

Legal Assistance Centre

Making human rights real since 1988

**Strengthening the law
for many through the
experiences of a few**

Namibia's domestic violence legislation is an example for other countries, but in practice it has not served the people as it should. The Legal Assistance Centre embarked on **countrywide research on experiences in obtaining protection orders** – compiling data from over 1,100 court files, interviews with magistrates and clerks of court, individual case studies and group discussions with traditional leaders, police and magistrates.

The results were reported in *Seeking Safety* – one of three publications in a series on Namibia's gender laws, along with research reports on rape and maintenance. *Seeking Safety* provides **recommendations to strengthen implementation of the Combating of Domestic Violence Act**, which are being taken forward through **advocacy and information initiatives** aimed at making the law more effective in keeping women and children safe.

Namibia's only public-interest law firm
supporting and holding government accountable
for the basic rights of its people

Posters documenting statistics on domestic violence get the message out: part of our large-scale awareness campaign in 2012

