

GENDER JUSTICE AND PEACE

IN THE CONTEXT OF FEMICIDE AND DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

2ND – 4TH JUNE 2026

USPG CONFERENCE

USPG⁺ PARTNERS IN
GLOBAL MISSION

PRESENTATION BREAKDOWN (60 MINUTES)

 **Introduction (7 min)** — Self-intro & objectives

 **Global & African Context (10 min)** — Key trends

 **Gender Justice & Peace (20 min)**-Video +
testimonies

 **USPG & Supporters (5 min)**

 **Reflect • Engage • Transform (18 min)** — Q&A

SESSION OBJECTIVES

1. Reflect on global and African trends in femicide and domestic violence.
2. Explore gender justice as a pathway to peace.
3. Engage with powerful testimonies from survivors.
4. Reflect on how USPG and its supporters can respond and act.

**QUOTE FOR THE SESSION –
A CALL AGAINST NEUTRALITY IN TIME OF CRISIS**

“The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who, in times of great crisis, maintain their neutrality “ *Dante Alighieri (1265- 1321)*

Call for Reflection: What does neutrality look like in our context ? What does courage look like ?

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE : A GLOBAL AND A CONTINENTAL CRISIS (AFRICA)

Femicides (2023)

- **140 women and girls killed every day** by intimate partners or family members
- Equivalent to **1 woman every 10 minutes**

Domestic Violence – Global Prevalence

- **Women:** Nearly **1 in 3** have experienced physical or sexual violence, mostly by a current or former partner
- **Men:** About **1 in 4** experience severe physical intimate partner violence in their lifetime

AFRICA

- Africa recorded the highest rates of intimate partner and family-related femicides in 2023, with over 21,700 women killed, reflecting deep-rooted cultural and structural challenge.
- **Prevalence:** Africa faces high rates of sexual gender-based violence, with entrenched cultural and structural challenges

Country Examples : South Africa

In **South Africa**, femicide rates are among the highest globally, with intimate partner femicide nearly **five times the global average**.

South Africa and Zambia present stark examples of how sexual **gender-based violence (SGBV)** and **femicide** destabilize communities, erode trust in institutions, and perpetuate cycles of fear and injustice.

Country Examples : Zambia

In Zambia, over 42,000 GBV cases annually highlight the scale of the crisis. Women and girls, who make up most survivors, face risks of rape, defilement, and SGBV-related homicide. Seasonal spikes linked to cultural gatherings and economic pressures show how violence is embedded in social structures.

Gender Justice as a Path to Peace

- 1. Video clip**
- 2. Testimonies**

Video Clip on Femicides in South Africa

The Story of Olorato Mongale

- 30-year-old woman
- Took all safety precautions for a first date
- Murdered and body dumped
- Highlights the vulnerability of women even in an everyday situation.

Video clip: <https://youtu.be/T2UfPpWnA6I?si=PxXvCrIXGZuvYVar>

SURVIVOR TESTIMONIES

Zambia

Reading and listening

WHY USPG AND CHURCH SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU MATTER IN THIS STRUGGLE

- Standing against violence shows the love and dignity God gives to every person.
- Churches are close to the people and can speak out clearly against harm.
- Church groups can offer comfort, prayer, and safe support for those hurt by violence.
- Church based organizations providing safe spaces and advocacy

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- Have a mandate to call for fair laws and peaceful communities where women and men are safe.
 - Strengthening churches and communities' partnerships to stand against domestic violence and femicide
 - ***USPG gender justice initiatives:*** Builds on long standing commitment to advance justice, strengthening church solidarity, expanding awareness education, combating sexual gender-based violence, keep women and communities safe and advocate for all people to live in safety, dignity and peace

5. REFLECT, ENGAGE, TRANSFORM, Q &A

Church role: How can we act locally and globally?

Gender justice & peace: How does justice strengthen peace?

Challenging unjust structures: What unjust structures exist in our own communities and churches, and how can churches challenge them?

Open Discussion & Q&A : Space for questions •
Sharing experiences • Group reflections

CLOSING MESSAGE

- **Gender justice is not optional.**
- **It is the foundation of peace, dignity, and safety for all.**
- **Invitation to continue the conversation**

THANK YOU

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