

21 October 2020

Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights,
Religion Cultural and Linguistic Communist

Forum 4
Braampark Office Park
33 Hoofd Street
Braamfontein
Johannesburg

Via email: info@crlcommission.org.za

Dear Chairperson,

RE: SEXUAL ASSAULT AND VIOLATION AT ALLELUA MINISTRIES

Matters related to gender- based violence in the form of sexual harassment, sexual assault and violation have been reported against a leading pastor at Alleluia Ministries. It appears that incidences of sexual violations were prevalent and were committed, with impunity, by Pastor Alph Lukau.

We understand that the State Security Agency has brought these matters to your attention and requested that you act decisively on these allegations. We represent some of the women who were victims of Pastor Lukau's sexual violence and implore the commission to urgently set up an inquiry on sexual assault and violence at the Alleluia Ministries.

The normalization, tolerance and minimization of the harm inflicted on female congregants at the church is unacceptable and has to be stopped and prevented. Sexual harassment is more routine than it is exceptional - it tends to be used by men in positions of power and authority but also colleagues, friends and subordinates, who are enablers and may be complicit in that exercise of power or too cowed to refuse to cooperate.

Sexual harassment and/or assault is not simply about the misbehavior of a few misguided or malicious individuals. Its prevalence and persistence together with widespread impunity of perpetrators manifest a systemic structural problem linked to broader social, economic and political distributions of power that vest authority, decision making and in men.

We await to hear from your good organization.

Sincerely,



Brenda Madumise-Pajibo



Onica Nonhlanhla Makwakwa