

P O Box 604
4 Marien Ngouabi Street
Windhoek
Namibia

Tel: Int +264 61 223356
Fax: Int +264 61 234953
E-mail: info@lac.org.na
Web: www.lac.org.na



Toni Hancox (Director)

Corinna van Wyk
Chloe Brandt
Nambili Shipena

LEGAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE

Recipient of the UNICEF Maurice Pate Human Rights Award – 1997
JP Karuaihe Human Rights Excellence Award – 2008, 2010, 2014, 2016, 2020 and 2023 and Social Responsibility Award

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PRESS RELEASE: LAC CONDEMNS THE BRUTAL RAPE & MURDER OF YOUNG GIRLS IN NAMIBIA

The Legal Assistance Centre (LAC) vehemently condemns the recent abductions, rapes, and murders of young girls in Namibia. The recent femicides in Okahandja, including the tragic deaths of 15-year-old Beyonce !Kharuxas, six-year-old Rosalind Fabian, and five-year-old Ingrid Maasdorp represent a catastrophic failure to protect Namibia's most vulnerable. We demand urgent, systemic action to address sexual and gender-based violence and child rights violations.

The LAC urges law enforcement to prioritize these investigations, ensuring perpetrators are swiftly apprehended and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The LAC advocates for their right to justice, dignity, and safety. We echo President Nandi-Ndaitwah's call for national unity and emphasize that such crimes undermine the rule of law and Namibia's commitment to human rights.

Ending gender-based violence requires societal transformation. The LAC calls on all Namibians to reject toxic norms, protect children, and hold authorities accountable. Let us honour these young lives by building a culture where human rights are non-negotiable.

Our hearts ache for the families and communities devastated by these losses. We extend our sincerest condolences to the loved ones of the victims and hope they will find some relief in the legal system to hold these criminals accountable.

Yolande Engelbrecht

COORDINATOR: GENDER RESEARCH & ADVOCACY PROJECT

Trustees of the Legal Assistance Trust:

Clement Daniels (Chairperson)	Norman Tjombe	Taamba Iithete
Toni Hancox (ex officio)	Gladice Pickering	