



# AGA-AFRICA

AFRICA PARTNERSHIP FOR JUSTICE

DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



**In this Issue, we highlight  
Gender-Based Violence**

# Foreword

Dear Readers,

It is my pleasure to introduce the December 2021 Issue of the AGA-Africa Newsletter.

This month, AGA-Africa joined the Judicial Action Group for their fifth annual meeting from Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

AGA-Africa in collaboration with Stand to End Rape (STER) Initiative held a webinar on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 titled “Trend, Pattern or Crime: A Critical Appraisal of Image-Based Sexual Abuse in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”.

AGA-Africa also partnered with ROOST Foundation and Policy House for a town hall meeting to discuss Crises of Irregular Migration, Human Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence and Resettlement of Returnees on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in Abuja, Nigeria.

I wish to thank Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Hon. Justice Isaac Lenaola, Chair, Judicial Action Group, Oluwaseun Ayodeji Osowobi, Executive Director, Stand to End Rape (STER) Initiative and Dame Julie Okah-Donli, Chairperson, United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNVTF) and Founder of ROOST Foundation for their continued support for AGA-Africa’s programmes.

As the year comes to a close we look forward to an exciting 2022.



Markus Green ESQ.  
AGA-Africa Board Member

# Gender-based Violence

In this Issue, we highlight Gender-based Violence



**G**ender-Based Violence (GBV) is any harmful act that is directed to an individual on the basis of their gender. It is a serious violation of human rights and a life-threatening issue. It is estimated one in three women will experience gender-based violence in her lifetime.

Gender-Based Violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, financial or structural, and can be perpetrated by intimate partners, acquaintances, strangers and institutions. Most acts of gender-based violence are committed by men against women, and the man perpetrating the violence is often known by the woman, such as a partner or family member.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.



# Expert Interview

*Mark Wynn, a renowned domestic and sexual violence trainer, has over the years shared his expertise with police executives, patrol officers, training officers, prosecutors, judges, legislators, social service providers, healthcare professionals and victim advocates. Mark shares with us some insight on Gender-based Violence and how to help reduce the occurrence of Gender-based Violence cases in Africa.*

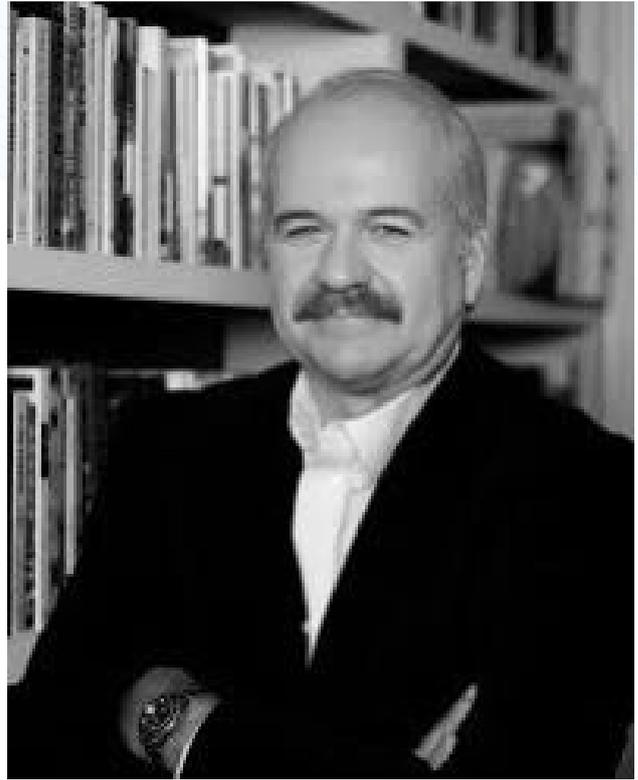
## What is Gender-based Violence?

For many years now in the U.S. law enforcement and the criminal justice system have focused on the crime of domestic violence, which is the *willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated against another. This includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, and emotional abuse.*

It is the single most common reason the public contacts the police. Gender-based violence is a much broader view of these oppressive behaviors. Its foundation is based on inequality and bias. It is carried out through age old customs and institutions that deny, for the most part, women and children basic civil and human rights, food, shelter, finance, health, and reproductive rights. Those who carry out gender-based violence oppress other humans' right to freedom and liberty.

## Who is at risk of Gender-based Violence?

The primary target of gender-based violence is, for the most part, women and children,



**Mark Wynn,  
Owner/Operator  
Wynn Consulting**

but we recognize and are actively training law enforcement to understand the diverse experiences of survivors who represent any and all genders, gender identities and sexual orientations.

## What steps can countries take to end Gender-based Violence?

Every country should make prevention of gender-based violence a top priority through improved legislation, ensuring victims receive equal protection of the law, strengthening protection from harm and increasing victim and community safety. This would immediately impact the lives of millions of voiceless and powerless victims of crime.

We should encourage victims to report crimes but not blame them if they are too afraid to



# Comments from Attorney General Keith Ellison of Minnesota

*AGA - Africa is always pleased to interact with Attorneys General all over the world. In this issue, we are delighted to share Minnesota's Attorney General Keith Ellison's, insights on his experience as AG.*

## 1. Briefly tell us your name, title, and how long you have served as AG?

- My name is Keith Ellison and I've served as Attorney General of Minnesota for 3 years, since January 2019. Before that, I served 12 years in the United States House of Representatives.

## 2. What is the most prevalent transnational crime in your state?

- The most prevalent transnational crimes in Minnesota are sex and labor trafficking, and serious consumer fraud.

## 3. How has your experience been fighting this crime in your state?

- They're very tough to pin down. We need more resources and more relationships, which is why the work that AGA-Africa program does in connecting law-enforcement officials between the United States and Africa is so important.

## 4. What are some of the challenges you have faced in fighting transnational crimes as a whole?

- The need for more resources, connections, and partnerships. We have to be able to talk across national boundaries in order to protect the public and hold wrongdoers accountable.

## 5. As a staunch supporter of AGA-Africa programs, what are the benefits of working with AGA-Africa in fulfilling your role as AG?

- Forming lifelong bonds with people who are dedicated to the same principles we are. We're trying to protect people in our country; African law-enforcement officials are trying



**Keith Ellison,  
Attorney General of Minnesota**

to do the same thing. By coming together, we can protect people on both sides of the divide, so the relationships are the most important thing.

## 6. What has been your greatest takeaway from the engagements with AGA-Africa?

- My greatest takeaway is the sophistication and expertise of African law-enforcement officials. They're very impressive and they know their business. Their willingness to partner and build bridges of communication, cooperation, and understanding is very helpful to me in doing my job.

## 7. From your experience and perspective, what is your advice to countries in Africa as they grapple with transnational crimes?

My advice is to keep in mind that transnational crimes weaken the economy, weaken trust, and extend poverty. When we work together to root out corruption, graft, and dishonesty, we can build safer, more prosperous societies on both sides of the Atlantic. And we can do it together.

# NEWSBYTES

## › Judicial Action Group (JAG) 5th Annual Meeting



*Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya together with JAG Members, and representatives from AGA-Africa and Protimos Africa Trust*

***L-R Seated:*** Hon. Justice Zione Ntaba (Malawi), Hon. Justice Charles Hungwe (Zimbabwe), Hon. Justice Isaac Lenaola (Kenya), Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome (Kenya), Tondani Moyo, Chair Protimos Trust Africa, Hon. Justice Reginald Fynn (Sierra Leone) and Hon. Justice Molefi Makara (Lesotho)

***L-R Standing:*** Sneha Shrestha, Legal Assistant, Protimos, Catherine Young, Consultant, Protimos, Hon. Justice Mohammed El Ghannam (Egypt), Chukukere Unamba-Oparah, AGA-Africa Programme Director and John Edozie, AGA-Africa International Advisor, Fiona Darroch Director of Law, Protimos and Isobel Butler, Director, Protimos

AGA-Africa joined the Judicial Action Group for its fifth annual meeting from Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

The meeting themed “Forging Ahead” set the stage for members to explore emerging judicial thought on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), climate change litigation, the concept of “Ubuntu”, and the cross-section of business and human rights, as well as the birth of virtual courts and electronic evidence.

The meeting was officially opened by Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, with remarks from Hon. Justice Isaac Lenaola, Chair Judicial Action Group, AGA-Africa’s International Board Member John Edozie and Hon. Justice Isaac Lenaola, President, International Association of Refugee & Migration Judges (IARMJ) and Tondani Moyo, Chair Protimos Trust Africa.

## › Trend, Pattern or Crime: A Critical Appraisal of Image-Based Sexual Abuse in the 21st Century – Webinar



*Miiko Anderson*  
*Certified Legal Criminal Specialist and*  
*Senior Deputy District Attorney for Fresno*  
*County District Attorney's Office*

AGA-Africa in collaboration with Stand to End Rape Initiative (STER) held a webinar on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 titled “Trend, Pattern or Crime: A Critical Appraisal of Image-Based Sexual Abuse in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”.

The webinar participants included human rights activists, law officers, law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, lawyers, government (federal and states) ministries and the general public. The event was graced by Dame Julie Okah-Donli, Chairperson, United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNVTF) and Founder of ROOST Foundation.



*Amy Stephens*  
*Executive Leader/Government Affairs Catalyst*



*Isioma Nnenna Alexis Idigbe*  
*Head Media, Entertainment and Intellectual*  
*Property Law, PUNUKA Attorneys & Solicitors*

## › Crises of Irregular Migration, Human Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence and Resettlement of Returnees Meeting

AGA-Africa partnered with ROOST Foundation and Policy House on a town hall meeting to discuss Crises of Irregular Migration, Human Trafficking and Gender-Based Violence and Resettlement of Returnees on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in Abuja Nigeria.

AGA-Africa's country coordinator for Nigeria Ebelechukwu Enedah opened the event with Chief Anthony Idigbe SAN delivering the keynote speech.

The event had participants from various organizations including, Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development, UN Women, Nigeria Police Nigeria Immigration Services, International Organization for Migration, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and members of the media, public and private sector.



*Ebelechukwu Enedah, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Nigeria*



*L-R Oluwaseun Ayodeji Osowobi , Executive Director, STER Initiative with Dame Julie Okah-Donli Chairperson, United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNVTF), Ebelechukwu Enedah, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Nigeria and other delegates during the Trend, Pattern or Crime Webinar in Nigeria*



*Anita Nyanjong, Advocate, High Court of Kenya*

## RELATED NEWS:

### Kenya:

The world is currently marking the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The theme Orange the world: *End violence against women now!* seeks to inspire hope that violence can be eradicated. Adjunct to this is to end GBV in the world of work based on Convention 190 of the International Labour Organisation, which Kenya is yet to ratify...[Read More](#)

### Rwanda:

Under the theme “The Impact of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) on the mental health of the victim”, Kigali Global Shapers in collaboration with UN Women have organized a discussion in line with 16 Days of activism against GBV. The discussion took place at Westerwelle, Fair View Building in Kigali on the evening of December 9...[Read More](#)

### Nigeria:

To mark the start of today’s annual United Nations 16 Days of Activism campaign, the international advocacy organisation, Global Citizen announced a year-long partnership to combat the increase against gender-based violence in Nigeria, with the Ford Foundation, a private foundation seeking to reduce poverty and injustice...[Read More](#)

### Zambia:

When people look at Gender Based Violence (GBV), what comes to their mind is the physical abuse that is more common in their communities. This is because the attention on GBV has focused more on its physical and sexual manifestations. However, little do most people know that financial abuse may be just as common as physical and psychological abuse as it has been identified as one of the most powerful methods of keeping a victim trapped in an abusive relationship...[Read More](#)





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