



*Enhancing Judicial Excellence*

---

**SAJEI REPORT ON  
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL OFFENCES**

## **TRAINING OF MAGISTRATES ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL OFFENCES**

The South African Judicial Education Institute has been conducting training on sexual offences and gender based violence since 2013. Some of the topics covered were pedophilia, grooming, child porn and judicial management of Sexual offences cases.

Furthermore, SAJEI launched a Human Rights week for Regional and District Magistrates which coincides with World Aids day since 2018. Human Rights week is a four-day training programme for Regional and District Magistrates which deals with pertinent rights related issues like Sexual offences, Gender stereotyping and Gender based violence.

In December 2018, the programme for Human Rights week included the following topics:

- a. HIV/TB and Human Rights.
- b. Gender and HIV.
- c. HIV/TB and Sexual offences.
- d. HIV as a factor for sentencing in Sexual offences.
- e. Confidentiality and Disclosure of HIV/TB: Relevance to Sexual offences matters.
- f. Social context.

In October 2019, SAJEI engaged training entities in the criminal justice sector with the aim of aligning our annual training plans where possible and to discuss training on gender based violence and femicide. The three sessions were attended by SAJEI, Justice College, National Prosecuting Authority, SAPS and Legal Aid. This is work in progress.

In December 2019, the programme for Human Rights week covered the following topics:

- a. Gender stereotyping, women access to justice and role of the Judiciary.
- b. International and Regional frameworks on Gender based violence, Sexual and Reproductive Health rights.
- c. Unpacking judicial stereotyping in Sexual and Reproductive health and rights cases
- d. Unpacking judicial stereotyping in Gender based violence cases.

In June 2020, SAJEI held a webinar on Sexual offences attended by the Regional Magistrates. The topics included Sexual Offences Court regulations, Judicial management of Sexual offences court rolls as well as update on Sexual offences cases.

In July 2020, SAJEI held a webinar on Gender based violence and Gender stereotypes for Magistrates of the Durban Cluster. The topics included practical challenges and best practices of dealing with Gender based violence during COVID-19 pandemic as well as Gender based violence and gender stereotyping.

From 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020, SAJEI will be holding a virtual Human Rights week for Regional and District Magistrates. The topics listed on the program include amongst others Gender based violence, stereotyping in the court environment and sexual violence.