

Resources On Women/Gender & The Law

World Wide Web Links:

- Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF): Bilingual site provides useful reference (international and regional) documents relating to women's rights in both Word and PDF versions. - http://www.wildaf-ao.org/eng/ress_iii.htm
- Africa: Law is a University of Pennsylvania weblinks. A small site, but growing and useful. Includes the constitutions of many African nations. - [http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/About A...](http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/About_A...)
- Human and Constitutional Rights, Regional Links. With links to various organizations and link resources e.g., the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, The University of Minnesota Africa Human Rights Resource Centre, etc. - <http://www.hrcr.org/regional/africa.html#FindLaw> is a site that lets you specify which country you want to search, whether you want legal information only, or non-legal too, and lets you use Boolean operators (AND, NOT, OR, etc.). It uses the "LawCrawler" engine, based on AltaVista. The icons at the top let you choose to search statutes and codes, cases, etc. - <http://www.findlaw.com/12international/countries...>
- Gender & Women Studies for Africa's Transformation. Coming out of the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town, this website carries intellectual material by and for African feminists on a variety of topics. Includes, an E-Journal, bibliographies, review essays, policy papers, links, etc. <http://www.gwsafrica.org/index.html>
- Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) is a site for an international network that provides information about for all women whose lives are shaped, conditioned and governed by laws and customs said to derive from Islam. - <http://www.wluml.org/>
- Selected links at the Womanist: Theory & Research (University of Georgia) website. It is representative of the wide range of information available on the web in reference to womanist issues. - <http://www.uga.edu/~womanist/selectedlinks.htm>
- Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF-West Africa). This bilingual site contains key information on women's rights around the west African region, significant court decisions, reference women's rights documents, links, etc. - <http://www.wildaf-ao.org/eng/ress.htm>
- International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP): This multilingual site carries several resources including an archive of country reports submitted to the CEDAW committee and the UN Committee on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights. - <http://iwrw.igc.org/publications.htm>

Films/Videos

- **Neria**, 1992 (Media for Development Trust – 103 minutes, Zimbabwe). Neria is about a widow's struggle to regain her children and possessions from her in-laws; a tale of 'modern' law versus customary inheritance. Neria learns that law and tradition can both be on her side.
- **Domestic Violence**, 2001 (Govt. Communication & Information System – 24 minutes, South Africa). Sets out the procedure for victims of domestic violence in approaching the South African criminal justice system. Also contains interviews with women serving prison sentences for murdering their partners.
- **Breaking Silence**, 1985 (Theresa Tollini – 58 minutes, USA). On incest and other forms of sexual abuse and a justice system that fails to follow through with prosecution when incidents occur.
- **Putting the Affirmative into Action**, 1994 (Equal Opportunities Research Project, University of Cape Town – 50 minutes, South Africa). Interviews with Dr. Mamphela Ramphele on Employment equity in South Africa.

- **Daasi (Slaves)**, 1983 (Jabeen Siddique – 45 minutes, UK). The documentary is about the social injustice and exploitation of prostitutes living in the Karmathapuri area of Bombay where over 200,000 women and girls live and work under the most demoralizing conditions.
- **Rethinking Rape**, 1986 (Jeanne Le Page – 26 minutes, USA). Examines why sexual violence has become such an acceptable part of society, and ‘acquaintance rape’ so commonplace.
- **Diana**, 1985 (Jan Dennis – 40 minutes, UK). The film recounts in depth and with considerable honesty, not so much what happened to Diana (a rape survivor) but rather the long term effects on her relationships.
- **Just Because of Who We Are**, 1986 (Abigail Norman – 28 minutes, USA). Focuses on a subject rarely discussed by mainstream media, i.e., violence against lesbians. Incidents of police intimidation, physical and psychological harassment, arrests and alcoholism are recalled in interviews with women – victims of abuse because they are lesbians.
- **Sweet Sugar Rage**, 1985 (Sistren Theatre Collective – 42 minutes, Jamaica). Examines the harsh conditions facing female workers on a Jamaican sugar estate.

Publications

Considerable research has been conducted in the area of “Gender & the Law” around the continent. The bulk of it, however, is concentrated in the Southern Africa region and there is certainly room for further research in other regions. A glaring gap in African legal feminist research that clearly needs closing lies in the area of developing a feminist jurisprudence that speaks to the specific experiences of African women. The challenge is particularly critical at this time when Africa is trying to reposition itself in the highly unequal global political economy.

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