

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION ON GENDER BASED  
VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN IN BULAWAYO**

BY

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## ABSTRACT

This research was embarked on after a realisation that information on Gender Based Violence (GBV) against men was not available though GBV against men was prevalent. The aim thus was to analyse the factors affecting availability and accessibility of information on Gender Based Violence against men. Multiple case studies and descriptive survey was employed to collect data from the respondents. Men and a few organisations that cover GBV on both males and females were used as respondents. Five interviews were conducted with at least one person from the organisations and four focus group discussions were held with sixty men in total. The study revealed that information on GBV against men is not available and accessible as is that against women. Also men are not really aware of what GBV encompasses since they are made to believe it affects women. It was also discovered that the policies on GBV are swayed towards women with almost none giving consideration to men. Major reason affecting availability was that men did not speak, they feared discrimination and stigma and they also wanted to protect their ego and pride. Accessibility was mainly being affected by the fact that men did not know that there was information available in as much as it was little and they also did not know how to retrieve it. The researcher concluded that there was not enough information available on GBV against men and that the little that was there was also difficult to access. Recommendations were made which encouraged men to be educated concerning GBV issues so that they report and talk about it. This can eventually result in improvement of information generation.