili wa kijinsia, hasa baada ya wao kufanyiwa ukatili kwanza

katika maisha yao.

Rose aliyasema hayo jana mara baada ya kutembelea Gereza Kuu la Karanga lililopo Manispaa ya Moshi mkoani Kilimanjaro, ikiwa ni sehemu ya maadhimisho ya Siku ya Wanawake Duniani.

Alisema siri ambayo watu wengi hawajui ni kwamba wanawake wengi wanaokutwa magerezani walipitia vitendo vya ukatili wa muda mrefu kabla ya kufikia hatua ya kufanya makosa yaliyowapeleka gerezani.

"Katika uchunguzi tunaoufanya mara nyingi tunagundua kuwa mwanamke aliyefungwa gerezani

hupitia manyanyaso ya muda mrefu, akipigwa au kudhalilishwa na mwenza wake, na siku anapojitetea ndipo tukio hilo hugeuka na kumuingiza katika mkondo wa sheria," alisema Rose.

Mkuu wa Wilaya ya Moshi, Godfrey Mzava, alisema jamii inapaswa kuacha tamaduni zinazoficha vitendo vya uhalifu na ukatili kama utamaduni wa "jani la masale," na badala yake kuruhusu sheria kuchukua mkondo wake.

Mzava alisema mara nyingi matukio ya ukatili hushughulikiwa kijamii kupitia wazee wa mila bila kufikishwa katika vyombo

vya sheria, hali inayosababisha wahalifu kutowajibishwa na kesi nyingi kushindwa kufika mwisho kutokana na kukosekana kwa ushahidi.

"Baadhi ya mila na desturi ni nzuri, lakini zipo ambazo zinapaswa kubadilishwa kwa sababu zinachangia kuficha uhalifu na kudhoofisha juhudi za serikali katika kupambana na vitendo vya ukatili," alisema Mzava.

Aliongeza kuwa serikali itaendelea kushirikiana na wadau mbalimbali kuelimisha jamii juu ya madhara ya ukatili na umuhimu wa kutoa taarifa kwa

vyombo vya dola ili wahalifu wachukuliwe hatua kwa mujibu wa sheria.

Mkuu wa Dawati la Jinsia Mkoa wa Kilimanjaro, Asia Matauka alisema malezi duni ya utotoni yanaweza kuwa chanzo cha watu wengi kujihusisha na vitendo vya ukatili wanapokuwa wakubwa na hatimaye kuishia magerezani.

Alisema watoto wanaokua katika mazingira ya kunyanaswa au kukosa malezi bora kutoka kwa wazazi mara nyingi hukua na चुकी na visasi ambavyo vinaweza kusababisha kufanya vitendo vya uhalifu baadaye maishani.

Kwa mujibu wa historia ya matukio ya ukatili nchini, wanawake na watoto wamekuwa waathirika wakubwa wa vitendo vya ukatili wa kijinsia katika familia na jamii, hali iliyosababisha serikali kuweka mikakati mbalimbali ya kupambana na tatizo hilo.

Article 2: Nipashe Newspaper Article Titled "The Hidden Realities of Women in Prisons Revealed," Highlighting the Living Conditions and Challenges Faced by Women in Prisons (Published on 13 March 2026)

Ukatili wa kijinsia chanzo wanawake kufungwa vifungo virefu

NA KIJIA ELIAS, MOSHI

IMEELEZWA kuwa ukatili wa kijinsia unaweza kuchangia wanawake kufanya makosa makubwa ya jinai yanayoweza kusababisha kupata vifungo virefu jela.

Wadau wa haki za binadamu na ustawi wa jamii walisema wanawake wengi wanaokumbana na ukatili wa kijinsia hujikuta katika mazingira magumu ya kisaikolojia, kijamii na kiuchumi, hali inayoweza kuwafanya kuchukua maamuzi ya haraka yanayoweza kuwaletea madhara makubwa kisheria.

Akizungumza na waandishi wa habari, Mkurugenzi wa Taasisi ya Tanzania Ex-Prisoners Foundation, Rose

Malle, alisema baadhi ya wanawake wanaofungwa kwa makosa makubwa ya jinai wamewahi kupitia ukatili ikiwemo vipigo, manyanyaso ya kisaikolojia na ukandamizaji wa kiuchumi.

Alisema mara nyingi wanawake wa aina hiyo hukosa msaada wa kisheria na kijamii mapema, wengine hulazimika kujitetea au kuchukua hatua kali wakiwa katika hali ya msongo wa mawazo.

Aidha alitoa wito kwa wadau kuongeza juhudi za kupinga ukatili wa kijinsia kwa kutoa elimu, kuimarisha mifumo ya utoaji taarifa na kuwasaidia waathirika kupata msaada wa kisheria na kisaikolojia mapema

Diwani wa kata ya Korongoni, Issa

Juma, alisema jamii inapaswa kuendelea kuelimishwa kuhusu madhara ya ukatili wa kijinsia ili kupunguza migogoro katika familia na kulinda usalama wa wanawake na watoto.

Akizungumzia hali hiyo, Mkuu wa dawati la jinsia na watoto mkoa wa Kilimanjaro, Mrakibu wa polisi, Asia Matauka, alisema wakati mwingine watu wanaojikuta gerezani huwa wamepitia mazingira magumu ya ukatili tangu utotoni.

Mkuu wa wilaya ya Moshi, Godfrey Mnzava, aliipongeza taasisi ya TEPF kwa juhudi zake za kuelimisha jamii kuepuka vitendo vinavyoweza kusababisha watu kuingia magerezani.

Aidha, alisema jani la Isale, ambalo kwa mila za Wachaga hutumika kama ishara ya kuombana radhi na kupatanisha, limekuwa likitumiwa vibaya katika baadhi ya matukio.

Alisema wakati mwingine mtu anapofanya uhalifu mkubwa katika jamii, ikiwemo ubakaji au ulawiti, familia hukutana na wazee na kuomba msamaha kwa kutumia jani hilo, jambo linalopelekea kesi kumalizwa kijamii badala ya kufikishwa kwenye vyombo vya sheria.

Alisisitiza kuwa utaratibu huo unarudisha nyuma juhudi za kupambana na uhalifu na hauwezi kusaidia kukomesha vitendo hivyo.

Article 3: Zanzibar Leo Newspaper – “Gender-Based Violence as a Cause of Women Serving Long Prison Sentences

This article discusses how gender-based violence contributes to women being sentenced to long prison terms, highlighting how such violence can become a root cause leading to circumstances that result in loss of life.