

VOL. 3 | APRIL 2021

# WOMANITY

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY INVICTUS AFRICA



*Irish Examiner*

**BOYS AND MEN GET  
SEXUALLY ABUSED, TOO!**

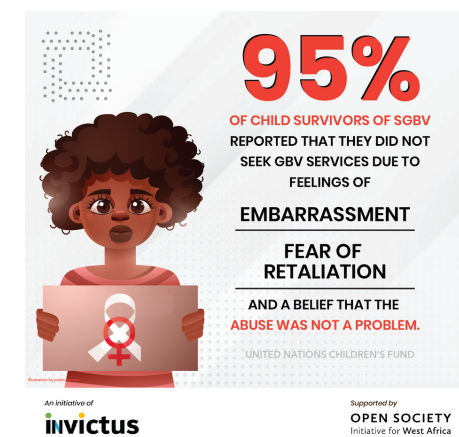
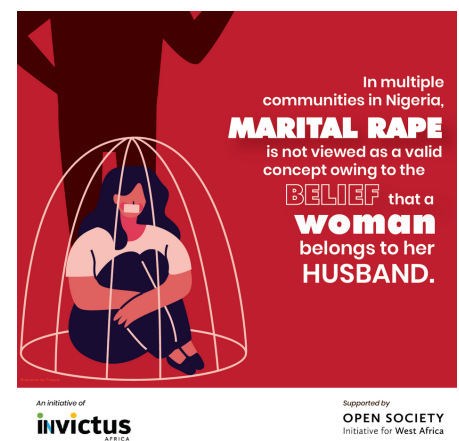
## CURRENT PROJECT

With support from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), we are currently implementing the "PAS (*Prevention, Accountability, Support*) Project," aimed at promoting understanding of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) as a way of prevention among vulnerable and at-risk populations, demanding accountability from duty bearers, and ensuring effective and holistic support if/when SGBV occurs.

## WHAT WE DID

### Infographics:


In April, we produced 12 infographics and disseminated them through our social media pages on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. The messages were curated after extensive research on the epidemic of sexual and gender-based violence in Nigeria, and the practical ways it affects the lives of women and girls, but also men and boys. The content had an impression/reach of 122,000 on Twitter, 37,943 on Instagram, and 5,500 on Facebook. Below are some of the infographics:



## #KnowTheVAPPAct Series:

In April, we disseminated six comic illustrations on key sections of the Violence Against Persons Prohibition (VAPP) Act under our #KnowTheVAPPAct series, aimed at simplifying relevant sections of the VAPP Act that relate to SGBV. Through this initiative, we have been building a collective of citizens who are aware of the provisions of the VAPP Act, and who are empowered to take action.

**#KnowTheVAPPAct**  
Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, 2015



**Section 1**  
**RAPE**


**OFFENCE:** A person commits the offence of rape if he or she penetrates the vagina, anus, or mouth of another person with any part of his or her body or anything else, without the consent of the other person or if consent is obtained by force.

**PENALTY:** Minimum of 12 years (and up to life) imprisonment without option of fine. Picture and details of convicted persons published in a Sexual Offenders Register. Court-ordered compensation for the victim

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**#KnowTheVAPPAct**  
Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, 2015



**Section 4**  
**WILLFULLY PLACING A PERSON IN FEAR OF PHYSICAL**

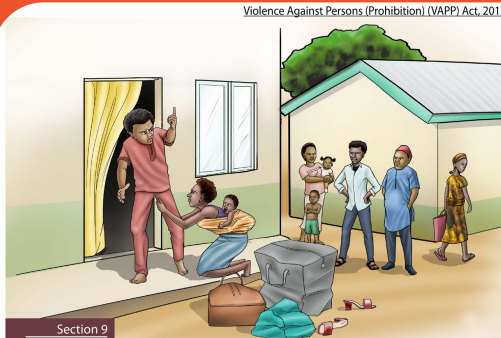
**OFFENCE:** Any person who willfully places another person in fear of physical injury commits an offence.

**PENALTY:** Up to 2 years imprisonment or a fine of up to N200,000, or both.

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**#KnowTheVAPPAct**  
Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, 2015



**Section 9**  
**FORCEFUL EJECTION FROM HOME**

**OFFENCE:** Any marriage partner who forcefully evicts his/her partner from his/her home or refuses his/her access commits an offence.


**PENALTY:** Up to 2 years imprisonment or fine of up to N300,000, or both.

A person who attempts, incites, or supports someone to commit this offence is liable to up to 1 year imprisonment or fine of up to N200,000, or both. (Same punishment for anyone who receives or assists someone that has committed this offence).

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Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, 2015



**Section 6**  
**PROHIBITION OF FEMALE CIRCUMCISION OR GENITAL MUTILATION**

**OFFENCE:** A person who performs female circumcision of genital cutting or hires another person to do so commits an offence.


**PENALTY:** Up to 4 years imprisonment or a fine not exceeding N200,000, or both.

A person who attempts, incites, or supports someone to commit this offence is liable to up to 2 years imprisonment or fine of up to N100,000, or both.

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**#KnowTheVAPPAct**  
Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, 2015



**Section 5**  
**OFFENSIVE CONDUCT**

**OFFENCE:** Any person who forces another to engage in any conduct or sexual act that is detrimental to the victim's physical and psychological wellbeing commits an offence.


**PENALTY:** Up to 2 years imprisonment or a fine of up to N500,000, or both.

A person who attempts, incites, or supports someone to commit this offence is liable to up to 1 year imprisonment or fine of up to N300,000, or both.

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**#KnowTheVAPPAct**  
Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) (VAPP) Act, 2015



**Section 15**  
**HARMFUL WIDOWHOOD PRACTICES**

**OFFENCE:** Any person who subjects a widow to harmful traditional practices commits an offence.

**PENALTY:** Up to 2 years imprisonment or fine of up to N500,000, or both.

A person who attempts, incites, or supports someone to commit this offence is liable to up to 1 year imprisonment or fine of up to N200,000, or both. And any person who receives or assists someone that has committed this offence is liable to up to 6 months imprisonment or fine of up to N100,000, or both.

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## The PAS Project:

We released a video by our Executive Director, Bukky Shonibare, which explained the PAS Project and the implementation framework. SGBV, especially rape and sexual harassment, has become such a prevalent issue in Nigeria and we must keep taking deliberate and strategic steps to curb it. That is the basis of the PAS Project, designed to prevent SGBV, demand accountability from duty bearers, and provide holistic support to survivors.



BUKKY SHONIBARE  
Executive Director,  
Invictus Africa

**#1minOnGBV**

APRIL 2021

**GUEST**  
**Buky Williams**  
Executive Director, Education as a Vaccine

**TOPIC**  
**Consent**

**RELEASE DATE**  
**Friday, 30th April, 2021.**

FOLLOW THE SERIES VIA:  
SheTV.org | Invictus Africa | @InvictusAfrica | @invictus.africa

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## #1minOnGBV: Consent

We released the third episode of our video series, #1minOnGBV, which is hosted on SheTV. The series is aimed at providing education on concepts that are related to SGBV. The timely topic of this episode was "Consent", expertly handled by Buky Williams, who is the Executive Director of Education as a Vaccine (EVA). She explained "Consent" using the F.R.I.E.S. acronym to mean that consent must be **F**reely-Given, **R**eversible, **I**nformed, **E**nthusiastic, and **S**pecific. The #1minOnGBV series is released on the last Friday of every month.

## #MindTheGaps Series: Male Sexual Abuse

We hosted our monthly virtual advocacy series tagged #MindTheGaps. In line with our focus key segment for April, the topic for the month was: "A 360-Degree Conversation on Male Sexual Abuse" and our guest was Mr. Yinka Ogunnubi, a Finance Expert and Convener of TheMan Network. He addressed some of the pressing questions around male sexual abuse, the difficulties men face when seeking support, how our societal norms influence male sexual abuse, how to prevent male sexual abuse, what to do if it occurs, and possible solutions to move forward. #MindTheGaps series for April was implemented via a Tweetchat, and the conversation has been produced into a downloadable PDF document, available via: [invictus.ng/publications](http://invictus.ng/publications).

**#MindTheGaps**  
...addressing inequality gaps

*Tweet Chat*  
**A 360-DEGREE CONVERSATION ON MALE SEXUAL ABUSE**

📍 @InvictusAfrica

📅 **SUNDAY**  
25th April, 2021

🕒 **4PM**

**Yinka Ogunnubi**  
Economist/Finance Expert  
@yinkanubi

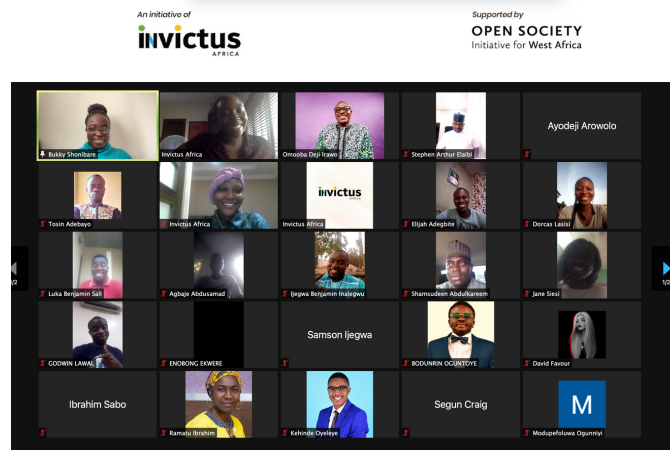
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## Webinar for boys under 18:

On the 30th of April, an interactive webinar was held titled “Boys will be boys - Redefining Masculinity”. This webinar aimed to educate boys under the age of 18 on what masculinity looks like outside the strict confines of “toxic masculinity” and the culture that encourages it. The Facilitator was Mr. Deji Irawo, a seasoned media executive and thought leader on male development notable for combating rape culture through redefining masculinity and raising boys and young men to break out of the “man box.” He provided a rich and engaging session on how the notion of “boys will be boys” has been harmful to both females and males, and how we can begin to break down harmful mindsets and behaviours that perpetuate inequality in society. The session was followed by an engaging QnA session, through which attendees got answers to their specific concerns.



## WHAT WE WILL DO NEXT

### Field Exercise:

In May, we would commence execution of the expanded Field Study exercise to assess twenty-four Local Government Areas (LGAs) across the six geopolitical zones, focusing on four grouped LGAs per State. Both rural and urban areas will be covered. Through our "banding system," each LGA in each State have been grouped based on different factors, including proximity, shared culture and traditions, and socio-cultural diversities. The study will be conducted using both qualitative and quantitative research methods through field data collection and desk reviews. At least 500 participants will be interviewed in each State through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and individual interviews. Respondents will include women, men, traditional rulers, religious leaders, male and female youth group members, and members of relevant groups or associations. This new structure allows for a deeper understanding of the overall context and situation of five forms of GBV in each State - Sexual, Physical, Mental/Psychological, Economic, and Cyber. The Key Findings and Recommendations will also be harvested from the participants, field officers, and desk study.

### Others:

In May, we will implement another online engagement in our #MindTheGap series, where we host a subject matter expert on SGBV. On the last Friday in May, we will release the fourth episode of our #1minOnGBV video. Later in the month, we will also hold our third interactive webinar, this time focused on girls under 18. Also, expect further dissemination of comic illustrations on relevant sections of the VAPP Act.

## Appreciation

Sincere thanks to OSIWA Nigeria for funding the PAS Project. We also thank Buky Williams who was the guest on #1minOnGBV program hosted on SheTV; Yinka Ogunnubi who was the guest on #MindTheGaps series held via a TweetChat; and Deji Irawo who facilitated the interactive webinar for boys.

## Acknowledgements

*Womanity* is produced by the Invictus Africa team (The *iTeam*). Tawakalit Kareem (Communications Lead), Iyunade Ojutalayo (Projects Lead), and Bukky Shonibare (Executive Director) contributed and provided contents for this edition.

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