

MCH91-34-1-14



# University of the Western Cape Community Law Centre

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18 February 1992  
DIRECTOR Adv. AM Omta

OUR REF: [faded]

YOUR REF: [faded]

Albie Sachs  
Fax No: 222626

**RE: Workshop on Violence Against Children**

Dear Albie:

The Community Law Centre of the University of the Western Cape is launching a Children's Research and Advocacy Project. To this end, the Centre is planning an International Conference on Children's Rights to be held in late May of this year.

As your participation in both the project and conference is greatly desired, the Centre would like to invite you to participate in a series of workshops prior to the conference. The first workshop, "Discrimination Against Children", will held on Thursday, 20 February from 9:00 to 1:00 in the UWC Library Auditorium.

*Accepted by phone. Will speak to her on the day.*

The second workshop, "Violence Against Children", is to be held on Friday, 6 March at the University of the Western Cape from 8:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. At this time, we would very much like for you to speak briefly on the concept of state violence against children. Evonne Mokgoro, a new member of the UWC Law Faculty, has agreed to speak on the issue of family and domestic violence. An informal workshop will follow during which participants will define what violence means in South Africa and will discuss how the problem should be addressed in a constitution and bill of rights.

Please call me at 959-2950 or fax 959-2411 to confirm your attendance to the workshops and presentation. I have also attached a copy of the work programme for the project for the next six months and would like to meet with you at some point to discuss some of the issues at length. I apologise for the late notice, but hope that you will be able to attend!

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
Michelle Morris  
Community Law Centre

Enclosure

MCH 91-34-1-14

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY PROJECT  
WORKSHOP ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHILDREN

20 February, 1992

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

AGENDA

I. Welcome and Introduction of Project and Project Members

Dullah Omar, Director of CLC

Time: 9:00 to 9:10

II. Video Presentation of "Any Child Is My Child", which addresses the problems of South African children.

Time: 9:10 to 9:30

III. "Discrimination Against Children: What Is It?"

Brigitte Mabandla

Time: 9:30 to 10:00

IV. TEA

Time: 10:00 to 10:30

ALBIC  
10:15 pm

V. Breakdown into Small Discussion Groups

Michelle Morris, Facilitator

1. What is Discrimination?
2. Who discriminates against children?
3. In what ways are children victims of discrimination?
4. Which children are most often the victims of discrimination?
5. Who is responsible for protection and prevention of discrimination?
6. How can discrimination be stopped?

The participants will be divided into 6 small discussion groups which will each be assigned one of the above queries. Individuals workshop participants will free-write independently for 5-10 minutes about the question. The facilitator of each

Methodology: To consult with representatives of the educational community, including teachers, activists, unions and parents towards the development of a network of individuals dedicated to the protection and prevention of child labour.

Participants: Approximately 40.

Specifically, representatives from: COSAS, SANSCO, SADTU, ANC Women's League, Grassroots Educare, ANC Constitutional Committee, ANC Regional Committee, Harold Wolpe, Teachers, Parents and Faculty from area schools, Street Law, RAT, Dawie Bosch, Social Justice Resource Centre (UCT)

Target Dates:	February	16 - Contact representatives
		18 - Meet with representatives
		22 - Confirm venue
		24 - Mail invites
	March	14 - Collate all legislation
		26 - Workshop
		28 - Deliver pamphlet to printer

5.

Juvenile Justice

March 19, 1992 ] → To be confirmed

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Objective: To determine the existing structure of the juvenile justice system as follows:

1. The current problems and ineffectiveness
2. The situation of juvenile offenders
3. Future strategies for change

Expected outcome: To identify the inefficiencies and problems of the existing juvenile justice system.

To develop effective strategies for improvement of the system.

To raise awareness of the existing situation of the juvenile offender in South Africa.

To conceptualise new structures and

MCH91-34-1-14

group will then lead a brain-storming session around the topic.  
The group will then be asked to draw up concrete resolutions.

Time: 10:30 to 11:15

VI. Reconvene for Group Reports

Peter Volmink, Regional Street Law Co-ordinator

One Representative from each group will present the resolutions reached on their respective questions to the entire group. After each reading, the facilitator will accept suggestions and recommendations from the floor. The floor will be open for ten minutes, then the facilitator will move to the next question.

Time: 11:20 to 12:30

VI. Conclusion and Thanks

ALBIC  
10:15 pm

## CHILDREN'S RIGHTS RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY PROJECT

## COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE

## WORK PROGRAMME

The Community Law Centre at the University of the Western Cape seeks to develop specific policies and resolutions which will form a foundation for children's rights both in the impending constitutional negotiations and in future legislation and decision-making within a democratic South Africa. The Centre has undertaken to hold an International Conference on Children's Rights in early June 1992. In preparation for this conference, the following work plan has been developed. This two-part programme will enable the Centre to devote its primary energies to the research and conceptualisation of detailed policies in certain areas. Other topics will be brought forward to the community and children's rights advocates in the sphere of workshops and consultations. The Centre will publish brief community-oriented information pamphlets following each of these workshops. Simultaneously, the Centre will be engaged in on-going consultations and preparations for the conference. Following the conference, the Centre hopes to present concrete policies on the rights of children in a new South Africa.

I. LONG-TERM RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Brigitte Mabandla and Michelle Morris will be responsible for the primary and empirical research of the following substantive papers to be presented both at the conference and to be utilised in the NCRC situation analysis.

1. Right to Name and Nationality (Brigitte)
2. Customary Law (Brigitte)
3. Juvenile Justice - Access to the Courts (Michelle)

## II. WORKSHOPS AND CONSULTATIONS

The Centre will organise six workshops prior to the conference. Delegates will be primarily from the Western Capre region and emphasis will be upon inclusion of grassroots activists and communities. Although the delegates at the conference will ensure that the legal, academic and political situation of children are advanced, the Centre strives to allow community activists and members to have an active role in the future of children as well. In many instances, these individuals have a more realistic idea of the situation and the everyday problems that children face.

The following workshops are scheduled:

1. Discrimination Against Children
2. Violence Against Children
3. Disabled Children
4. Child Labour
5. Juvenile Justice
6. Customary Law, Tradition and Family Life (to be held in the Transkei)

### 1. Workshop on Discrimination Against Children

February 20, 1992

9:00 A.M. to 12:00

**Objective:** To determine the extent of discrimination against children in South Africa as follows:

1. Existence and sources of discrimination
2. Solutions
3. Children's Charter

**Expected outcome:** To liase with children's rights advocates and activists to form a children's rights network

**Methodology:** Consult with individuals and organisations to form a working group dedicated to raising awareness of the rights of children.

programmes.

Methodology: To consult with legal aid clinics, lawyers, judges, parliamentarians and juvenile court members to develop a complete picture of the present situation.

Participants: Approximately 20.

The representatives will include: Molo Songololo, Street Law, parliamentarians, juvenile court judges and clerks, police officers, parents and correction officers, NICRO, Social Justice Resource Centre (UCT).

Target Dates: February 12 - Contact representatives  
21 - Confirm venue  
27 - Collated all legislation  
March 5 - Confirm invitations  
14 - Finalise paper  
19 - Workshop  
23 - Pamphlet delivered to printer

Participants: Approximately 50

2. Workshop on Disabled Children

April 30, 1992

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Objective: To determine the extent of the problems of disabled children in South Africa as follows:

1. Experiences in society
2. Health and education facilities
3. Demands in a new South Africa

Expected outcome: To develop effective strategies of support for the DPSA by the CLC Children's Rights Research and Advocacy Project

To liaise and cooperate with DPSA in its campaign for the protection and promotion of the disabled children.

To collect preliminary data for the purpose of the research project and conference on children.

Methodology: Selected representatives from the DPSA and other organisations and individuals interested with the rights of disabled children will be invited to a half-day workshop at UWC. Discussion will focus on the impact of a bill of rights on disabled children and their needs and requirements in a future democratic society.

Participants: Approximately 40.

Specifically, representatives from the following:

NCRC, Molo Songololo, ANC Womens League, Educare, Health Workers Association, Atalene Disabled Children's Centre, SANSCO, SATEDU, ANC Repatriation, ANC Constitutional Committee, ANC Regional Committee

Target dates: January 31 - Contact DPSA  
February 4 - Meet with DPSA representative



6 - Mail invitations and call  
 10 - Collated legislation  
 March 15 - Confirm invitations  
 April 30 - Workshop  
 1 - Prepare workshop pamphlet  
 3 - Deliver to printer

3. Workshop on Violence Against Children

March 6, 1992

9:00 to 12:30 P.M.

Objective: To determine the extent of child abuse, neglect and violence faced by children in the home and in society within South Africa as follows:

1. The types of abuse and extent of the problem
2. The causes and sources of the problem
3. Protection, counseling and prevention

Expected Outcome: To identify programmes aimed at protection and prevention of violence.

To collate preliminary data for use in future legislation and constitutional protections.

To liase with children's rights activists and develop a working relationship for future awareness and prevention campaigns in this area.

Methodology: Representatives from SafeLine, RAPCAN and activists in the area of violence against children will be invited to a morning workshop to discuss the existing situation and to develop policies and strategies towards increasing awareness and preventing further abuses.

Participants: Approximately 30.

The following individuals and organisations will be included:

SafeLine, RAPCAN, Legal Aid (UWC, UCT and Stellenbosch), Molo Songololo, Child Health Unit, Grassroots Educare, Early Learning

Centre, Child Welfare Society (Protective Unit), SASPCA, NICRO,  
Janet McCurdie(UCT), Red Cross, Homestead

Target Dates:     January 31 - Contact SAFELINE/RAPCAN  
                  February 6 - Meet with representatives  
                          7 - Confirm venue  
                          10 - Invite participants  
                          15 - Confirm invitations and materials  
                          19 - Collated all legislation  
                          28 - Workshop  
                          3 - Complete pamphlet and deliver

Format: CLO will introduce the legal status of children who are victims of violence, both in the community and in the courts. The group will then break into small teams to brainstorm around the following questions:

- What is Violence? (State, Abuse, Neglect and Abandonment?)
- What are the causes of Violence?
- What can be done to ensure that violence is addressed in the impending constitution and bill of rights?

4.

#### Child Labour

March 26, 1992

9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Objective: To identify the problems surrounding child labour as follows:

1. Economic pressures facing children
2. Forced labour and prostitution
3. Labour Laws and legislation

Expected outcome: To develop strategies and policies to be considered at constitutional negotiations.

To raise awareness of the link between the economic situation facing children and education.

To consult with teachers, activists and unions to develop a working relationship.