



GET IN TOUCH

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A DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR 45 YEARS

OUR WORK IN SEXUAL CORRUPTION

In a country such as ours with a clear GBV pandemic it is critical that the legal frameworks offer the necessary protections and support for victims of GBV. The LRC is as an organisation rooted in the protection and defence of fundamental human rights and views sexual corruption as a human rights violation. Approaching sexual corruption through a human rights lens reveals its deeper harm: not merely the transaction of power for sex, but the erosion of an individual's right to bodily integrity, autonomy, and equal moral worth. It is precisely this erosion that places sexual corruption firmly within the category of gender-based violence and demands that it be treated as such both legally and institutionally.

INFORMATION
PACKAGE



LEGAL
RESOURCES
CENTRE



SEXUAL CORRUPTION

What is it, what to do about it & who to call



www.lrc.org.za



WHAT IS SEXUAL CORRUPTION?

Sexual corruption, also known as 'sextortion', involves a quid pro quo ("this for that") arrangement.

It is the abuse of entrusted authority where a person in power demands sexual acts or favors in exchange for a service, benefit, or opportunity, essentially using sex as a bribe (or "currency") for things like jobs, education, aid, or official documentation.

The behaviour may be explicit – through direct requests – or implicit, where the victim perceives an unspoken expectation tied to their advancement or success, or to receive services that should normally be provided to them.

"Sextortion is a form of corruption in which sex, rather than money, is the currency of the bribe."

HOW THE LRC COMBATS SEXUAL CORRUPTION

- **We listen to communities.** We will engage directly with communities in KZN, EC and Gauteng to document lived experiences and understand how sexual corruption happens in everyday life.
- **We push for accountability.** We use research and advocacy to demand real consequences for perpetrators and clear, victim-protective ways to report abuse, including legal recognition of sexual corruption.
- **We support survivors.** We will work with partners to strengthen referral pathways so survivors can access psychosocial support and are not left to carry trauma alone.
- **We focus where risk is highest.** We will target sectors where power meets need, including municipal offices, farms, immigration services, clinics to make prevention and accountability realistic and effective. accountability efforts are targeted and realistic

EXAMPLES OF SEXUAL CORRUPTION

- A government official requiring sexual favours for processing paperwork or granting permits.
- A healthcare provider withholding essential care unless the user provides a sexual benefit.
- Teachers or professors using their influence over students' grades or opportunities to demand sexual behaviour.
- A religious leader/spiritual healer using someone's belief against them, by requiring sexual favours or acts before completing a prayer or ritual on behalf of the victim.

EMERGENCY & SUPPORT CONTACT NUMBERS

- SAPS Crime Stop 08600 10111
- SAPS emergency number 10111
- Independent Police Investigative Directorate 0800 111 969
- Stop Gender Violence Helpline 0800 150 150 / 011 715 2000
- TEARS Foundation:
Toll free 08000 83277
Emergency line 010 590 5920
USSD 1347355#
- Sonke Gender Justice:
CPT 021 423 7088 / JHB 011 339 3589
- GBV Command Centre:
Landline 0800 428 428
SMS 31531
Please Call Me *120*7867#
- Marie Stopes SA 080 011 7785
- Lifeline SA 0861 322 322
- People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA):
Counselling & advice 011 642 4345
After-hours number 076 694 4911
Whatsapp 060 400 0669
- Rape Crisis Centre Helpline:
English 021 447 9762
isiXhosa 021 361 9085
Afrikaans 021 633 9229
Whatsapp 083 222 5164
- African Women Against Corruption (AWACN) 064 728 9228
- Legal Aid 0800 110 110
- Corruption Watch 0110242 3900 / 082 579 5220
- Commission for Gender Equality 011 403 7182
- Stellenbosch GBV Centre:
Phone 021 487 7288
WhatsApp 063 238 4280