PERCEPTIONS OF UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO 3RD YEAR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS ON THE INCLUSION OF MEN IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS IN SOUTH AFRICA

MASTER OF ARTS IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

V. I. MABOGA

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PERCEPTIONS OF UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO 3RD YEAR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS ON THE INCLUSION OF MEN IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS IN SOUTH AFRICA

by

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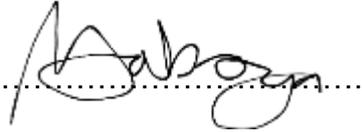
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SUPERVISOR: DR M. B. SETWABA

2022

DECLARATION

I declare that the mini-dissertation hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of **Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology** has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; that it is my work in design and execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged.

....   <u>10 October 2022</u>

Vhonani Ishmael Maboga   Date

DEDICATION

In memory of my uncle

Lucky Evens 'Bra Lucky' Malobela

(1978 - 2017)

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To the 2019 M. Clinical Psychology students, we have reached the finish line now. Let us go be trailblazing clinical psychologists!

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ABSTRACT

Gender-based violence (GBV) has become a global epidemic and it affects those who are most vulnerable in society, predominantly women and children. Several causal factors have been identified, which include gender norms, socioeconomic inequalities, and South Africa's violent history. There are many organisations (governmental and non-governmental) that are committed to reducing GBV. However, even with many interventions in place, the prevalence of GBV in South Africa keeps on rising. A qualitative approach was adopted to explore the perceptions of 3rd year psychology students at the University of Limpopo regarding the inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns. The study used two theoretical frameworks, namely, Social Learning Theory and Feminist Theory. Purposive sampling was used to draw a sample of 16 students (10 females, and 6 males), and the data was analysed using a Thematic Analysis (TA) approach. Three major themes and five subthemes emerged from the analysis, which was supported by existing findings. The themes were identified as GBV prevention campaigns, GBV and government interventions, and GBV knowledge and perceptions. The results of the study found that students had an adequate understanding of GBV prevention campaigns. Their understanding informed their perceptions, which leaned towards supporting the inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns. Their perceptions were geared towards a multi-gender approach aimed at increasing awareness, protecting the rights of GBV victims and demanding justice for them. Furthermore, a multi-gender approach was seen as a silver bullet to championing the fight against GBV and stressing the impact that the inclusion of men will have in lowering GBV cases. The current GBV prevention campaigns (both at government and non-governmental levels) were seen as not effective enough in the eradication of GBV. Therefore, a call for a multi-gender approach to GBV prevention campaigns at all societal levels was emphasised. Community-based initiatives (i.e., social organisations) in GBV prevention campaigns were also seen as crucial in the eradication of GBV.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Introduction to the study

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a form of violence that takes the form of harm inflicted upon a certain gender (Bloom, 2008). Msibi and Sibanda (2016) attribute this form of violence to gender inequality that exists in society. The history of gender-based violence in South Africa can be traced back to Apartheid and it affects those who are most vulnerable in society, which are women and children (Mpani & Nsibande, 2015; Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). The World Health Organisation (WHO, 2013) states that South Africa is one of the most dangerous countries for women and children to live in as the level of violence against them has reached unacceptable levels.

The literature points to several factors that perpetuate violence against women. These factors include gender norms, socioeconomic inequalities and violent realities (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014; Centre for the Study of Violence & Reconciliation, 2016). Although many factors have been identified in the literature, it is also true that many policies and interventions have been put in place by the government, civil organisations and non-governmental organisations to reduce this epidemic (Gender Links, 2015).

Several studies show that the inclusion of men in fighting gender-based violence is one of the most effective ways of dealing with this epidemic (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014; Rouichi, 2016; Peace, 2017; Ampofo, 2017). Müller and Shahrokh (2016) highlight that including men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns, will lead to men holding "themselves, peers and powerholders accountable for maintaining harmful gender norms that perpetuate violence" (Müller & Shahrokh, 2016, p. 1). Feminist activists and scholars are not in agreement with the notion of including men in the fight against gender-based violence. Some feminists hold the view that men cannot participate in anti-gender-based violence campaigns because they are the primary perpetrators and they further state that their inclusion will lead to further marginalisation of women's interests as men's interests will be advanced (Chitiga-Mabugu, et al., 2014; Ndimandi, 2018; Senne, 2018). There has been a paucity of South African research that investigated the perceptions of students concerning the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns. Studies by Mosavel

et al. (2012) and Casey et al. (2017) examined the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention. They revealed that the participants felt that the inclusion of men, is crucial in the fight against gender-based violence. However, the participants of these studies were not university students. The participants in the study by Mosavel et al. (2012) were adolescents, and those in the study by Casey et al. (2012), were male.

It is for this reason that the study desires to understand the perceptions of 3rd-year psychology students at the University of Limpopo to generate knowledge that would contribute to the development of interventions that would prevent the ever-rising gender-based violence statistics in South Africa.

1.2. Research problem

Gender-based violence is a global and national public health pandemic as most women are continuously becoming victims of violent abuse such as domestic violence, sexual abuse and murder (WHO, 2013; Stats SA, 2018). South African statistics show that women in South Africa are five times more likely to be a victim of femicide (Stats SA, 2018). Almost 50% of the assault cases against women were committed by a person who is known to the victim, such as a spouse or family member. Only 29% of assaults were committed by people who are unknown to the victim. The 2021 Statistics that were released in August 2021 reflected the depth of the gender-based violence problem in South Africa. The statistics reflected that there were 10 006 cases of rape that were reported between April and June 2021. This means that there is a 72.4% increase in rape cases. Many rape incidents happened at the victim's or perpetrator's home. Provinces with the highest numbers of rape cases are Kwa-Zulu Natal, Western Cape, and Eastern Cape (Cele, 2021). Gender-Based Violence has become a national problem in South Africa, as a result, several organisations such as Sisonke Gender Justice have attempted to develop interventions that aim to prevent gender-based violence and promote gender equality in South Africa. However, there remains an increase in violence against women (Gender Links, 2015; WHO, 2013).

Traditionally, men have not been included in gender-based violence prevention campaigns. This is seen in movements such as the #totalshutdown where men are requested to stay away from gender-based violence prevention campaigns (Mulaudzi, 2017). The #totalshutdown and the #metoo movement are two movements that are women-led and are not inclusive of men in their approach to dealing with gender-

based violence. These movements are grounded on the premise of feminist scholars and activists who believe that men are the primary perpetrators and can therefore not empathise with female victims of gender-based violence (Senne, 2018; Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014; Ndimandi, 2018). This premise is problematic in that there is a growing literature that points to the inclusion of men as the right step towards gaining a breakthrough in addressing the growing problem of gender-based violence in South Africa (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014; Rouichi, 2016; Peace, 2017; Ampofo, 2017).

This study intended to examine the perceptions of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa, to address the increasing statistics.

1.3. Purpose of the study
1.3.1. Aim of the study

The study aimed to investigate the perceptions of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the inclusion of men in Gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa.

1.3.2. Objectives of the study

- To determine the perceptions of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the inclusion of men in Gender-based violence prevention campaigns.
- To determine the understanding of the 3rd year psychology students at the University of Limpopo on the importance of gender-based violence prevention campaigns.
- To explore whether the 3rd year psychology students at the University of Limpopo, consider the multi-gender approach in gender-based violence prevention campaigns as an effective method to prevent gender-based violence.

1.4. Research questions

- What are the perceptions of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students regarding the inclusion of men in Gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa?

- What is the understanding of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the importance of gender-based prevention campaigns in South Africa?

- What are the perceptions of the 3rd year psychology students at the University of Limpopo regarding a multi-gender approach in gender-based violence prevention campaigns as an effective method to prevent gender-based violence?

1.5. Operational definitions

- Perceptions: are understood as a framework from which a social phenomenon is understood by someone. Perceptions are often subjective in that they differ from person to person and they are influenced by several factors such as culture, political affiliation, religion and economic background (Merriam-Webster, n.d.).

- Psychology students: are a group of people who are studying for an undergraduate bachelor's degree with a major in psychology at an institution of higher learning (Janc, 2004).

- Men: refers to a group of adult human beings who are biologically wired as male. They are born with XY chromosomes and can initiate conception. They are also legally considered adults, which means that they are 18 years or older (Tortora & Derrikson, 2011).

- Gender-based violence: is a form of violence that is often inflicted upon a certain gender as a result of inequalities that exists in society. Women are often victims of this type of violence (Nkonyane, 2016).

- Prevention campaigns: are several interventions that are aimed at preventing and reducing the occurrence of gender-based violence (Bloomfield, 2015).

1.6. Significance of the study

The proposed study was concerned with the problem of gender-based violence in South Africa and the current interventions that are in place to prevent the problem. Literature indicates that men are largely ignored in gender-based violence prevention campaigns (Cornwall, 2014; Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014; Ndimandi, 2018; Senne, 2018). The study, therefore, aimed to contribute in the following manner:

The development of interventions aimed at preventing gender-based violence. Such interventions would recognise the importance of including men in the prevention campaigns as partners. Prevention interventions of this nature should focus on the empowerment of women and on assisting men to use their masculinity in a positive manner (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014).

The study aimed to contribute to the broader gender-based violence literature. It will do this by emphasising the importance of including men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns.

1.7. Overview of the chapters

Chapter 1: provides a comprehensive introduction to the study and highlights its significance.

Chapter 2: An overview of the literature on the topic is explored in this chapter.

Chapter 3: provides the theoretical lens/frameworks in which the study is embedded.

Chapter 4: An overview of the methodology used in the study is provided in this chapter.

Chapter 5: The results of the study and the discussion are presented in this chapter.

Chapter 6: The chapter includes the conclusion, strengths, limitations and recommendations of the study.

1.8. Summary

This chapter aimed to provide an overview of the study. The researcher provides a comprehensive introduction of the study, its problem statement, purpose and significance. It was noted that gender-based violence is both a national and global

health problem that affects those who are marginalised in society. Although gender-based violence remains a problem at the scale that it is, multiple approaches to reducing or eliminating it has been attempted, however, those approaches have fallen short in the reduction and elimination of gender-based violence. The subsequent chapter will examine the relevant literature about gender-based violence.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Introduction

This chapter examines the relevant literature on gender-based violence. It is worth noting that some of the studies cited in this chapter are over five years, however, their relevance to the topic should be highlighted. Gender-based violence is not a recent problem and the literature in this chapter intends to highlight that. This chapter, therefore, aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of gender-based violence which includes its causes, types of gendered violence; consequences of gender-based violence; the prevalence of gender-based violence (nationally and internationally), current debates surrounding the inclusion of men in the reduction of gender-based violence; and current methods of reducing gender-based violence including the relevant legislation which aims to protect those who are vulnerable and likely to suffer various forms of gender-based violence.

2.2. Gender-Based Violence

Gender-based violence is an umbrella term that encompasses several violent acts that are perpetrated on another person based on their gender (Msibi & Sibanda, 2016). Gender-based violence is one of the major global health concerns and is considered a violation of fundamental human rights. It is also one of the most common forms of violence in many countries. This form of violence results from the unequal power relations that exist between the genders in society (Msibi & Sibanda, 2016; Bloom, 2008). Therefore, children and women are in most cases, victims of gender-based violence and men are in most cases the primary perpetrators. However, this does not mean that men are immune to the effects of gender-based violence, but statistics reveal that women suffer in the majority. A large proportion of men who suffer from gender-based violence are those who are gender nonconforming (i.e. gay men) (Msibi & Sibanda, 2016; Bloom, 2008). United Nations Office of the High Commissioner perceives gender-based violence as a significant obstacle to reaching gender equality, and it is the objective of UNOHC to see all forms of inequalities eliminated (UNOHC, 2017).

Gender-based violence comprises physical, sexual, psychological and economic abuse (Nduna & Nene, 2014). Sexual abuse is one most common forms found of

gender-based violence, therefore, Chitiga-Mabugu et al. (2014) prefer to use the term sexual and/or gender-based violence (S/GBV) as it provides a holistic definition. According to Gender Links (2015), sexual, physical and psychological abuse are commonly found in partners who are in a relationship and this is commonly known as intimate partner violence.

2.3. Causes of Gender-Based Violence
2.3.1. Traditional Gender Norms

The devaluation of femininity and women occupying a lower status in society can be attributed to the persisting violence against women (Heise, 2011; Vogelman & Eagle, 1991). Throughout history, the voices of women have been silenced and they have been refused to participate in certain aspects of social life (i.e. political and economic life). The role of women was relegated to domesticity and childbearing while men would partake informal employment which afforded them status and power (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). Gender power inequalities are a consequence of the traditional gender norms and roles (Jewkes et al., 2010). Britton (2006) points to how gender inequalities have resulted in men using rape as a way to keep women in "their place". Chitiga-Mabugu et al. (2014) note that violent incidences against women "function to uphold the hetero-patriarchal gender order in which heterosexual men dominate" (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014, p. 52).

2.3.2. Socioeconomic Inequalities

Moletsane et al. (2010) pointed to a link between gendered poverty, gender-based violence and power disparities. Women who are more likely to suffer violence are those who live in poverty, especially in rural communities. This is because such women lack economic rights and thus, they find themselves economically dependent on men. Greig (2003) further state that such dependency increases a woman's vulnerability to experiencing violence, more specifically sexual violence.

2.2.3. Violent Realities

Chitiga-Mabugu et al. (2014) state that there is a culture of violence in South Africa. Violence has become both normal and normalised (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). Sigsworth (2009) pointed out that

> "Violence is accepted as long a long-standing means of resolving conflict and problems in the family, sexual relationships, in school, peer groups, in the community and political spheres. Assault is so common that it has become acceptable in a wide range of relationships. This social tolerance of violence in general only serves to foster the perpetuation of sexual violence (Sigswoth, 2009, p. 18)."

Gendered violence in the South African context can be better understood if we looked at it against the inequalities that were brought by Apartheid and the political violence (Moletsane et al., 2015).

2.4. Types of Gender-Based Violence

As it was previously stated, gender-based violence is a term to describe a group of acts that are perpetrated on another person based on their gender. These include physical, economic, sexual and psychological violence.

2.4.1. Physical violence

Physical violence is defined as an act that is intended to cause bodily harm through physical contact. This form of violence can entail kicking, slapping, pushing and punching. Physical violence can also include the use of a weapon such as a knife, sjambok or a gun. According to WHO (2012), physical violence has often been used as a method of disciplining women in intimate relationships. This method of disciplining women has become normalised within the South African context (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). Men use physical violence as a way to "keep women in their 'place" (Britton, 2006).

2.4.2. Sexual violence

The World Health Organisation defines sexual violence as "any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances" (WHO, 2021). This form of violence can be in the form of physical force or coercion. Physically forced sexual violence includes the act of penetration of the anus, vulva or mouth (WHO, 2021). Coercion takes the form of psychological intimidation, threats of not obtaining a job post, being dismissed or physical harm.

2.4.3. Psychological

Psychological violence is defined by the Council of Europe (2016) as any action which is intentionally aimed at impairing one's psychological integrity. The European Institute for Gender Equality highlights that this form of violence not only hurts the victim but it affects their social networks (EIGE, 2017). The effects of psychological violence transcend beyond the psychological/emotional harm. This is because it affects one's social, economic and personal development (EIGE, 2017). Psychological violence acts include "acts such as isolation from others, verbal aggression, threats, intimidation, control, harassment or stalking, insults, humiliation and defamation." (EIGE, 2017).

2.4.4. Economic

Economic violence is one form of violence against women that has not received sufficient attention in the literature. Fawole (2008) views this type of violence as one where a perpetrator assumes full control over the finances and other economic resources of the victim. She highlights that an emotionally abusive perpetrator maintains power through economic resources. Some scholars note that economic violence should be classified as psychological violence due to how it emotionally affects the victims (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). This form of violence maintains the socioeconomic inequalities that exist in society. Like psychological violence, economic violence transcends matters relating to economic resources. Chitiga-Mabugu et al. (2014) highlighted that women who are from rural areas are at a greater risk of gender-based violence. Women who lack economic independence rely on men to assist them financially. Women struggle to leave abusive relationships because they are economically dependent on men. They fear economic uncertainty.

2.5. Consequences of Gender-Based Violence

The consequences of GBV include negative effects that are due to its actions. The consequences can affect the victim in the short-term and long-term. These negative effects manifest physically, emotionally/psychologically, and economically (Basile et al., 2021). According to Mpani and Nsibande (2015), violence against women affects more than the individual, it also affects the family of the victim and the community at large.

2.5.1. Physical effects

Gender-based violence has several physical consequences which include chronic pain caused by repeated physical violence, broken bones, headaches which can stem from the physical violence, or the stress related to being a victim of various forms of violence. In pregnant women, violence can lead to foetal injury which has long term effects on a child's development and potentially their future, miscarriage or early labour which brings psychological consequences. In some cases, violence against women ends in the victim being killed by the perpetrator (Mpani & Nsibande, 2015). Such instance has become predominant in South Africa. The term 'femicide' or 'feminicide' has been developed as a result of the female victims of gender-based violence losing their lives to a male perpetrator. The number of female victims being killed by male perpetrators has been on the rise, which sparked the development of this term (WHO, 2012).

2.5.2. Psychological effects

The psychological effects of violence against women are many and they lead to several psychological conditions. These would include anxiety, trauma and stressor-related disorders, mood disorders and substance use disorders. An example of anxiety disorder is a panic disorder which is a condition where an individual experiences a sudden fear which is of high intensity. This fear causes their heart to beat at an accelerated rate and this triggers various somatic symptoms such as shortness of breath, chills, dizziness, and nausea (Legg, 2018). Disorders that fall under trauma and stressor-related disorders can also result after a gender-based violence incidence. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is one of the conditions which falls under trauma and stressor-related disorders. PTSD is defined as a psychiatric condition that follows a traumatic event where the victim's life was in danger (Torres et al., 2020). Symptoms such as flashbacks, distressing dreams, and avoidance of memories or feelings are representative of PTSD. The symptoms would manifest 30 days after the traumatic incident. Symptoms that happen shortly after the traumatic incidence (between one to 30 days) would paint a clinical picture of Acute Stress Disorder which if left untreated leads to PTSD (Torres et al, 2020). Some victims suffer from Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) which is a mood disorder that is characterised by feelings of sadness and disinterest in activities that one used to find pleasurable. Those who

suffer from MDD would experience a loss or increase in appetite (which would explain weight loss or gain), ideas of ending their lives (suicidal ideation), psychomotor agitation, isolation and an increased or decreased need for sleep (Lieber, 2020). Mpani and Nsibande (2015) point to Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders, which might take the form of alcohol use disorder or opioid use disorder. Individuals who are addicted to alcohol or other substances often use a substance in larger quantities to achieve the level of toxication that they achieved when they initially used the substance. They would use the substance in this manner, even with the knowledge that the substance is harmful to physical, social, or emotional functioning. At worst, gender-based violence can lead to suicide which is the deliberate act of ending one's life. Suicide can be linked to MDD (Mpani & Nsibande, 2015).

2.5.3. Economic effects

A study conducted by KPMG in 2014 revealed that South Africa loses between R28.4 billion and R42.4 billion per year to gender-based violence. This is between 0.9% and 1.3% of GDP. Gender-based violence leads to a loss of productivity within the labour market because victims would not be able to carry out their duties. This would be due to injuries (KPMG, 2014). KPMG divided the economic costs of gender-based violence into three categories, namely, direct, indirect and opportunity costs. Direct costs include what the victim must incur as a result of the violence being perpetrated against them. These may be visits to a local general practitioner, dispensation costs, counselling costs and travel costs. Indirect or intangible costs include those that were highlighted in the psychological effects. KPMG (2014) defines them as those which do not have a monetary value. Opportunity costs include the potential loss of monetary value as a result of being a victim of violence (KPMG, 2014). Lost earnings, tax revenue and diverted resources are among other economic consequences of gender-based violence (Van Der Merwe, 2015). Van Der Merwe (2015) further cites that the R28.4 billion which is lost to gender-based violence could be utilised by the South African government to improve on its developmental projects such as social grants, providing housing under the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) or fund the higher education sector.

2.6. Prevalence of Gender-Based Violence

2.6.1. Internationally

The World Bank defines gender-based violence as a global pandemic. One in three women globally will be affected by gender-based violence. The World Bank (2018) reported that 35% of women globally have experienced physical or sexual violence from either an intimate partner or non-sexual partner. Intimate partner violence accounts for 38% of murders of women (The World Bank, 2018). In Brazil, the national hotline for violence against women reported that between the years 2005 to 2015 they received 552,748 calls from women relating to gender-based violence. 56.7% of those calls were reporting physical violence and 27.7% were reporting psychological violence (Ávila, 2018).

2.6.2. Nationally

South Africa has the highest prevalence of violence against women in the world (Minisini, 2021; Mpani & Nsibande, 2015, p. 6). The 2018 Statistics South Africa's (STATS SA) Crime against Women in South Africa report revealed that the number of women who were victims of sexual violence in 2015/16 was 31 665. The number jumped to 70 813 in 2016/17. This means there was a 53% increase in gender-based violence incidences (STATSSA, 2018). The 2020 Quarter two crime statistics by the South African Police Minister Bheki Cele showed a decrease in the number of gender-based violence cases that were reported. It is important to understand that the numbers that are reported do not represent a decrease in gender-based violence. The decrease in the reported cases could be a result of the South African national coronavirus (COVID-19) lockdown restrictions. The statistics showed that there were a 16.8% drop in rape and sexual assault cases. Rape cases alone dropped by 18.8%. Most of the victims were perpetrated by a known person and Kwa-Zulu Natal had the most rape cases among all provinces in South Africa (Cele, 2020). The 2021 Statistics that were released in August 2021 reflected the depth of the gender-based violence problem in South Africa. The statistics reflect that there were 10 006 cases of rape that were reported between April and June 2021. This means that there was a 72.4% increase in rape cases. Many rape cases occurred at the home of the victim or that of the perpetrator. Provinces with the highest numbers of rape cases are Kwa-Zulu Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape (Cele, 2021).

2.7. Current Gender-Based Violence Prevention Campaigns

There are several campaigns that focus on the prevention of GBV. Additionally, they demand justice for victims, protect and promote the rights of victims, and intend to see a global eradication of GBV.

Among those was the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence campaign which is an international event that takes place annually. The campaign aims to address gender-based violence in the world. It began in 1991 and it draws "activists, government leaders, students, academia and the private sector in many countries around the world to demand an end to violence" (UNWomen, 2012). In South Africa, this campaign is called the 16 Days of No Violence Against Women and Children. The campaign is run by the South African national government due to the high rates of gender-based violence in the country (South African Government, 2019).

The #TotalShutdown is a movement organised to raise awareness of the epidemic levels of violence against women in South Africa. The movement is advocating for the government to take a more proactive stance against violence against women (Moosa, 2019). This movement arose as a result of the 2015 – 2017 statistics which revealed there has been a drastic increase in femicide cases in the country. Statistics South Africa noted that during that period, femicide cases increased by 117 per cent and sexual offences cases had an increase by 53 per cent (STATSSA, 2018). The movement also served as a remembrance of femicide victims like Anene Booysen who lost her life due to gender-based violence in 2013 and Karabo Mokoena who was murdered by her partner in 2017. The movement was also remembering those who were victims of femicide, and their incidents never caught the media's attention (UN Women, 2018).

The Sisonke Gender Justice is an organisation that is aimed at fighting gender-based violence. The organisation has a campaign called Stop Gender Violence: A National Campaign. What Sisonke Gender Justice aims to do with this campaign is to form a "fully-costed, evidence-based, multi-sectoral, inclusive and comprehensive National Strategic Plan to end Gender-Based Violence". The Stop Gender Violence: National Campaign works with various organisations that aim to reduce gender-based violence by providing them with administrative support, engages with various grassroots

organisations to ensure that such organisations can shape the NSPGBV agenda and holds marches to protest against the rising gender-based violence cases (Sisonke Gender Justice, 2019).

The One-Man Campaign (OMC) was launched in Johannesburg and Cape Town on 25 November 2006 to mark the beginning of the annual 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children campaign. The campaign promotes the idea that each one of us has a role to play, that each one of us can create a better, more equitable and more just world. At the same time, the campaign encourages men to work together with other men and with women to take action – to build a movement, to demand justice, to claim the rights of victims and to change the world (Sisonke Gender Justice, 2019; POWA Annual Report, 2018).

2.8. Organisations for victims of Gender-Based Violence

Organisations to support victims of domestic violence only began to emerge around the 1980s and (POWA) People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA) was one of the first such organisations. It was established to support victims of sexual, physical, emotional, and other forms of gender-based forms of violence (Mfati, 2012; Van der Hoven, 2001). POWA has several shelters that house women who are victims of various forms of violence. The shelters also house the children of these women (POWA Annual Report, 2018). POWA aims to eradicate gender-based violence and in so doing, the quality of women's lives will be improved (POWA Annual Report, 2018). POWA currently has six branches across South Africa (2018).

The Rape Crisis Shelter was founded in 1986. It became the largest shelter in South Africa to house both battered women and their children (Mfati, 2012). It leans towards a feminist framework and aims to see women's rights championed (Rape Crisis Centre, 2021). The work of the Rape Crisis Centre includes counselling to victims of gender-based violence. Psychological services like counselling after an incidence that falls under the umbrella of gender-based violence are important, to mitigate short-term and long-term psychological conditions like post-traumatic stress disorder or Depression (Torres et. al, 2020). Education and Training that is aimed at demystifying stereotypes around rape also help to reduce the stigma attached to being raped. The Rape Crisis Centre also does Advocacy and Community Mobilisation, which is aimed

at public education and support mobilisation to champion specialised services for victims of gender-based violence. The Rape Crisis Centre also provides housing to victims of gender-based violence. Today, there are "six shelters providing for abused women in Johannesburg, one in Port Elizabeth, one in Cape Town, one in Kimberly and two in Durban" (Mfati, 2012, p. 9).

Gender Links (2015) holds the view that the best way to eradicate gender-based violence is to empower women. It runs a programme that aims to empower women (economically) across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. This campaign aims to reduce the economic abuse that victims of gender-based violence go through. Gender Links established a programme called Sunrise Campaign which provides women who have survived gender-based violence with the necessary tools to run their businesses. The women are mentored by an established business owner for six months. Gender Links (2015) noted that women's inability to be economically independent only perpetuates violence against them, as they will further find themselves economically dependent on the perpetrator.

Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women and Children (SBCWC) is a one-stop centre that works with various organisations to provide services to victims. The SBCWC provides victims of gender-based violence with residential areas, skills training, counselling services and legal assistance (SBCWC, 2019).

2.9. Legislations to protect victims of Gender-Based Violence

South Africa has laws that aim to protect women against violence. The first one is the Domestic Violence Act No 116 of 1998 (DVA) which is considered the highest form of legislation to protect women against domestic violence (Mpani & Nsibande, 2015; Mazars, 2014). The second one is the Sexual Offences and Related Matters Act No 32 of 2007 (SOA) which aims to ensure that victims of sexual violence are afforded adequate and effective protection. The act was designed to protect vulnerable populations like women and children (Mpani & Nsibande, 2015). In 2021, the President of South Africa Mr Cyril Ramaphosa introduced three bills that are aimed at combating gender-based violence. These bills came as a result of movements such as #Am I Next and the #TotalShutDown which requested stricter punishments for those who are accused of being perpetrators of gender-based violence given the rise of various forms of violent acts towards women. The first bill that the president signed into action is the

Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act 13 of 2021. This bill introduces harsher punishments for offences of incest and assaults on minors. Furthermore, it makes sexual intimidation a prosecutable offence (Maphosa, 2020). The second bill is the Criminal and Related Matters Amendment Act 12 of 2021 which aims to make it difficult for perpetrators of gender-based violence to be granted bail. This will ensure that perpetrators do not victimise those who have reported them (Maphosa, 2020). The third bill was introduced as a result of high rates of violence among intimate partners. Although it is not a completely new bill, the President of the Republic of South Africa has tightened the provisions of the Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998. This means that abuse by an abusive family member can be reported under this act and protection orders can be applied for using the internet (Maphosa, 2020).

2.10. Inclusion of men in Gender-Based Violence Prevention Campaigns

Many organisations and literature support the view that including men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns are the "silver bullet to achieve gender equality" (Meer, 2012, p. 3; Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). Cornwall and Esplen (2014) are of the view that feminists who work in policy and advocacy against gender-based violence are "hesitant, tentative often hostile" to the idea that men could be allies in the fight for gender justice (Cornwall & Esplan, 2014). These feminists argue that including men in the fight against gender-based violence could potentially mean that gender-specific issues faced by men and those faced by women would be seen in the same light and the result of this would be the marginalisation of women's interests (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). Movements such as the #totalshutdown requested men on several occasions to stay away from their gender-based violence prevention campaigns. They cited that the best way for men to support them is by staying away. This was not the first-time men were requested to stay away from anti-gender-based violence protests. At universities, feminist activists would request male students to not join their protests (Mulaudzi, 2017).

Chitiga-Mabugu et al. (2014) note that men's organisations could be rallied into female organisations as partners to fight gender-based violence. This approach aims to retain the focus on empowering women while men are women's partners in achieving the end goal of gender justice (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014).

2.11. Perceptions of students on the inclusion of men in Gender-Based Violence Prevention Campaigns

The is a paucity of studies that examine perceptions of students on the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention. Even with such scarcity, there are several studies that we can examine to understand the perceptions of several participants towards the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns. Casey, Leek, Tolman, Allen and Carlson (2017) conducted a study, where they examined the perceptions of effective strategies to initiate men's involvement in gender-based violence prevention. The participants of the study were men, who were over the age of 18. The results that were yielded from this study showed that interventions that were inclusive of men and were 'men friendly' would be able to achieve the goal of reducing and eventually eradicating gender-based violence. 'Men Friendly' interventions are those where topics of fatherhood and healthy relationships are covered. Mosavel, Ahmed and Simon (2012), examined the perceptions of South African youth on gender-based violence. The participants of this study comprised male and female young adults. The results of this study echoed those of Casey et al. (2017), in that there is a desperate need for a multi-gender and multi-sectoral approach to the overall gender-based violence prevention. These two studies show that there is a need for male inclusive prevention campaigns, both at a national and international level.

2.10. Chapter summary

Gender-based violence is a broad concept that encompassed various forms of violence. This chapter provided a comprehensive overview of the literature review that is relevant to the study. This included the various precipitants of gender-based violence; its consequences and current debates about the eradication of gender-based violence. The roots of this gender-based violence cannot be denied, literature, therefore, argue that a multi-gender approach ought to be considered when interventions to eliminate gender-based violence are developed. The next chapter will examine the theoretical frameworks in which this study is embedded.

CHAPTER 3: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

3.1. Introduction

This chapter aims to present the theoretical framework in which the study is embedded. Two theories were used in this research study. The theories are the Social Learning Theory and Feminist Theory. The theories were used to understand gender-based violence and their proposed intervention that is intended to reduce gender-based violence. Each theory was discussed based on its philosophical underpinnings and assumptions. Following that was the rationale as to why theory is relevant to the study.

3.2. Social Learning Theory

The Social Learning Theory holds the view that people learn behaviour through observing the behaviours, attitudes, and outcomes of those behaviours. Those who are observed are referred to as models and they include parents, TV characters and teachers. By observing these models, children encode their behaviour and would later reproduce the behaviour. When the imitated behaviour is reinforced (rewarded/applauded), the behaviour is most likely to continue, however, when the behaviour is punished, it will stop (Bandura, 1977; McLeod, 2016). The Social Learning Theory was developed by Albert Bandura developed the theory in 1977.

3.2.1. Rationale for embedding the study in the Social Learning Theory

Several studies have adopted this theoretical framework to understand gender-based violence such as James-Hawkins (2018) who showed how observed violent behaviour is likelier to be imitated later in life, and the reinforcement of such behaviour is the victim accepting such behaviour and no consequences faced by the perpetrator. The Social Learning Theory was deemed appropriate for this current study as it explains how violence against women is learned and practised through observation and imitation. In a society such as South Africa where violence has been normalised, young children learn from a young age by modelling men who use violence to resolve domestic disputes as a form of masculinity 'keep women in their place' (Britton, 2006). The theory assisted in understanding how gender-based violence can be reduced by including men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns which would include the reinforcement of non-violent behaviours towards women.

3.3. Feminist Theory

Feminist theory aims to understand gender inequality by examining gender roles, expectations, and norms. It draws on various disciplines such as sociology, psychology, philosophy, political sciences, and education. Feminist theory aims to address gender inequality (Clark & Horton, 2019). Tong (1991) states that feminist theory intends to bring to awareness that women are not subordinate to men and should therefore not be limited to domesticity. It aims to understand the nature and dynamics of inequality against women which leads to various forms of gendered oppression that women face. Sharma (2019) notes that by challenging conventional gender roles, stereotypes and norms from a theoretical position, feminist theory aims to provide feminism with a theoretical basis for its activism. Although feminist theory finds its feet in many disciplines (i.e., education, psychoanalysis, history, art, etc), its main aim in every field is to relook at the subject from a perspective that does not undermine women and in turn perpetuates the idea that masculinity is superior (Cloe et al., 2014). Feminist theory is often explored in various themes such as patriarchy, objectification, discrimination, and aesthetics (Tong, 1991; The Lancet, 2019).

3.3.1. Rationale for embedding the study in the Feminist Theory

Several studies have demonstrated how gender-based violence is a result of patriarchy, which is the notion that masculinity is more socially significant than femininity (Reddi, 2007; Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014; Msibi & Sibanda, 2016). As a result of this notion, women have been subjected to various acts which have violated their physical and emotional well-being. Perpetrators are men and other social institutions such as culture, religion, and government policies. A study by Ally (2013) demonstrates how culture and religion perpetuate oppressive violence against traditional women. These women are accused of witchcraft. Such accusations lead to women being physically assaulted by members of their community. Another study by Graaf (2017), shows how unlearning traditional gender roles can be a means of developing a male inclusive intervention against gender-based violence. The feminist theory is therefore relevant in this study as it will assist in understanding how gender roles and norms have contributed to the ill-treatment of women from various levels of society. It will further guide the study on how masculinity can be harnessed to reduce gender-based violence.

3.5. Chapter Summary

This chapter highlighted the theories that were used as frameworks for the study. The researcher justified using the Social Learning Theory and Feminist Theory, and why they are appropriate for the current study. The next chapter discusses the research methodology used in the study.

CHAPTER 4: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

4.1. Introduction

This chapter examines the processes that were followed when the study was conducted. This will include the research design of the study, sampling method used, method of collecting data, data analysis process and the quality criteria.

4.2. Research design

The proposed study used a qualitative exploratory research design. According to Strydom and Bezuidenhout (2014), this approach is concerned with the underlying qualities of subjective experiences and the meanings that are associated with a phenomenon. An exploratory research approach was used to gain a clearer understanding of an existing phenomenon (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014; Ponelis, 2015). The shortcoming of the employed research design is that it is located within a qualitative research method; thus, the outcomes of the study cannot be generalised. This is due to the narrowly defined population limits. However, the results will add to the existing literature that echoes similar results. Studies that use a qualitative exploratory research design are very important in informing future larger studies that will study a similar phenomenon (Swaraj, 2019). The study will therefore provide a good foundation for future studies where other designs will be employed. Other research designs rely on the foundation laid by exploratory research designs (Swaraj, 2019). This design compliments qualitative research approach which is in line with the research topic. Other methodologies might have failed to capture the subjective perception of the participants as good as the current methodology, which is what the researcher intended to study. In relation to the research topic, the qualitative exploratory approach helped to identify a need for activism against GBV by implementing interventions that are not only inclusive of males (multi-gender approach to GBV prevention) but also implemented at a multi-societal level (schools, religious, political, and sports).

4.3. Sampling

A population is defined as "the total group of people or entities (social artefacts) from whom information is required" (Wiid & Diggines, 2013, p. 186). The population of the study included all third-year psychology students at the University of Limpopo. A

sample is defined by du Plooy-Cilliers et al. (2014) as a subset of the accessible population. The proposed study used purposive sampling to select a total sample of 16 participants. A purposive sampling technique is also known as judgemental sampling. It is a non-random technique where the participants are selected based on a list of characteristics (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014).

The inclusion criteria used to select participants were as follows:

- Capability to consent to participating in the research study.
- Participants had to be 3rd year registered students at the University of Limpopo in the 2022 academic year.
- Participants had to be studying a BA degree with one of the major subject majors in Psychology.

The criteria used to exclude participants were:

- Refusal or inability to consent to being a participant.
- Registered for another degree that does not have psychology as a major module (i.e., Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Education).
- Participants' inability to identify themselves as registered 3rd year psychology students.
- Non-University of Limpopo students.

4.4. Data collection

The researcher used semi-structured interviews as a method of collecting data (Appendix A). Semi-structured interviews allow for emerging and unanticipated issues to be explored in greater depth (Deighton-Smith, 2014). This method of interviewing is guided by a "flexible interview protocol" because it allows the researcher to probe for more information or to comment during the interview process (DeJonckheere & Vaughn, 2018). Semi-structured interviews allow the researcher to "collect open-ended data, to explore participant thoughts, feelings and beliefs about a particular topic" (DeJonckheere & Vaughn, 2018, p. 2).

The following steps of data collection were followed:

- The questions that formed part of the interview guide were pilot tested on students who were not participating in the study. Although the students had similar characteristics to the participants of the study (i.e., 3rd year psychology students). The pilot test was done to ensure that questions were understandable and whether there was no bias. The interview guide was found to be adequate and was not changed.

- The interview period was approximately 60 to 90 minutes in duration per interview session. The interview invitation was kept to one interview per participant. However, a follow-up interview was conducted per need. The participants were warned that they may be contacted again in instances where clarification or confirmation of obtained facts is sought.

- The researcher ensured that rapport is established at the onset of the interview session. This was to ensure that participants are comfortable and are free to express their perceptions.

- The interviews were conducted with each participant.

- An electronic voice recording device was used to collect data as well as a pen and paper to write down important observations made during the interview (Tessier, 2012). Field notes were taken during the data collection process and used as an additional source. Consent to use data collection devices was obtained from the participants.

4.5. Data analysis

The Thematic Analysis method was used to analyse the data collected. Thematic Analysis is defined as a process of identifying themes from data with the aim of analysing, interpreting, and making sense of the data that was collected (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017; Clarke & Braun, 2013). The Thematic analysis uses a six-phase framework for analysing data which includes the following:

- **Step 1: Gaining familiarity with the data**

  Maguire and Delahunt (2017) suggest that the first step in any qualitative analysis is to have a solid grounding of the entire body of the data corpus. This would be an interview and the other data that will be used in the study. During this stage, Clarke and Braun (2013) recommend that the researcher should make rough notes of their data.

- **Step 2: Generating preliminary codes**

  In the second stage, data is organised in a "meaningful and systemic way" (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017, p. 3355). Coding is a process where data is reduced to chunks of meaning. This means that the researcher found relations between the collected data and organise them into codes. Codes enable the researcher to organise the data with ease and further analyse the data in a structured manner (CESSDA, 2018).

- **Step 3: Search for themes**

  Maguire and Delahunt (2017) define a theme as "a pattern that captures something significant or interesting about the data and/or research question" (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017, p. 3356). The codes that were generated in the second step are organised into themes in the third step.

- **Step 4: Reviewing identified themes**

  The themes that were identified in the third step were reviewed and modified at this stage. This is where the researcher attempted to understand whether the themes make sense and if they align with the data set (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017).

- **Step 5: Define themes**

  Themes are refined in the fifth step of the analysis. This is the final refinement of themes, and the aim of the step is to "identify the 'essence' of what each theme is about" (Clarke & Braun, 2013, p. 92). Maguire and Delahunt (2017) state that at this stage, the researcher should be able to explain what a theme says, how sub-themes (if there are any) interact with the main theme and how the different themes relate to each other. A thematic map was developed at this stage to illustrate the relationships between the themes.

- **Step 6: Write-up**

The final step of thematic analysis includes writing the fifth chapter of the research study where the results are presented after they have been analysed using the six steps of thematic analysis (Maguire & Delahunt, 2017).

4.6. Quality criteria

The overall term that is used for validity and reliability in qualitative research is trustworthiness, which is divided into credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014).

4.6.1. Credibility

Credibility refers to the researcher's accurate interpretation of data collected from the participants. The first method of increasing credibility that the researcher used was probing. Probing is aimed at gathering more information and seeking clarity on the participant's perspectives. The second method that was utilised is peer debriefing. Peer debriefing is a process that allows a colleague who holds impartial views of the study to examine the researcher's transcripts, methodology and final report (de Vos et al., 20142015). In this study, the research supervisor assumed a peer debriefing role. The third method of increasing credibility was through obtaining consent from the participants. This means that the researcher informed the participants about the nature and purpose of the study. The researcher ensured that participants are aware that they will receive no incentive for partaking in the study and encouraged them to be as honest as possible. The researcher informed the participants that they do retain the right to withdraw from the study at any point, without any reprisal.

4.6.2. Transferability

This is the extent to which the findings can be transferred to a similar situation (de Vos et. al, 2015). To improve transferability, the researcher broadly consult literature and sought studies that are similar to this one. Such studies assisted the researcher to gain a greater understanding of the current study. Another method of improving transferability was by providing a thorough description of the research context and assumptions that are central to the current study (Trochim, 2016).

4.6.3. Dependability

This refers to the process of integration that takes place between data collection method, analysis, and results. To increase dependability, the researcher provided a

detailed description of how the research study will be conducted. The participants of the study were requested to verify the transcripts of the interview, this was to ensure that the meaning of what they said was not lost (de Vos et. al, 2015).

4.6.4. Confirmability

Confirmability refers to how the collected data supports the findings and interpretations of the researcher (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014). The research supervisor served as an auditor to ensure that objectivity was maintained throughout the analysis and interpretation of the findings/results. This ensured that the researcher's thoughts and judgement do not influence the interpretations of the study.

4.7. Ethical Considerations

4.7.1. Privacy and confidentiality

Respecting the participant's privacy is one of the key elements that informed consent rest upon. Privacy is when a participant in a research study maintains the right to privacy while participating in the research study (Van Den Eynden & Brett, 2010). This extends beyond the completion of the research study (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014). du Plooy-Cilliers et al. (2014) further note that participants should not be forced or coerced into revealing information that they do not desire to reveal to the researcher. Confidentiality refers to safeguarding any personal information that the participants would reveal to the researcher. The researcher should ensure that this information is safeguarded (Novak, 2014). The importance of safeguarding this information is to maintain the respect and trust that exist between the participants and the researcher (de Vos et al., 2015). To ensure privacy and confidentiality, de Vos et al. (2015) recommended that the researcher do the following:

- The researcher refrained from coercing or forcing participants from divulging any information that they do not wish to reveal.
- The researcher labelled each participant (provide each one with an alias). These aliases were used to refer to each participant throughout the data collection stage.
- The researcher ensured that no participants were identifiable.

4.7.2. Informed consent

Participants were informed about the potential risks and the procedures that are involved in the research study. They gave informed consent to participate in the research. du Plooy-Cilliers (2014) states that "Ethical standards also require that researchers do not put participants in a situation where they are uninformed" (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014, p. 306). Participants were allowed to consent to participate in the study (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014; de Vos, Strydom, Delport, 2015).

4.7.3. Voluntary participation and autonomy

The participants were asked to voluntarily participate in the proposed research study. This means that they were not forced or coerced into partaking in the study. Furthermore, the participants were notified about their right to withdraw from the study at any stage without any reprisal (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014).

4.7.4. Respect, dignity and standard of care

The National Council on Ethics in Human Research (2018) views respect for human dignity as the cornerstone of modern research ethics. This is to ensure that the interdependent interests of participants are protected. Research participants play a huge role in research projects and should not be seen as mere objects but as fellow collaborators (NCEHR, 2018). To ensure respect, dignity and adequate standard of care, the researcher respected the insight, experience, and knowledge of the participants. The researcher was sensitive to the cultural, racial and gender differences of participants. The researcher avoided any practice that would make participants feel discriminated against or prejudiced based on their sexual, racial, or cultural identification (NCEHR, 2018).

4.7.5. Benefits and risks

Hvinden (2019) states that "The analysis, balance and distribution of harms and benefits are critical to the ethics of human research". The importance of a harm-benefit analysis is that it affects the welfare and rights of participants. The researcher ensured that the foreseeable harms are fewer than the benefits (Hvinden, 2019).

Minimising harm: non-maleficence is defined as the obligation to not cause any unnecessary harm and is a very crucial principle in harms-benefits analysis (Hvinden,

2019). The researcher ensured that the participants were not subjected to unnecessary risk of harm. Their participation in the study was solely for achieving societal and scientific aims (Hvinden, 2019).

Maximising Benefits: Beneficence is a fundamental principle in harm-benefit analysis in that it intends to benefit those involved in the research and society. Beneficence is seen as the moral obligation that one's actions ought to be for the benefit of serving others by preventing possible harm (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014). The benefits of the study were for the advancement of knowledge and society as a whole. The participants of the study were at the forefront of the advancement of knowledge as their participation contributed to knowledge creation (Hvinden, 2019).

4.7.6. Fair participant selection

Rahman (2015) stated that in selecting participants who will in part take in the study, the researcher should use a fair subject selection method. The researcher selected participants based on bias, vulnerability, or mere convenience, rather, the researcher ensured that participants are selected because of scientific importance.

de Vos et. al (2015) argue that participants should be treated fairly and equally, ensuring that reasonable procedures are fairly administered. The researcher ensured that only participants who meet the requirements of the study were selected to be part of the study. This eliminated any bias or unfair selection practice which might compromise the rigidity of the study.

4.7.7. Avoidance of harm

The responsibility of the researcher is to ensure that psychological risk for the participants is minimised. To do so, the researcher ensured that informed consent is sought from the participants and that their confidentiality and privacy are protected. The researcher ensured that participants are informed about their right to withdraw from the study at any time. The researcher estimated that the psychological risk associated with participating in this study is minimal. However, if any psychological risk arose during the interaction between the researcher and participants, psychological intervention in the form of counselling and debriefing was made available to the participants (du Plooy-Cilliers et al., 2014)

4.8. Chapter Summary

The purpose of this chapter was to explain the research processes followed in this study. These include the research design, sampling method, data collection, analysis of the data, quality criteria and ethical considerations. The chapter that will proceed with this is one is chapter five. Chapter five will present the results of the study. The discussion of the result will also be done in the sixth chapter.

CHAPTER 5: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

5.1. Introduction

The previous chapter examined the research methodology that was adopted to address the research problem. The chapter addressed the research design, sampling methods, data collection methods, data analysis, quality criteria and ethical considerations. This chapter discusses the results that were obtained from the interviews with the participants. The chapter starts by presenting the demographic profile of the participants in a tabular form. The chapter then presents themes and sub-themes that emerged. The researcher employed thematic analysis to group the data into themes. These themes are briefly discussed concerning the theoretical frameworks of the study, namely, the Social Learning Theory and Feminist Theory. The role of findings from the interviews played a crucial role in answering the following research questions:

- What is the understanding of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the importance of gender-based prevention campaigns in South Africa?
- What are the perceptions of the University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students regarding the inclusion of men in Gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa?
- What are the perceptions of the 3rd year psychology students at the University of Limpopo regarding a multi-gender approach in gender-based violence prevention campaigns as an effective method to prevent gender-based violence?

5.2. Demographic profile of the participants

Table 1 below presents the demographic information of the participants. All the participants were registered 3rd year Psychology students at the University of Limpopo. The gender profile of the participant included both males and females. As seen in the table below, the number of female participants was ten (10) and the number of males was six (6). The overall number of participants was sixteen (16). The gender profile is advantageous in that it is inclusive of both genders.

Table 1. Demographic Profile: Gender and age of participants

Participants	Gender	Age	Degree	Year of Study
Participant *1*	Female	23	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant *2*	Female	24	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 3	Male	22	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 4	Male	26	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 5	Male	23	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 6	Female	25	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 7	Female	24	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 8	Male	25	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 9	Female	22	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 10	Female	29	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 11	Female	23	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 12	Male	24	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 13	Female	26	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 14	Female	26	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 15	Female	23	BA Criminology and Psychology	3
Participant 16	Male	22	BA Criminology and Psychology	3

5.3. Presentation of themes and responses of the participants

Emerging themes were aligned to the study research questions and are presented in table 2 below. Furthermore, the themes are followed by an explanation which refers to the literature, the social learning theory and the feminist theory that underpins the study.

Table 2: Themes and sub-themes for the study

Theme	Sub-theme
1. GBV prevention campaigns	1. The understanding/knowledge of GBV prevention campaigns
2. GBV government interventions	2. The effectiveness of government GBV interventions strategies in SA
3. GBV knowledge and perceptions	3.1 The importance of GBV prevention campaigns 3.2 Knowledge of GBV prevention campaigns and their effectiveness.

| | 3.3 Perceptions on the inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns (multi-gender approach) |
| | 3.4 Contribution of social organisations to the prevention of GBV. |

Table 2 above shows the themes and sub-themes which emerged naturally out of the data. The three major themes and five (5) sub-themes extracted above are presented in the following sections below. The themes that arose naturally out of the data are presented with an explanation using the relevant theories and with reference, where relevant, to reviewed literature. Appropriate responses from participants are also provided which underpin the theme.

5.3.1 Gender-Based Violence prevention campaigns (The understanding/ knowledge of GBV prevention campaigns)

A base-level understanding of GBV is crucial in the study and this led the researcher to probe into the participant's subjective understanding of GBV prevention campaigns. This was explored to ensure that the participants had an accurate understanding of what the study was about. The researcher was also able to explore the participant's depth of knowledge regarding GBV prevention campaigns. The participant's subjective definition of GBV prevention campaigns proved to be adequate. Participants were able to provide a comprehensive definition of GBV and prevention campaigns. This could be indicative of a higher level of knowledge regarding GBV and the importance of GBV prevention campaigns. These responses provide support for this theme:

"Gender-based violence campaigns are efforts to fight violence against women in the country. They aim to spread awareness and create a safe and supportive platform for those that want to share their stories or are seeking help" - **Participant 2**

"*Gender-based violence campaigns are created to educate people on the violence directed towards women and young girls. In South Africa specifically, there is a lot of gender-based violence that the country has been dubbed to be in a war against women. These campaigns are to raise awareness of these issues and curb the spread*

of this type of violence and create a safe space for victims where they can feel protected."- **Participant 5**

"*What I understand about GBV prevention campaigns is that they are put in place to raise awareness on GBV matters, they are there to offer a safe space for GBV victims to raise their voices and ask for help in leaving abusive situations. I think these campaigns are all about the victims instead of the perpetrators.*" - **Participant 7**

The participants emphasised that these campaigns intend to raise awareness of the current GBV crisis in South Africa. Although all participants were able to demonstrate an understanding of GBV prevention campaigns, the researcher is of the view that female participants were able to demonstrate a more comprehensive understanding compared to male participants. This could be because women are more likely to be victims of GBV and it would make them invest more into understanding the crisis. Three male participants were able to show an in-depth understanding that the researcher found to be comprehensive. The understanding of GBV prevention campaigns cannot be separated from the feminist theory perspective. This is because feminism as a theory and practice intends to see all forms of oppression against women ending (McAfee, 2018). In this case, GBV is one of the signifiers of the oppression that women go through. According to Clark and Horton (2019), feminist theory aims to address gender inequality by bringing to awareness the current oppressive practices. It is only when the oppressive practices are in awareness, can be challenged through interventions such as activism.

5.3.2. GBV government interventions (The effectiveness of government GBV interventions strategies in SA)

The alarming rate of GBV in South Africa was reported by the participants. Both genders concurred that GBV statistics are still increasing, and more women are still being murdered, even though government-run prevention campaigns have been in place. These responses support the theme:

"They [government] are making it aware to the perpetrators that such actions will not go unpunished, they let them know that they need to get help and stop the violence they are doing, and the number of violence has started to decrease" **Participant 1**

"A large number of women are still being killed and the criminal justice system is not doing enough, criminals are not being apprehended, they receive lesser sentences and serious killers are being released." **Participant 4**

"There are still increasing cases of gender-based violence since the implementation of the campaigns. 2020 was the most tragic one with the most cases of violence, like the incidence of Tshegofatso Pule and others." **Participant 4**

"The government is not doing anything effective to raise awareness and they are not consistent because femicide is still our daily problem." **Participant 8**

"People are not made aware enough that when one is experiencing the GBV which steps should they take. More education is needed" **Participant 9**

"I've never seen an organization reaching out to people in townships and rural areas, and that's where most GBV cases are, women and children in these places are abused each day and most of them do not know that campaigns are working with these kinds of things, campaigns that offer a safe space for them to talk about GBV and because campaigns don't reach out to these places, perpetrators gain the upper hand because "nobody cares" about this and the fact that the law drags its feet when it comes to these matters." **Participant 10**

"The only thing the government does is to sponsor funerals for those whose GBV cases trended on social media, other than that there is nothing that the government is doing to prevent GBV, at least the non-governmental sectors try, but they fail because they do not cater for everyone, in that not everyone is exposed to their services." **Participant 10**

Both genders pointed out that there is a lack of justice for victims and a lack of consequences for perpetrators. They indicated that the statistics are increasing, the criminal justice system is not doing enough, criminals are not being apprehended, and they receive lesser sentences or are released. Zuzile (2020) reported since the national lockdown started in South Africa, the GBV conviction rate stood at 3%. The participants also indicated that the government is not doing enough to educate the people about GBV prevention campaigns and that campaigns are focused on the urban areas. The participants noted that the government focuses on cases that attract media interest and leave out poor people living in the rural townships where GBV is

rife. The government was seen as not taking a proactive stance in the reduction of GBV. Because of the ever-increasing cases of the GBV, more women and children were being victimised and the low successful prosecution rate of the perpetrators was seen as perpetuating GBV (Zuzile, 2020). Mukwevho (2021) pointed to poorly collected DNA evidence, a backlog of court cases and untraceable perpetrators as a few key factors that lead to poor government GBV prevention interventions.

This theme highlights the importance of the Social Learning Theory. This theory states that people learn behaviour through observing the behaviours, attitudes, and outcomes of those behaviours (McLeod, 2016). GBV is a learnt group of behaviours that are learnt through observation. If these behaviours are not adequately punished, they are likely to be reinforced. Furthermore, the reinforcement is also seen in how culture perpetuates the oppression of women (James-Hawkins, 2018). To begin the process of unlearning behaviours that are perpetuating GBV, the government needs to pass harsher laws, that are punitive and rehabilitative to those who commit acts of GBV. A rapid prosecution rate is also needed. This will lessen the impact of GBV in South Africa on women (McLeod, 2016).

5.3.3. GBV knowledge and perceptions of GBV prevention campaigns

The theme and sub-themes on knowledge and perceptions related to GBV prevention campaigns of the participants will be explored below.

5.3.3.1 The importance of GBV prevention campaigns

GBV prevention campaigns are necessary for South Africa where the rate of GBV against women, children and the elderly is alarming (Cele, 2021). The responses from this sub-theme were centred around educating and increasing awareness in the communities regarding the GBV against women. It is also important that safe and supportive platforms are created for the victims to share their experiences. This will facilitate psychological healing. The participants indicated how GBV prevention campaigns will empower women to leave toxic relationships. The participants also that GBV prevention campaigns are designed to guide, inform, and make people aware of the danger and risks of violence.

The GBV prevention campaigns also help in the reduction of femicide because awareness enhances victim empowerment that equips victims with skills to help cope with the impact of GBV. This theme is captured by the following responses:

"Gender-based violence campaigns are efforts to fight violence against women in the country. They aim to spread awareness and create a safe and supportive platform for those that want to share their stories or are seeking help" - **Participant 2**

"Gender-based violence prevention campaigns are campaigns that are designed to guide, inform, and make people aware of the danger and risks of the violence. They mostly advise or inform people to talk when faced with violence. Leave the most toxic relationships because they are the ones that lead to violent behaviour." **Participant 4**

"Gender-based violence campaigns are created to educate people on the violence directed towards women and young girls. In South Africa specifically, there is a lot of gender-based violence that the country has been dubbed to be in a war against women. These campaigns are to raise awareness of these issues and curb the spread of this type of violence and create a safe space for victims where they can feel protected." **Participant 5**

"These are campaigns that are responding and protecting the rights of women who are exposed to high risks of any form of violence. They also provide adequate resources to increase the implementation of the programme of awareness specialised for those women. Victims' rights are prioritised." **Participant 13**

Nine female and four male participants were able to emphasise the importance of GBV prevention campaigns. This could be because in most instances victims are female and they believe efforts should be geared towards implementing effective GBV prevention campaigns. The feminist theory aims to see the emancipation of women from forces that seek to subordinate them. After emancipating women, the theory intends to empower them with equal social status in society (McAfee, 2018). This theme captures the importance of GBV prevention campaigns within a feminist theoretical framework.

5.3.3.2. Knowledge of GBV prevention campaigns and their effectiveness

There are several stakeholders such as Sisonke Gender Justice (2019) and People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA Annual Report, 2018) who are involved in the fight against GBV. The current measures that are in place to combat or reduce GBV have been explored in this study. They are presented as either an organisation doing preventative work, legislation intended to deal with GBV or government/NGO-run interventions (Sisonke Gender Justice, 2016). The responses below show that there is good knowledge regarding the current measures in place that are intended to see the reduction or eventual eradication of GBV. Participants were able to demonstrate adequate knowledge with regards to current organisations or interventions that are in place. They identified several organisations that are geared towards GBV prevention campaigns. They talked about the three types of the GBV campaigns namely, the 16 days of activism against GBV, Safer Spaces and POWA (People Opposing Women Abuse). On this sub-theme, most men showed more awareness of the GBV prevention campaigns. Their responses are presented as follows:

"*Safer Spaces*" **Participant 8**

"*There's 16 days of activism which is a stop gender-based violence national campaign*" **Participant 16**

"*I am aware of POWA, which stands for People Opposing Women Abuse*" **Participant 12**

However, according to the participants, the effectiveness of these interventions paints a sad image. The perceived effectiveness of the current campaigns is indicated below:

"Gender-based violence is still rife in South Africa. These campaigns only focus on victims instead of also focusing on perpetrators. We only see these organizations being advertised on TV, I've never seen an organization reaching out to people in townships and rural areas, and that's where most GBV cases are, women and children in these places are abused each day and most of them do not know that campaigns are working with these kinds of things, campaigns that offer a safe space for them to

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talk about GBV and because campaigns don't reach out to these places, perpetrators gain the upper hand because 'nobody cares about this and the fact that the law drags its feet when it comes to these matters." **Participant 3**

"*I think that while GBV campaigns are needed and effective, they are not as much as they would be if there was political will strong enough for the government to research a proper national strategic plan to support the fight against GBV and a budget allocation towards GBV prevention and awareness. I think that civil society organisations need a stronger presence and helping hand from the government and in the present moment, the government is not doing enough to show that they are also committed to this fight.*" **Participant 5**

"*They are not doing anything effective to raise awareness and they are not consistent because GBV is still our daily problem.*" **Participant 7**

Four male and seven female participants indicated that the GBV prevention campaigns were not effective in combating the rise of GBV against women and children and are not doing anything effective to raise awareness. However, two male and 3 female participants felt that the current interventions were somehow effective. Participants indicated that there was a need for a political will that was strong enough for the government to research a proper national strategic plan to support the fight against GBV. A higher budget allocation towards GBV prevention and awareness of GBV is also important. Participants stated that the campaigns only focus on victims instead of also focusing on perpetrators and that the government is not showing enough commitment to this. The mixed perception could be a result of the rising GBV statistics while there are organisations that are aimed at addressing GBV. The feminist theory intends to provide a theoretical basis for activism against GBV, which mainly affects the most vulnerable in society (Tong, 1991). The current measures are perceived by participants as not being quite effective in that GBV rates seem to be on a hike. This is also true as recent statistics show that GBV is not on the decline (Cele, 2021).

5.3.3.3 The inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns (a multi-gender approach)

The participants are of the view that men can assume the role of an ally in the struggle against GBV. The inclusion of men in prevention campaigns is regarded as a multi-gender approach to GBV prevention campaigns. Their role in GBV prevention campaigns is very important and should not be overlooked. This theme is underpinned by the following responses:

"Men should be included to better understand the effects of GBV which will assist in them providing support and protection to potential victims" **Participant 3**

"Yes, because they are the ones that most perpetuate the violence, many suspects are them and they are the ones that mostly kill women and children. Involving men in the campaigns will make men aware of the impact they are causing and the danger they are instilling in the public." **Participant 12**

"Yes, because some men do not know GBV, so this could be the chance for many to understand the impact of it which might help to reduce it by giving men knowledge." **Participant 14**

All male participants (6) agreed that men should be included in GBV prevention campaigns, while only Seven females were supporting the view. Three females were not in support of the inclusion of men. The Social Learning Theory speaks about positive models who are imitated, and their behaviours inspire the behaviours of others (Bandura, 1977). In this case, men who are good role models will pass their positive traits to abusive men. Britton (2006) points to these negative behaviours as actions that are intended to "keep women in their place". These oppressive behaviours are 'unlearnable' (McLeod, 2016). From a feminist theoretical standpoint, masculinity is not inherently superior to femininity, and it is false notions that lead to oppressive behaviours. Addressing false notions of masculinity is therefore crucial in bringing about change (McAfee, 2018).

Three female participants displayed some hostility to the idea of including men and this hostility is also displayed by some feminist scholars and activists (Cornwell, 2014, p. 1). The participants are of the view that men are perpetrators therefore including

them in GBV prevention campaigns will re-traumatise females or cause women's issues not to take priority. Issues of distrust, the discomfort of working with men and anger were identified. Some negative responses from participants related to the inclusion of men in the GBV prevention campaigns are shown below:

"If you include men, then it won't be gender-based violence. Men are never abused, married young, or beaten because they are men. The reason it is called GBV is that women are subjected to it under being women." **Participant 2**

"The inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns sometimes agitates the victims and makes them feel unsafe." **Participant 6**

"Men need to prove themselves worthy and capable of understanding on their own without the help of women. Only when they can be trusted can they be included" **Participant 9**

These responses show that men have historically dominated women because of gender inequality and that created a hostile environment for women. The three female participants are of the view that men need to prove that they would not 'hijack' the women's movement if they are ever included in GBV prevention campaigns. The hostility that is shown by the participant above is very similar to the one that movements like the #totalshutdown showed when they requested that men should not participate in their GBV prevention campaigns (Mulaudzi, 2017). The organiser of the #totalshutdown stated 'Men, stay away from the march. We don't want you in the ground. This is our safe space' (Saliso, 2018). Scholars like Cornwall (2014) pointed to several feminist sectors that are "hesitant, tentative often hostile" by the idea that men could be allies in the fight for gender justice. Women have been limited to domesticity and their voices have not been heard. Ally (2013) points to traditional gender roles and religion as contributory factors to the problem.

5.3.3.4. Contribution of social organisations in the prevention of GBV

The role of social organisations in the modern day has been very crucial, both in the historical context and current democratic South Africa. The role of social organisations in GBV prevention campaigns is captured by the following response:

"…I only see Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) doing a change in this type of violence because our justice system is corrupt. My sister helps in gender-based violence along with other comrades and works into getting back the victim or getting justice for the victim." **Participant 16**

"I hope the EFF grows and helps even more people around our country who are victims of gender-based violence even those who do such acts and justice needs to be served and end corruption in our police stations otherwise we have lost hope in our police." **Participant 16**

The only thing the government does is to sponsor funerals for those whose GBV cases trended on social media, other than that there is nothing that the government is doing to prevent GBV, at least the non-governmental sectors try, but they fail because they do not cater for everyone, in that not everyone is exposed to their services." **Participant 10**

Participant 16's response emphasises the role of social organisations in democratic South Africa, especially concerning its social justice role. The social influence that social organisations in South Africa hold is immense and has been seen in various areas where such influence was needed. However, participant 10 pointed to how political parties are only seen during high profile GBV cases that trend on social media and traditional media such as television, newspapers, and radio.

CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSION OF RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

6.1. Introduction

The previous chapter discussed the results that were obtained from the interviews with the students. The themes that emerged from the results were outlined. This section will include an in-depth discussion of the themes and their relation to the relevant literature and theories that supported the study. The discussion will be followed by the overall conclusion of the study, strengths, limitations, and recommendations.

6.2. Discussion of the results

The findings of the study revealed the perceptions of 3rd year psychology students with regards to the inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns in South Africa. Three overarching themes were identified from the results of the study, and they are GBV Prevention campaigns, GBV government interventions, and GBV knowledge and perceptions. Five sub-themes were also deducted under these themes and are discussed below.

6.2.1. The understanding/knowledge of GBV prevention campaigns

The student's subjective understanding of GBV prevention was found to be adequate in that they were able to provide a comprehensive definition of GBV. This could be indicative of a higher level of knowledge regarding GBV prevention campaigns. The definitions that they provided supported the idea that such campaigns aimed to address the high prevalence of GBV in South Africa and internationally. Their definition is in line with the definition of Raab and Rocha (2011), who defined GBV prevention campaigns as awareness campaigns that are intended to garner public support. In so doing, such a campaign seeks to implement interventions that will lead to change at a policy and practical level. The student's understanding and the definition provided by Raab and Rocha (2011) are supported by Tong (1991) who provides us with the aims of the feminist theory. Tong (1991) states that the feminist theory aims to bring understanding to the various inequalities that women are subjected to. These inequalities result in gender oppression that women face. Sharma (2019) is of the view that it is only when people have reached a state of understanding, that they can begin

the process of challenging conventional gender roles, stereotypes, and norms. The understanding of gendered oppression and taking the necessary steps to challenge it will allow people to view society from a perspective that does not undermine women and perpetuate the idea that masculinity is superior (Cloe et al., 2019).

6.2.2. The effectiveness of government GBV interventions strategies in SA

GBV in South Africa is an epidemic that is not showing a downward trend. An epidemic is defined as an occurrence or outbreak which is widespread in a country (Morens et al., 2009). The students noted that interventions seem to be lacking, both at the policy level and at a practical level. The government is seen to not take a proactive stance in ensuring the reduction of GBV. This view is supported by the Crime Statistics for 2021/2022 which revealed that there is a 72.4% increase in cases of rape recorded (Modiba, 2021). These increasing statistics support the participant's perceptions that there is a systematic shortfall at the governmental level to reduce GBV. The students were able to demonstrate that women bear the brunt of these systematic shortfalls. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted that South Africa has low rates of prosecution with regards to prosecution and conviction of domestic violence cases (CEDAW, 2021). The impact of these interventions which are not yielding positive results, perpetuates the notion that women are second class citizens who should be limited to domesticity and as a result fall victim to various acts of GBV. Intervention and legislation from the government should aim at rectifying this view. This is the call of the feminist theory which notes that masculinity is not inherently superior, and the subjugation of women should come to an end (Graaf, 2017).

6.2.3. The importance of GBV prevention campaigns

The importance of GBV prevention campaigns cannot be overstated, especially in the South African context where GBV rates are among the highest in the world (Minisini, 2021). The consequences of GBV are dire and have long term effects on the victim. The students were able to emphasise the importance of GBV prevention campaigns. Organisations like Gender Links intend to raise awareness of the GBV problem and empower women with various skills that would ensure that they are economically independent (Gender Links, 2015). Students were able to show that the importance of

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GBV prevention campaigns is indeed to raise awareness and create a space for victims to feel safe. The feminist theory provides a solid foundation for such an intervention. The objective of this theory is to lead to a paradigm shift in the minds of those in society in that it wants to show that women are not inherently inferior to men (Sharma, 2019).

6.2.4. Prevention campaigns and their effectiveness

There is good knowledge regarding the current interventions in place that are intended to see the reduction or eventual eradication of GBV in South Africa. All students were able to identify various organisations and awareness campaigns, from both the private and public sectors that advocate for the rights of women and children. Among these are 16 Days of Activism against Violence of Women and Children, Stop Gender Violence, POWA and campaigns such as #Metoo. The 16 Days of Activism against GBV is an awareness campaign driven by the South African government, intended to conscientize citizens about the ever-rising GBV numbers (South African Government, 2019). Although it is driven by the South African government, this campaign is an international campaign founded by the United Nations Women and it starts on the 25th of November and ends on the 10th of December (UNWOMEN, 2012). However, the perceptions of the students in this study were that the current intervention strategies are not effective. This is because the GBV statistics are still very high, and women and children continue to be victimised. The students felt that GBV cases, continue to rise, regardless of the efforts from the government and non-government sectors (Modiba, 2021). This is supported by the recent government statistics on GBV (Cele, 2021). The Crime Statistics for 2021/2022 show an increase in the number of rape cases (Modiba, 2021). The statistics further show that South African women are five times more likely to be murdered by a male (Stats SA, 2018). One participant did indicate the progress seen concerning the current GBV prevention campaigns. The participant indicated that her family member is an activist from the Economic Freedom Fighters, and she works on the ground to fight for GBV victims in her community. Community-based interventions are perceived as making a difference in the fight against GBV in South Africa such as Gender Links. These interventions should draw from the feminist theory principles as highlighted by Tong (1991) and Sharma (2019). The GBV problem should be brought to awareness and challenged using various interventions.

6.2.5. The inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns (a multi-gender approach to GBV prevention)

The inclusion of men and boys in the GBV prevention campaigns to either prevent or reduce violence against women and children is very important. The ideal situation is to have a world in which violence ceases to exist but to achieve this, transforming existing negative social norms, gender inequality, and accepted attitudes that propagate violence is crucial (Casey et al., 2017; Westmarland et al., 2021). In this study, all male students agreed that men should be included in GBV prevention campaigns to bring about change in GBV. Seventy percent (70%) of the female students also concurred that men should be included in GBV prevention campaigns. Meer (2012) and Chitiga-Mabugu et al. (2014) allude that the inclusion will allow men to portray positive masculine behaviours which will help them become role model to other men and boys. This view is also in line with the Social Learning Theory which speaks of the positive behaviour being modelled (McLeod, 2016). Therefore, the inclusion of men in GBV campaigns would address the maladaptive behaviour, undo the faulty learning, and would reinforce non-violent behaviour toward women.

However, thirty percent of female students were against the inclution of men in the GBV campaigns because, they felt that men are mainly perpetrators of GBV and their inclusion in the GBV prevention campaigns will, therefore, re-traumatise the victims. The students felt that men have historically dominated women because of gender inequality and that created a hostile environment for women. Issues of mistrust, the discomfort of working with men and anger were identified. In movements like #totalshutdown men were barred from participating in the GBV prevention campaigns for the same reasons mentioned above (Mulaudzi, 2017; Saliso, 2018). These students hold the view that is held by other sectors of feminism (including scholars and activism) who are "hesitant, tentative often hostile" to the idea that men could be allies in the fight for gender justice (Cornwell, 2014, p. 1). Feminism is a noble course and its efforts to reduce GBV have been to a larger degree useful. Literature shows shortcomings, especially with regards to the feminist movement not being in agreement with the idea of including men in GBV prevention campaigns (Cornwell, 2014).

However, Chitiga-Mabugu and colleagues (2014) argued that the inclusion of men in the GBV prevention campaigns would act as the silver bullet to achieving gender equality and the eradication of GBV. Many students believed that because in most instances men are perpetrators of GBV, including them in the campaigns will foster awareness of the impact GBV has on the victims and society. GBV is a problem that affects both men and women therefore, an inclusive intervention approach would yield much better results compared to one gender approach. This is because men and women will both share their perspectives on how to best reduce GBV in South Africa. One participant noted that a multi-gender approach has an educational element attached to it as it will provide men with more knowledge about GBV and by so doing, empower them to fight against it. The educational element is drawn from a Social Learning theoretical view in that positive reinforcement can come in the form of educational programmes (McLeod, 2016). The feminist theory demonstrates that masculinity is not inherently superior Tong (1991) therefore, both men and women are crucial in the fight against GBV. Chant and Guttman (2000) reiterated that over the past decade, scholars and practitioners have noted violence against women and girls will not cease unless men and boys are part of the solution.

6.2.6. The role of social organisations in GBV prevention campaigns

Violence against women and girls requires a combined effort of civil society organizations, individuals, and the state. South African social and political organisations such as African National Congress, United Democratic Front and Azanian People's Organisation have been historically significant in in the fight against racial oppression and emancipation of women (SAHO, 2019). This is still the case in the new democratic South Africa, especially in the role of social justice movements such as the #FeesMustFall movement, 16 Days of no Violence Agaist Women and Children, Economic Inclusion, GBV etc. (Govender, 2016). In this study, students believe that the influence of social organisations has been significant in ensuring justice for victims of GBV. The political influence also brings the media's attention to the GBV cases. One participant upheld the role that the Economic Freedom Fighters plays in ensuring that no corruption takes place at police stations when cases of GBV are reported. The participant's view is corroborated by the existence of a Gender Desk

unit under the Economic Freedom Fighters, which deals with cases of GBV (effonline, n.d.). The political party has also released many statements which condemn the rising GBV cases and the rising femicide cases (Nkanjeni, 2019). The Social Learning Theory provides a lens through which we can view the importance of social organisations in the prevention of GBV. This is because political organisations carry a lot of influence in society and can, therefore, in their various campaigns address the issue of GBV. Along with their various programmes such as the EFF Gender Desk, they can influence society by reinforcing positive masculine traits (McLeod, 2016). Actions taken by the EFF in some communities where the political parties follow up on reported cases can serve as a deterrent to some men who intend on being perpetrators of GBV.

6.3. Overall conclusion

The researcher found that the current study echoes various national and international studies which show that GBV is a global pandemic and even with various interventions in place, the number of GBV cases is constantly on the rise. Some of the causes of GBV in South Africa have been identified as traditional gender norms, socioeconomic inequalities, and violent realities. From a theoretical understanding, it can be construed that violence against women is a learnt behaviour that is passed from one generation to the next through norms that insist that men are superior to women and can therefore use their power on them. The current intervention strategies were found lacking in the reduction of GBV statistics, therefore, interventions that ought to be developed should investigate educating young men and ensuring that there are positive role models for them in the communities (McAfee, 2018; McLeod, 2016). The inclusion of men in GBV prevention campaigns in South Africa has been long emphasised as the key to ensuring that gender-based violence is eradicated and prevented in future, however, such interventions are not fully implemented. This creates a gap between men and women and ultimately violent behaviours are not addressed among men who are often perpetrators of GBV (Chitiga-Mabugu et al., 2014). The study concurs that the quest for such transformation calls for the engagement of men and boys interested in changing their social practices and negative attitudes against women and children. The society must challenge patriarchal norms to achieve gender equality. GBV prevention initiatives have increasingly accepted that including men and boys in the

GBV prevention campaigns as advocates and activists is the way to win against this pandemic.

The study is therefore, in agreement with Irstad (2015) that educational institutions from preschool, primary, secondary, and tertiary levels should play a role in educating students and young people about GBV, its impact and prevention strategies. Institutions that are male-dominated such as initiation schools, churches, and political and sports organisations also have an important role to play in educating society about GBV, its impact and prevention.

6.4. Strength of the study

- The study employed semi-structured interviews which are appropriate for the exploratory research design.
- An extensive literature perusal was done to ensure that the research gap found in the literature can be bridged.
- The theoretical frameworks that the current study was underpinned (Social Learning Theory and Feminist Theory) were appropriate for the study.
- The researcher used an appropriate data analysis method, which is thematic content analysis.
- The number of samples (16) in the study was adequate.

6.5. Limitations of the study

- Gender representativity was not achieved. The study had more females than males.
- The use of a narrowly defined population limits the ability to generalise the findings.
- The findings cannot be viewed as conclusive, however, they echo similar studies and add to the body of knowledge.

6.6. Recommendations

- A larger study should be conducted, with participants being the general study body of the University of Limpopo or the general public. This should be a quantitative or mixed-methods study.

- The study should inform current University of Limpopo GBV prevention campaigns, using posters, booklets, and fliers.

- Nationally, organisations like Soul City, Sisonke Gender Justice and Tears Foundation would find the study useful in their campaigns.

- Results should be published in a research journal and presented at research conferences.

6.7. Summary of chapter

This concluding chapter is intended to highlight the discussion of the results, theoretical implications, overall conclusion, strengths, limitations, and recommendations for future research.

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APPENDIX A: CONSENT FORM FOR INTERVIEW

My name is Vhonani Ishmael Maboga. I am a student at the University of Limpopo, Faculty of Humanities. I am conducting a study on **Perceptions of University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa.** This study forms part of the degree of Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology.

The study aims to assess the perceptions of University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa

Your participation in this study is voluntary and you are free to refuse to partake in the study or withdraw at any stage. Note that you will not suffer any negative consequences as a result of your right to refuse or withdraw from the study. Confidentiality and anonymity of records identifying you as a participant will be maintained by me. Psychological intervention will be made available to any participant who feels any form of psychological distress during the data collection stage or after the completion of the interviews. You will be expected to sign a consent /confidentiality form that is aimed at addressing the use of information you provide and your right as a participant.

Kindest regards,

Maboga VI

APPENDIX B: INFORMED CONSENT FORM FOR PARTICIPATING IN A RESEARCH STUDY

Before participating in this study in this research, the researcher will talk to you and will give you this consent form to read as well as to clarify where necessary. You are cordially asked to sign the form after you have decided to take part in this project I …………….. agree to participate in research entitled: Perceptions of University of Limpopo 3rd year psychology students on the inclusion of men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns in South Africa

 I understand that:

- My participation in this research is voluntary and I will not gain monetary /financial compensation for my participation. I may withdraw my participation in the case of discomfort and my withdrawal will not affect my relationship with the researcher.
- I have the right to decline to answer certain questions if I am uncomfortable. I also understand there will be no negative consequences if I decide to withdraw from this study.
- My response to the questions will be recorded with my permission. However, where I am not comfortable with recording my response, the researcher must write down my responses on their own.
- Psychological intervention will be made available through the University of Limpopo Centre for Student Counselling and Development to any participant who feels any form of psychological distress as a result of their participation in this study
- Confidentiality and anonymity of records identifying me as a participant are going to be maintained by the researcher and the university. Any questions or concerns that you have about the current study or your participation therein should be directed to the researcher or supervisor (mabogavi@gmail.com or mokgadi.setwaba@ul.ac.za).

Participant name……………………….Participant signature……………Date……

APPENDIX C: SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW

The research study will be explained to the participants as the researcher builds rapport with the participants. The researcher will begin the interview by asking demographic questions such as the age of the participant.

1. What is your understanding of gender-based violence prevention campaign(s)?

2. Can you provide me with an example of any campaign that is aimed at addressing gender-based violence in South Africa?

3. Do you think that those campaigns are effective in reducing gender-based violence?

4. Do you think enough is done to raise awareness about gender-based violence in South Africa? Why do you think so?

5. Do you think that including men in gender-based violence prevention campaigns will be effective in reducing gender-based violence?

6. What are your opinions about feminist organisations and activists who do not want men to be part of gender-based violence prevention campaigns?

7. Is there any other information that you would like to share with me?

APPENDIX D: ETHICAL CLEARANCE

University of Limpopo
Department of Research Administration and Development
Private Bag X1106, Sovenga, 0727, South Africa
Tel: (015) 268 3935, Fax: (015) 268 2306, Email: anastasia.ngobe@ul.ac.za

TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE
ETHICS CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE

MEETING: 08 December 2021

PROJECT NUMBER: TREC/330/2021: PG

PROJECT:

Title:	Perceptions of University Of Limpopo 3rd Year Psychology Students on the Inclusion of Men in Gender-Based Violence Prevention Campaigns in South Africa
Researcher:	VI Maboga
Supervisor:	Dr MB Setwaba
Co-Supervisor/s:	N/A
School:	Social Science
Degree:	Masters of Arts in Clinical Psychology

PROF P MASOKO
CHAIRPERSON: TURFLOOP RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Turfloop Research Ethics Committee (TREC) is registered with the National Health Research Ethics Council, Registration Number: **REC-0310111-031**

Note:
i) This Ethics Clearance Certificate will be valid for one (1) year, as from the abovementioned date. Application for annual renewal (or annual review) need to be received by TREC one month before lapse of this period.
ii) Should any departure be contemplated from the research procedure as approved, the researcher(s) must re-submit the protocol to the committee, together with the Application for Amendment form.
iii) PLEASE QUOTE THE PROTOCOL NUMBER IN ALL ENQUIRIES.

Finding solutions for Africa

APPENDIX E: EDITORIAL LETTER

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18 May 2022

EDITORIAL CERTIFICATE

Author: VHONANI ISHMAEL MABOGA

DOCUMENT TITLE: PERCEPTIONS OF UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO 3RD YEAR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS ON THE INCLUSION OF MEN IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS IN SOUTH AFRICA

This document certifies that the above Dissertation was edited by Dr. J R Rammala (Ph.D., Linguistics). The document was edited and proofread for proper English language, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and overall style. The editor endeavoured to ensure that the author's intended meaning was not altered during the review. Track changes have been used in editing to allow the client to view the changes suggested.

Kind regards

Dr. J R Rammala

APPENDIX F: TURNITIN ORIGINALITY REPORT

Mini Dissertation

14%	12%	3%	7%
SIMILARITY INDEX	INTERNET SOURCES	PUBLICATIONS	STUDENT PAPERS

PRIMARY SOURCES

1	ulspace.ul.ac.za Internet Source	2%
2	researchspace.ukzn.ac.za Internet Source	1%
3	Submitted to University of Limpopo Student Paper	1%
4	Submitted to Varsity College Student Paper	1%
5	Submitted to Sefako Makgatho Health Science University Student Paper	1%
6	commons.clarku.edu Internet Source	<1%
7	www.genderjustice.org.za Internet Source	<1%
8	core.ac.uk Internet Source	<1%
9	Submitted to Midlands State University Student Paper	<1%