

Advocate Thando Gumede

LEGAL EAGLE / THOUGHT LEADER / INNOVATOR

Adv. Thando Gumede is a young internationally acclaimed human rights defender, lawyer, Pan Africanist/Feminist thought leader and multi-award-winning STEM entrepreneur. Her work focuses on anti-racism, combating gender-based violence and advocating for the protection of children and deeply marginalised communities such as Black women, children, youth, Persons with disabilities and LGBTQIA+ communities. To this end, she integrates law, STEM and human rights advocacy. She is a admitted Advocate of the High Court of South Africa, as well as a certified and registered mediator and panel member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Network of South Africa. In 2023, she was appointed by the President of South Africa to serve as a full-time National Commissioner at the Commission for Gender Equality. She is the first young person/youth to be appointed to this role on a full time basis.

Adv. Gumede is an Allan Gray Orbis Foundation Fellow and the Co-Founder of Haelix Laboratories, which is a high social impact private medical laboratory that provides affordable, fast and high-quality services to low-to-middle income and marginalised communities. She is disrupting the status quo and reforming private healthcare in South Africa by providing equitable access to thousands of vulnerable South Africans, who are mainly Black people, women, persons with disabilities and from the LGBTQIA+ communities. She is the recipient of the Forbes Woman Africa Social Impact Award 2024 and the recipient of the Gauteng Premiers' Young Woman Achiever of the Year Award 2025.

She has been recognised by the Mail and Guardian as one of the top minds in Law and Social Justice in South Africa, and has also been recognised by Barclays Africa as one of the top 100 brightest young minds in Africa. She has served as the Provincial leader for the Women's Economic Empowerment Pillar in partnership with the Gauteng Provincial Government. Adv. Gumede has also served as the Secretariat of the Women Economic Assembly ("WECONA"), which is a National Flagship initiative by the Office of the Presidency with the purpose of empowering diverse women economically as a means to sustainably fight gender-based violence and femicide.

In honour of her contributions toward Law, Social Justice, and the fight against Gender-Based Violence, Adv. Thando has been inducted as an Honorary Lifetime Member of the International Golden Key Honours Society, which is the world's largest collegiate honours society. She is also recognised as one of the top 300 most influential people in South Africa.

Personal Details

Name Advocate. Thando Gumede
Date of Birth [REDACTED]
Nationality [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
Race [REDACTED]
Contact Details [REDACTED]

Core Skills

Governance, Law and Human Rights

Governance, King Code IV and Ethics
Legal and Human Rights Education/Training
Legal Secretariat / Corporate Secretariat
Drafting and Writing
Legal and Regulatory Compliance
Business Law and Contracts
Mediation and Dispute Resolution
Advocacy and Campaigning
Legal Consulting
Internet Governance



Project Management and Leadership

Strategy and Planning
Educational Curriculum Development
Organisation and Execution
Problem Solving and Consulting
Business Leadership and Development
Personal and Team Leadership
Team work



Research

Legal and Non-Legal Research
Desktop and Field Research
Research analysis and feedback

Written Communication

Minute-taking
Speech writing
Creative and Non-Creative Writing and editing
Compile Research Based Reports and Feedback
Bespoke Educational Content Development
Bespoke Programme Project Design



Verbal Communication

Teaching / Lecturing
Community Consultations and Dialogues
Public Speaking and Debating
Presentations and Pitches
Stakeholder Networking and Management
Event Moderation/Facilitation
TV and Radio Presenting



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Core Skills

ICT, Technology and Innovation

- Business and Entrepreneurship
- Problem Solving and Strategy
- Consulting and Building Tech/AI for social good
- Agile Approach
- Proposal Documents
- Technical Documents
- End-User Journey and Road-mapping
- Budgeting
- Fund Raising



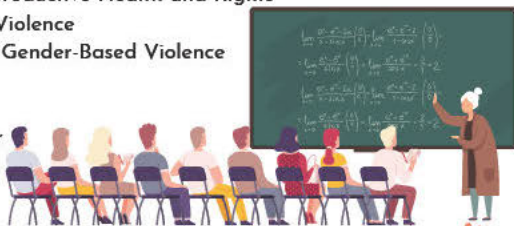
Legislation, Policy and Development

- Policy and Legislative Development (white paper process)
- Multi-stakeholder consultations, working groups and reporting
- Political Manifesto Drafting, editing and analysis
- Youth Development and Empowerment
- Legal Hearings
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Generation Equality
- Women Economic Power

Training, Education and Social Transformation

in the following areas:

- Restorative Justice and Building Peaceful Futures
- Equity
- Intersectionality
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
- Gender-Based Violence
- School-Related Gender-Based Violence
- Anti-Racism
- Anti-Misogyny
- Anti-Misogynoir
- Anti-Ableism



Digital Literacy

- Cyber Security
- Content Creation
- Basic Artificial Intelligence Theory
- Social Media Advocacy/ Campaigning



Relationships

- Local and Global Stakeholder Network Building and Partnerships
- Securing Funding and Sponsorships (letter drafting and negotiation)
- Multi-Stakeholder Engagements



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Educational Background

Degrees, Courses, Trainings and Certifications

Admitted Advocate of the High Court of South Africa - Legal Practice Council of South Africa (2021).

Mediation Certification and Registered Panel Member - ADR Network South Africa (2021).

Labour, Employment and Commercial Mediation Certificate - ADR Network South Africa (2022, 2023).

Cyber Security Certificate - Royal Academy of Engineering and Women in Engineering (2021).

Masters in Laws (LLM) - University of Cape Town (In Progress).

Pupillage - Pan African Bar Association of South Africa, Pius Langa School of Advocacy (2020).

Accelerated Business Development Fellowship - Women in Engineering and Africa Prize Initiative (2020/2021).

Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Business Leadership Training - Women in Engineering and Royal Academy of Engineering (2020).

Business Development and Commercialisation in Residence Short Course - Royal Academy of Engineering, United Kingdom (2019).

Internet Governance and Policy in Residence Fellowship - African School for Internet Governance (2019).



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Educational Background

Degrees, Courses, Trainings and Certifications

Entrepreneurial and Academic Fellowship Programme - Allan Gray Orbis Foundation (2012 - 2017)

Leadership Development Short Course - University of Cape Town, Student Leadership Unit (2017).

Right to Basic Education in Residence Training - Law and Society and Equal Education (2017).

Business Leadership and Development Short Course - DSV Logistics South Africa (2016).

Cornell Leadership & Communication Programme - Cornell University and Pearson Institute (2016).

Bachelor of Laws (LLb) - University of the Witwatersrand (2016).

Business Finance, Entrepreneurship and Leadership in Residence Short Course - Emory University and Innovation Hub (2015).

Entrepreneurship and Technology in Residence Training - Massachusetts Institute for Technology Global Start-Up Lab (2015).

Leadership Development Training - University of Witwatersrand, Student Development Unit (2012).



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Prior Working Experience

2015 - Present

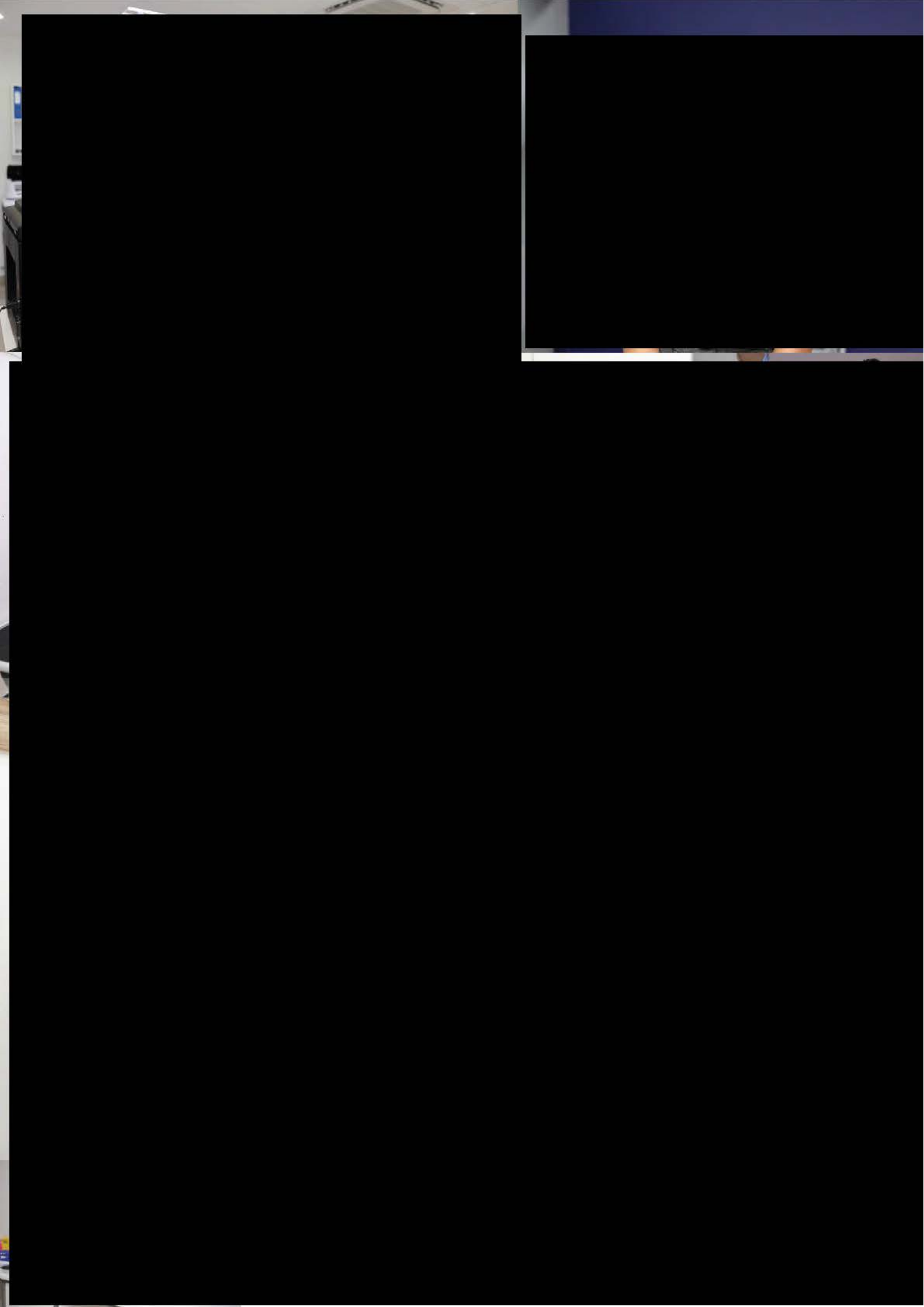
Employer: Haelix Laboratories Pty Ltd

Job Title: Co-Founder/ Company President
Officer (Non-Executive)

Duration: 2022 - to date

Haelix Laboratories is a high social impact niche medical laboratory that provides clinical pathology and cytology services that are affordable, accessible and of a high-quality in unprecedented turn-around times. My role in this high social impact entity was to develop the business plan and model; as well as to raise the funding through a multi-million rand investment from E-Squared Investments. Further, my role was to develop the brand, marketing materials and communications materials. Further, my role has been to draft all of the legal contracts which secured all of our clients. In addition to this, I develop key strategic interventions to sustain and grow the business. In other words, I monitor the progress of the business and provide strategic leadership in resolving issues and ensuring progress.





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Prior Working Experience

2015 - Present

Employer: Adv. Thando Gumede ZA

Job Title: Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Duration: 2021 - date (Human Rights, Law and STEM)

Employer: Commission for Gender Equality

Job Title: Commissioner

Duration: 2023 - 2028

Recent projects undertaken:

- M-TETO Search Engine
- Guest Speaking and Public Lectures at:
 - University of Pretoria
 - University of South Africa
 - University of Johannesburg
 - University of the Free State
 - Project Desk Africa
 - African Women in Dialogue
 - South African Women in Dialogue
 - National Department of Sports, Arts and Culture
 - Field Band Foundation
 - Women's Economic Assembly (WECONA)
 - Young Star Entrepreneur
 - Ford Foundation
 - National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide

I currently serve as a National Gender Commissioner. I am the youngest person to have been appointed this position; and the first youth to have been appointed in the full-time role. The CGE is a chapter 9 institution, which is mandated by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa to safe guard South Africa's Constitutional Democracy.

In particular, the Commission for Gender Equality is tasked to eradicate all forms of gender inequity; as well as to promote, protect and advocate for gender equity across the continent of Africa and across the globe. I serve as the guardian and custodian of this mandate.

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Prior Working Experience

2015 - Present

Employer: Allan Gray Orbis Foundation
Job Title: Consultant, Assessor and Fellow in Resident
Duration: 2018-2021

I worked as a Fellow in Resident for the AGOF Association. Here, my responsibility was to ideate and execute around the leadership curriculum and gamification initiatives that aim to increase engagement among the young, high achieving professionals that make up the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation Fellowship Community. My role was primarily in strategy to increase fellow community engagement and entrepreneurial conversion rates. During my tenure, I also organised events, both physical and virtual, that were geared towards addressing some pressing social issues locally and globally. Economic Inequality, Entrepreneurship and Gender-Based Violence were among some of the themes covered.

As a consultant, I worked in the selection team to assess and select some of the most talented young high school scholars and University students from around South Africa for a prestigious scholarship opportunity. This process required conducting interviews with the potential child and youth candidates, analysing their abilities responses, scoring them; and then providing feedback to the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation selection committee for final decision-making.

Employer: Soul City Institute for Social Justice and One Man and His Dog Studios
Job Title: Talk Show Co-Host
Duration: 2020

I co-hosted South Africa's First Unapologetically Feminist Television show called: "It's a Feminist Thing"

The show was geared towards educating the public on the origins of problematic social and gender norms that perpetuate violence. And, aimed at increasing dialogue around these complex issues.

My responsibility was to do research for the show, prepare my own script with the team and work as a team in bring a collaborative television content that is simple to understand and relevant.

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Prior Working Experience

2016 - Present

Employer: Supreme Court of Appeal /
Democratic Governance and Rights Unit
Job Title: Judges' Legal Research Clerk
Duration: 2017 - 2018

I completed service for a highly prestigious opportunity as a judges' legal researcher at the Supreme Court of Appeal in Bloemfontein. I served under the judges of the court. Amongst other things, my job entailed legal research, legal writing and editing; as well as, court appearances, serving as court registrar, drafting, debriefing with judges, etc.

Employer: Democratic Governance and Rights Unit
Job Title: Legal Researcher
Duration: 2017 - 2018

I conducted legal and non - legal research and analysis for the DGRU. My research entailed work surrounding human rights; as well as researching and contributory writing for its 2017 Judicial Commission Report for the appointment of South African Judges.

Employer: Africa Business Radio/ Bashumi Street Law Show and Bashumi Business Show
Job Title: Head Legal and Legal Research
Duration: 2016 - 2018

In 2016 I began my own legal research platform in which I initially began with producing podcasts for Africa Business Radio. The show aimed to teach law and business to South African and African women for the purpose of addressing key socio-economic issues facing mainly women living in rural areas. The show covered intestate succession and business plan development.

Employer: Excel@Uni
Job Title: Legal and Recruitment Manager
Duration: 2017

I worked for an award winning ed-tech company called Excel @ Uni based in Woodstock Cape Town. I drafted various business agreements including, service level agreements and shareholder agreements. I was also responsible for searching and recruiting potential tutors for specific courses. I contributed to supporting young scholars and scholarship recipients achieve academic goals at University.



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Prior Working Experience

2015 - Present

Employer: Lawyers for Human Rights Law Clinic, Johannesburg
Job Title: Legal Assistant
Duration: 2016

During my time at the LHR, I had my own clients; organized the administration of client files on the Soweto Care Digital Management System; and I successfully assisted clients to unblock their identity documents and establish their South African Citizenship or the citizenship of their countries of origin outside of South to enable them to have statehood and access basic human rights and related socio-economic services.

I interacted with the National Department of Home Affairs by drafting and communicating legal documents demanding that our client's identity numbers/documents be unblocked. I also assisted in organizing already existing client files from previous interns; as well as conducting client intake interviews on behalf of my principal or other colleagues in the department.

Employer: Mass Mart South Africa
Job Title: National Field Researcher
Duration: 2015 - 2016

I was the top field researcher for Mass Mart. This role included collecting, analysing, interpreting and discussing data I had captured from various mass mart outlets across the country. This information was used to influence key internal decisions; and sold to other external organisations.

Employer: The International Legal Foundation
Job Title: Legal Intern
Duration: 2014

During my experience, I engaged with global leaders in law relating to legal aid in countries all over the globe. I drafted and submitted a 42-page report, which included discussions and legal analysis of the International Conference on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems. I was also a part of the focus groups, which later went on to produce a declaration for adoption by the international legal community.

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Adv. Thando Gumede is a young internationally acclaimed human rights defender, lawyer, Pan Africanist/Feminist thought leader and multi-award-winning STEM entrepreneur. Her work focuses on anti-racism, combating gender-based violence and advocating for the protection of children and deeply marginalised communities such as Black women, children, youth, Persons with disabilities and LGBTQIA+ communities. To this end, she integrates law, STEM and human rights advocacy. She is a admitted Advocate of the High Court of South Africa; as well as a certified and registered mediator and panel member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Network of South Africa. In 2023, she was appointed by the President of South Africa to serve as a full-time National Commissioner at the Commission for Gender Equality. She is the first young person/youth to be appointed to this role on a full-time basis.

Adv. Gumede is an Allan Gray Orbis Foundation Fellow and the Co-Founder of Haelix Laboratories, which is a high social impact private medical laboratory that provides affordable, fast and high-quality services to low-to-middle income and marginalised communities. She is disrupting the status quo and reforming private healthcare in South Africa by providing equitable access to thousands of vulnerable South Africans, who are mainly Black people, women, persons with disabilities and from the LGBTQIA+ communities. She is the recipient of the Forbes Woman Africa Social Impact Award 2024 and the recipient of the Gauteng Premiers' Young Woman Achiever of the Year Award 2025.

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In honour of her contributions toward Law, Social Justice; and the fight against Gender-Based Violence, Adv. Thando has been inducted as an Honorary Lifetime Member of the International Golden Key Honours Society, which is the world's largest collegiate honours society.

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High Social Impact



E-Squared was founded and launched in 2007, being set up as an Allan Gray BEE partner. After a number of years to capitalise the business, E Squared began its funding activity in 2016. The vision of E-Squared is to create an economically inclusive South Africa with meaningful opportunity for everyone. It's Mission is to empower responsible entrepreneurs to become the catalysts for economic development, transformation and social upliftment in South Africa.

In 2023, I was one of the recipients of the Pathways Programme Investment from E-Squared as one of the co-founders of Haelix Laboratories which is a private medical laboratory aimed at addressing:

1. Poverty, Inequitable Healthcare Funding, Poor Access to Medical Aid Schemes, Poor
2. Process Flow, Quality, Skillset, Disaster Management
3. Grossly Unequal Social & Gender Norms & Backlog of Rape Kit DNA Testing

Haelix Laboratories aims to address the crisis of access to high quality health care for South African Communities which are ordinarily marginalised, such as black communities, women, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ Community, etc.

10.

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Significant Awards

International Achievements



In 2021/2022 M-TETO Search Engine was awarded a \$ 15 000.00 US Dollars Grant from the Mozilla Foundation. The Mozilla Foundation is a US based organisation that is invested in bold ideas, top innovations, global leaders, and citizen-centered campaigns. They work across borders, disciplines, and technologies to uphold principles like privacy, inclusion and decentralization online.

M-TETO Search Engine is a legal and educational mobile technology which uses Law, Artificial Intelligence and Gamification to prevent and adequately respond to incidences of School-Related Gender-Based Violence and its educational, public health, justice/behavioural and economic consequences across the globe.

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LEGAL EAGLE | THOUGHT LEADER | INNOVATOR

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Significant Awards International Achievements



Forbes Woman Africa
Social Impact Award
2024

This award is given to individuals who have made an impact across the African continent.

Panache
International
Women of Wonder
Award
2025



Lifetime Honourary Recognition
International Golden Key Honour Society
2021

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OUR 8
FOUNDERS

Accelerated
Development
Programme
Finalists



Africa Innovation Fellowship
Women in Engineering
Accelerated Development Programme
2020-2021

I was selected as 1 of 8 women in engineering innovation from across the African Continent for the Africa Innovation Fellowship Accelerated Development Programme. Among other things, received tailored venture clinic training on building brands, businesses, products, manufacturing, technology and commercial law, etc.

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Significant Awards International Achievements



Africa Innovation Fellowship for African Women in Engineering Womhub and Royal Academy of Engineering
2020

I was awarded two fellowships in 2020 recognising my efforts in using software engineering, mobile technology and Artificial Intelligence and law to empower children.

These awards are specifically for women in engineering across the African continent.

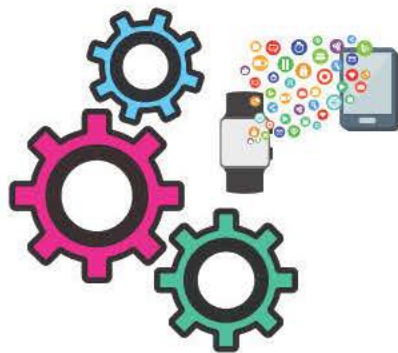
Royal Academy of Engineering and Technology Innovation Agency's Leaders in Innovation Fellowship
Newton Fund, United Kingdom
2019

The Leaders in Innovation Fellowship was awarded to me for M-Teto. This residential fellowship is awarded through the UK based Royal Academy of Engineering's Newton Fund (in partnership with South Africa's Technology Innovation Agency).

Hague Institute For innovation in Law (HiiL) Fellowship and Grant Award
Hague, Netherlands
2018

The Hague Institute for Innovation Law awarded me the Global Fellowship and Grant worth 5000 Euros for my innovation called M-TETO Search Engine (formerly known as MoLLy).

News Articles:



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Significant Awards Continental Achievements



Allan Gray Orbis
Foundation Fellow
Member of Association
Since 2018

This Fellowship is one of the most sought-after honours for students, post graduate students, young leaders and entrepreneurs in the SADC. To graduate into the fellowship, you must demonstrate commitment to academic excellence, a pioneering and innovative spirit; as well as initiative and courageous personal and extrinsic leadership. To find out about the organization and its five pillars, please visit: www.allgrayorbis.org

Top 100 Brightest Young Mind Africa
2015

Barclays Africa recognised me as being one of Africa's top 100 brightest young minds.

Winner of Barclays Fin-Tech Challenge
2015

My team and I placed 3rd in a Barclays Business Pitch Competition among top young minds on the continent. The idea was centered around providing innovative solutions that allow unbanked indigent South Africans the opportunity to become financially literate; banked; and financially healthy. The name of the innovation is called Zaka-Yaka.

Allan Gray Orbis
Foundation Scholarship Award
2012

I was awarded an academic scholarship and inaugurated into a candidate-fellowship program that seeks individuals from mainly the SADC region and East Africa who have the potential to become high impact entrepreneurial leaders. The program included a mandatory leadership, academic and entrepreneurial curriculum which must be passed in order to move onto the next phase and to receive further scholarship funding.

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Significant Awards

National / Local Achievements



Gauteng Premier

Young Woman Achiever of the Year Award,
2025

This award gives recognition to a young woman who has made an indelible impact in the Province of Gauteng.

First Prize Winner National Technology Innovation Competition
United Nations Women and Generation Equality Forum
2021

I won first place in the inaugural UN Women & Generation Equality "She Reigns" competition for women technology entrepreneurs for M-TETO Search Engine.

Mail & Guardian Top 200 Young South Africans
2020

I was recognised by *Mail and Guardian* as one of the top 200 young South Africans. I specifically won in the category of Law and Social Justice.

Cook Award
2010

This trophy is awarded to the pupil who is the top all-round achiever in sport, culture and academics throughout his/her high schooling career.

Letsema Social Impact and Innovation Award
2019

R100K worth in management consulting services from Letsema Management Consultants was awarded to me for M-TETO Search Engine and its potential high impact in solving a social issue of great importance.

Bain and Co. Mbokodo
2014

I was recognised by *Bain & Co.* as one of 50 top all-round achieving women students in Gauteng.

Team Leader and Winner of MIT Demo Day Digital Innovation Award
2015

I led my team lead to a first place win at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Global Start-Up Demo Day.

Provincial Sports Colours

I have 3 provincial colours in Badminton.

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Leadership and Community

**Guest Speaker Standard Bank Africa Conference
18-19 October 2023**

The 8th annual Standard Bank Top Women Conference for Africa. This year's theme is Rise Above The Noise, Empowering Top Women in Africa. At this 2-day Immersive Conference, Global Women Leaders, Activists, Award Winning Entrepreneurs, Policy-makers, and Philanthropists, come together to engage and share valuable insights, practical solutions, and networks to assist and inspire women across the world. This is the event for women entrepreneurs and decision-makers to create hope and inspire lifelong learning.

**Guest Speaker
Eskom Conference 29 - 31 August
2023**

Women Advancement Programme ("EWAP") Conference Theme: Breaking the mould: An evolution of crushing old patterns and creating new norms.

The goal is to accelerate the development of women in technical roles; and build a cadre of female nuclear professionals.

**Guest Speaker
Eskom Conference 31 August - 1
September 2022 -
Women Advancement Programme
Conference Theme "Women and the
Law in the Place of work/in the
economy."**

This was an educational session aimed at addressing issues affecting women in the economy and the world of work.

**TEARS Foundation Brand Ambassador
2022 - Present**

I am the brand ambassador for an TEARS Foundations which is an TEARS Foundation, founded in 2012 as an Registered NPO and PBO that uses technology innovatively in the scourge against domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse.

**Guest Speaker
National Department of Sports, Arts and Culture
Conference Theme: Innovation and Technology for
Gender Equality
8 March 2023**



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Leadership and Community

Guest Speaker

Theme: Empowering Youth to Achieve Radical Transformation

Organisation: United Nations Women

Event: Women Empowerment Programme 2022

I was invited to speak at the UN Women WEP Community of Practice Engagement. Here, I delivered a speech on youth centric solutions that will drive South Africa's economic transformation.

SA Delegate

Event: United Nations Women, Regional Office for East and Southern Africa ("ESARO") in Nairobi, Kenya.

Theme: Youth Knowledge on "Youth not in Employment, Education and Training and Using data for advocacy and evidence-based decision-making".

2022

SA Youth Delegate

Event: Centre for Society, Violence and Reconciliation, Conference on Youth Inclusion: Ideals and Realities.

Theme: Social and Economic Inclusion in Southern and East Africa.

2022

Guest Speaker

Theme: Women's Leadership in Decision-Making Spaces and Public Life

Event: Annual United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

2021

I was invited to present an intervention speech on "Women's Leadership in Decision-Making Spaces" at the "Annual United Nations Commission on the Status of Women" which was hosted by the Baha'i International Society.



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Leadership and Community

Guest Facilitator

Event: Black Women Caucus
Launch of the BWC Think Tank
Wits University
2022

Guest Facilitator

Event: Black Women Caucus
Fund The Fight Against Gender-Based
Violence Community Economic Assembly
Soweto
2021

Guest

Event: Black Women Caucus
Theme: Gender-Based Violence Roundtable
2019

Guest Educator/ Moderator and Facilitator

Theme: Volunteering
2013 - present

I regularly volunteer my expertise on:

- Innovation and technology
- Entrepreneurship
- Gender-Based Based Violence
- Equity and Intersectionality
- Anti-Racism
- Feminist Thought Leadership

on various national and global platforms. This has included at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women NGO, Institute of Risk Management South Africa, Face-Up Manenberg Women in Business South Africa, Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, the National Department of Basic Education, the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, the Black Women Caucus, The Wellness Initiative Uganda and The Eastern and Southern Africa Coalition of Feminists for Social Change ("COFEM").

Guest Speaker

Event: Caitlin Douman Foundation
Theme: Disability Rights Month High Tea
2020



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Leadership and Community



WOMEN
forward

In early 2019, I was appointed as the Provincial Leader of South Africa's first Feminist Political Party, called "Women Forward", which ran for the National and Provincial Elections in 2019. Under my leadership, the party had a successful political run, garnering the highest electoral votes country-wide for the party; and outdoing previous electoral votes.

I co-authored the first Political Feminist Manifesto Document aimed at the emancipation of all under-represented and marginalised people's of South Africa.

I also co-authored the coalition agreement for the provincial government/legislature and challenged the National Independent Electoral Commission's practice around the formation of coalition governments in order to increase diversity within leadership strata at the level of political decision-making.



Advocate Thando Gumede

LEGAL EAGLE / THOUGHT LEADER / INNOVATOR

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Leadership and Community

Delegate

Event: Department of Women, Youth and People with Disabilities
Gender Based Violence and Femicide Emergency Funding Plan: 16 Days of Activism for no violence against women and children Campaign National Consultation
2019

I was invited to contribute to the national GBVF consultation aimed at discussing, planning and implementing immediate interventions over the next 6 months using the GBVF Emergency Funding Plan.

Moderator

Theme: Perspectives from Survivors
Hosted by: Soul City Institute for Social Justice
2020

I was invited to moderate a discussion to unpack the neglect of women within the disabled community; and their amplified experiences of gender-based violence.



Guest Speaker

Theme: National Women's Virtual Conference
Hosted by: Inside My Purse
2020

I was invited to educate/speak on Gender-Based Violence; and how to dismantle patriarchy.



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Leadership and Community

National Women's Youth Assembly
Department of Women
2019

This was the first ever women's youth assembly hosted by the department of women. My contribution related to the 4th industrial revolution and the safety of women and children; and the development of law in relation to safety and methods of dismantling patriarchy.

Gender Responsive Budgeting and Planning Summit and Declaration
National Department of Women and National Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation.
2018

The First ever National Gender Responsive Budgeting and Planning Declaration on the 29th and 30th of November 2018, along with other national and international youth and leaders. Specifically, I formed part of and contributed to the commission on 'Developing a country gender indicator framework and enhancing gender data'.

African Women in Dialogue
Commission on the 4th Industrial Revolution and Education
2018

As a delegate, I contributed to the Commission of the 4th industrial revolution and education at the African Women in Dialogue Conference, which brought together 1000 women entrepreneurs, leaders and dignitaries from across the continent. During this commission, we discussed the future of ICT in Africa and in Education.



Advocate Thando Gumede

L E G A L E A G L E | T H O U G H T L E A D E R | I N N O V A T O R

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Leadership and Community

**Wits University Representative and Speaker
Human Rights Day Commission, Women's Development Bank
Conference and Transitional Justice International Conference
2014 - 2016**

I was selected to represent Wits University as a student leader to discuss Human Rights and the South African Constitution, progressive strategies for Africa; as well as Democracy and transitional justice mechanisms in countries that have endured war.

**Co-Founder of The Annual Law Students' Conference
2012 & 2013**

I created and administered Conferences that aimed to transform the Wits law school, empower law students with information that they were not being exposed; as well as provide a platform for engagement about injustices and unfairness within the legal field.

**South African Student Congress (SASCO) Executive Branch Member
Gender Officer and Chairperson of SRC Campaign
2012**

I served as the Gender Officer for the South African Student Congress Branch Executive Committee, dealing with matters of gender inequality, the LGBTI community and transformation on campus. I also went on to serve the Progressive Youth Alliance as the Chairperson of the SRC electoral commission, successfully managing the electoral campaign of the PYA SRC candidates.

**South African Women-International
Association of Women Judges (SAW-
IAWJ) and
DGRU Women's Mentorship Programme
2017**

I was selected to participate in a women's mentorship programme for aspiring female judges. The programme comprises of a development programme throughout the year through workshops, court hours, seminars, etc.



Advocate Thando Gumede

L E G A L E A G L E | T H O U G H T L E A D E R | I N N O V A T O R

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References

Dr Nontobeko Mabizela

- Chief Executive Officer
- Allan Gray Orbis Foundation
- Email: [REDACTED]
- Cell: [REDACTED]

Director Merita Ground

- Provincial Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Coordinator
- Cell: [REDACTED]
- Email: [REDACTED]
- Web: www.gauteng.gov.za
- Department of Community Safety

Lindiwe Khoza

- Regional Gender and Youth Development Leader
- Cell: [REDACTED]
- Email: [REDACTED]



Adv. Thando Gumede Brief Biography – Extended to Include Portfolio of Evidence

Introduction

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She is deeply committed to national and regional social cohesion, transformation and development. She is fully dedicated to rewriting Africa's narrative—from one of colonial conquest to one of democratic prosperity and Ubuntu for all. To this end, she has been at the forefront of national feminist politics, human rights discourse, democratic decision-making processes, pan-Africanist transformation, development and governance. She believes that the youth are ready to participate in national and regional decision-making and advocates for the inclusion of both youth and children in driving South Africa's forward progress.

Advocate Gumede has contributed at both the level of the grassroots/communities and has also served as a leader and coordinator at national/regional levels. She has contributed as a servant leader and implementor for the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, the National Coordinator of the Women's Economic Assembly and the Gender Officer for the South African Student Congress. She has also served within the judiciary and within civil society. She has also contributed to various laws, frameworks and policies including the National Council on GBVF Act, The Immigration Act, the Marriage Act and the Framework on adequate Gender Budgeting, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation. She has

represented South Africa at the Royal Academy for Engineering in the United Kingdom and also represented the country at the African School of internet governance in Chad, where she advocated for adequate internet governance-related laws aimed at preventing and addressing the global crisis of the human trafficking of women and girls at the hands of the dark-web.

She believes that if we collectively commit to the unrelenting and unwavering pursuit of equity amongst all human beings, regardless of superficial difference, we will consequently eradicate the negative implications of Apartheid and Colonisation.

As a young woman, she is often called upon by various national and international development agencies, civil society stakeholders and governmental departments to advise, provide insight and to share expertise in law, human rights, governance, entrepreneurship and the advancement of democracy. She is also often called upon to teach on aspects of South African history and to provide solution-driven insights on rebuilding South African Families, Communities and prosperity. She has given public and guest lectures on a number of local and international platforms including The United Nations Women Women Empowerment Principles Community of Practice, Standard Bank Africa, The National Department of Basic Education, The National Department of Sports, Arts and Culture, Gauteng Provincial Department of Community Safety, The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, The Tshwane University of Technology, The University of the Free State, The University of Johannesburg, The University of Pretoria, The University of the Free State, The University of South Africa, The Center for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation ("CSVR"), The Eastern and Southern Africa Coalition of Feminists for Social Change ("COFEM"), Bell Global Justice, Gender Links, Black Women Caucus, The Justice Desk Africa, The Wellness Initiative Uganda, The Wellness Initiative South Africa, YoungStar Entrepreneur and African Women in Dialogue (AFWID).

Recent Projects and Awards:

1. Haelix Laboratories

She is the co-founder of Haelix Laboratories which is a high social impact private medical laboratory that provides affordable, fast and high-quality services low-to-middle income and marginalised communities. She is disrupting the status quo and reforming private healthcare in South Africa by providing equitable access to thousands of vulnerable South Africans, who are mainly Black people, women, and persons with disabilities. To date, Haelix Laboratories has served well over 3000 (three thousand) patients within the Johannesburg region.

2. M-TETO Search Engine:

She is the founder of M-TETO Search Engine, which is an internationally award-winning legal, educational and anti-corruption mobile technology/tool that uses Law, Artificial Intelligence and Gamification to prevent and adequately respond to incidences of School-Related Gender-Based Violence and diverse consequences across the globe. The consequences of SRGBV include HIV/TB, unwanted pregnancies, illegal abortions, poor mental health, failing grades, dropping out of school, conflict with the law, intimate partner violence and reproduction of violence in adulthood.

Pitches, Interviews and Articles:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3. International Speaker, Expert and Adviser

She founded Adv. Thando Gumede ZA, which is a platform that specialises in law, human rights, thought leadership and STEM entrepreneurship. Through this platform she has created educational and consciousness raising spaces which are ultimately intended to contribute to broader social cohesion, development and transformation. She has been invited to national and regional spaces to speak, educate, advise and provide expertise on issues including systemic racism,

decolonisation, gender-based violence, misogynoir and related phobias. She creates her own educational content and often uses social media as an extension of her educational and consciousness-raising work.

She has received a number of local and international awards including:

- The recipient of the Gauteng Premier's 2025 Young Woman Achiever of the year award.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- Panache International, Woman of Wonder Award, 2025.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- The recipient of the Forbes Africa Woman 2024 Social Impact Award
[REDACTED]
- The recipient of Golden Key Southern Africa's 300 most influential people in South Africa honours, 2025.
- Winner of the 2021 United Nations Women Feminist Technology National Competition.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- 2021 Lifetime Honourary Award, International Golden Key Honour Society.
- 2020 Mail & Guardian Top 200 Young South Africans: Law and Justice.
[REDACTED]
- Recipient of the 2019 Leaders in Innovation Fellowship Award from the "Royal Academy of Engineering" in the United Kingdom.
Live Pitch London- Royal Academy of Engineering
[REDACTED]
- Recipient of the 2022 Mozilla Foundation Community Grant Award, from the United States of America.

- 2018, Regional Winner of the Hague Institute for Innovation in Law Innovating Justice Challenge, Netherlands.
- 2015, Top 100 Brightest Young Mind Africa, Barclays Africa.

Brief Portfolio of Work

Pan African and International campaigns and educational interventions against human rights violations, neo-colonisation and related discrimination:

- International Universities Consciousness Raising Tours 2024-2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – University of South Africa

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - University of the Free State

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - University of Pretoria

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - University of Johannesburg

- African Women in Dialogue

[REDACTED]

- Africa Day March

[REDACTED]

- Pan-African Anti-Homophobia Solidarity Protest and Handing over Memorandum to United Nations and Parliament

[REDACTED]

- 12/12/12 Accountability Campaign
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
- Global Feminist School
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
- School Anti-Racism Campaign
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
- Black Lives Matter Campaign
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
- Black Lives Matter Solidarity Protest at American Embassy
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
- Educational Material and Curriculum Development
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
- National and Regional Intersectionality, Anti-Racism, Decolonisation Education and Anti-GBV Education:
Youtube Channel: [Redacted]
LinkTree Account: [Redacted]
Examples of Dialogues and dialogue Posters:
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- National Commissioner for Gender Equality:

[REDACTED]

- National Campaigns and Protests Against GBVF:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – I Stand with Yolanda Campaign

[REDACTED] – Sue Us All Campaign

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – Fund the Fight Against GBVF Protest and Campaign

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – The Real Black Friday Campaign and Protest

[Redacted]

[Redacted] – Parliamentary Anti-GBVF Commemorative Protest

[Redacted]

[Redacted] - National Assembly Anti-GBVF Protest

- High Social Impact Entrepreneurship:
Co-Founder of Haelix Laboratories:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

General National Advocacy

- National Dialogue

Collaborations:

Gauteng Provincial Government: Department of Community Safety Implementation of the NSP-GBVF

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide National Ambassador

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Black Woman Caucus

Launch of the Wits University Feminist Think Tank:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Fund the Fight Against Gender-Based Violence:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Caitlin Douman Foundation:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Hlanganisa Grant

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Judgments, Reports, Research, Frameworks, Legislation and Contributed to:

- Democratic Governance and Right Unit (DGRU) Judicial Report on the Appointment of South African Judges, University of Cape Town – Contributed research

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- Women Forward Political Party Manifesto – co-authored party document

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- Legal Research for Alex Ruta Matter, Upheld in the Constitutional Court

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- Legal Report for the International Legal Foundation, New York – Drafted Interns' Report

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Social Media Handles:

1. TikTok Account: [REDACTED]
2. Facebook: [REDACTED]
3. LinkedIn: [REDACTED]
4. Instagram: [REDACTED]
5. Youtube: [REDACTED]
6. LinkTree: [REDACTED]