



**Notes for Cllr Zandile Gumede - March Against women &  
Children Abuse**

**14 July 2017 – Durban City Centre**

---

Programme Director,

Premier of KZN – Hon Willies Mchunu,

Government leader,

Members of the Cabinet,

Members of Parliament and Legislature,

Councillors,

Senior Government officials,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sanibonani,

Phansi ngodlame olubhekiswe kwabisifazane – phansi!!!

Phansi ngokuhlukumeza omama nabantwana – phansi!!!

Namhlanje sizothi, akuphele ukuhlukunyezwa kwabantwana nomama ezweni. Akukho umuntu onelungelo lokushaya nokulimaza umntwana

nomangabe umuntu athandana naye. Abantu abahlukumeza abasefazane kumele baboshwe bavalelwe kulahlwe isikhiyi.

Real men do not abuse women. Real men respect women and children because they also respect themselves. Real men love and protect their women and children. They don't use violence. We are here to say it is time for the real men to stand-up. Isikhathi sezishimane nondlavini siphelile!

People who are abusing children and women are reversing the gains we have made in this country. They are taking us back to an era where we were only objects.

No South African woman will disagree, that we have made great progresses in addressing the inequalities within our society especially between women and men since 1994. Prior to our first democratic elections, black women were oppressed for their gender, race and class.

The social composition of the South African society basically classified women as second class citizens.

Worst still the black women had to also endure the injustices of racial discrimination that was perpetrated by the Apartheid system.

Although South Africa has made great advances over the last 20 years, we need to accelerate gender transformation in our society.

As the Mayor in my office I have an office that deals with issues of GENDER. As a woman mayor, I have a dedicated manager in my office for Gender issues who is passionate about issues of woman.

My plan is to prioritise the safety and protection of women and children. Sadly, too often horrific stories of gender violence and so-called corrective rape make headlines.

Women who are lesbians are subjected to rape in the name of correction. Such acts that treat women as objects do not belong in our free society. These acts undermine the gains that we have made as a country.

We fully understand that for decades men, were abused by apartheid system. They were forced to be violence rather than to be romantic. Men use violence and fear in order to rule over women in abusive communities. We also want to engage man to be gentlemen. We want to have men that are caring and loving in our society.

Program Director,

I would like to encourage our men to change and be completely new. They must accept to be led by women in society. They must treat women with respect irrespective of the position they hold in society. They must begin to embrace women Pastors, mayors and a notion of a woman president.

Real men must men-up and accept the reality that this country will be led by women today and tomorrow it will be led by your daughters.