

Conflict In Kenya

A Discussion about Politics in Kenya and
Increased Sexual Violence After the 2007 Presidential Elections

Sponsored by:

Sexual Assault Services & Global Health Students Beyond Borders

Political veteran Mwai Kibaki claimed victory in controversial presidential elections in December 2007, sparking widespread violence throughout Kenya. His swearing-in for a second term in office prompted a wave of unrest across the country.

The UN says 1,000,000 people have been displaced by the unrest, which is also affecting the economies of neighboring Uganda and Rwanda. The UN also reports that men, women and children are being raped as a weapon, and girls are forced to trade sex for food and protection.

Location: Lecture Hall 1

Date: Monday, March 24

Time: 7:30-9:00pm

Target Audience: GMU Students, GHSBB, Dept. of Global and Community Health, ICAR, Administration of Justice, Women and Gender Studies, Political Science Students, International Students, Local Community

Order of Events:

7:30pm	Opening Remarks – Dr. Constance Gewa, Professor, Dept. of Global & Community Health
7:35-8:15	Kenya Diaspora Network
8:15-8:30	Social Violence - Dr. Carlos Sluzki, Professor, Dept. of Global & Community Health
8:30-8:35	Rape Is... International Rape and Sexual Assault
8:35-8:50	Sexual Violence in Kenya – Connie Kirkland, Director, GMU Sexual Assault Services
8:50-9:00	Questions
9:00	Closing Remarks

Art Display: (7:15-9:15pm)

- Images outlining the political conflict will be displayed throughout the entrance of Lecture Hall 1. Staff from Sexual Assault Services and members of GHSBB will be on hand to answer questions students might have about the conflict in Kenya. Additional information will be provided by news archived after the initial violence. Currently we have 30 images to display.

Guest Speakers:

- **Kenya Diaspora Network**

The Kenya Diaspora Network (“The Network”) is a non-political organization whose primary objective is to support the Kenyan Government development efforts by aligning the resources and inherent knowledge of Kenyan Organizations in the Diaspora with the Government’s Economic Recovery Plan (GERP) and with the Donors’ Country Assistance Plans. The Network was recently formed at the behest of the Kenyan government in conjunction with the World Bank Institute and Western Hemisphere African Diaspora Network (WHADN-an initiative of the AU).

The Network will operate as a Secretariat, which links Kenyan organizations in the Diaspora with each other, the government, local communities, other civil societies, private sector and national and international development actors. When implemented, the Network will be a development partner to Diaspora organizations, to the Kenyan Government and the Donor Community serving as a Clearinghouse – a centralized portal serving each group in a specific manner to enable each group to meet its socio-economic goals and objectives.

- **Dr. Carlos Sluzki, Professor at George Mason**

Dr.Sluzki is a Professor at George Mason University with joint appointments at College of Health and Human Services and the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution. He is also Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Washington DC, consultant at the International Criminal Court and temporary advisor to the World Health Organization.

Psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and family therapist by training, Dr. Sluzki specializes in systemic and narrative approaches to conflict resolution in families, organizations and other larger systems. His current focus of interest includes social networks and health, refugees, and human rights

- **Connie Kirkland, MA, Director GMU Sexual Assault Services**

Mrs. Kirkland is currently the Director of Sexual Assault Services at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, where she provides university-wide education and training, as well as crisis intervention for victims of campus sexual assault, stalking, and relationship violence. She is also a George Mason University faculty member in the New Century College and the departments of Women’s Studies and the Administration of Justice.

Connie has worked for over 30 years in crime victim advocacy, as a college instructor, and as a criminal justice researcher and trainer. She is an ATSS Certified Trauma Specialist (CTS), a National Certified Counselor (NCC), and a Certified Law Enforcement Instructor. She has authored legislative bills, training manuals and materials related to crime victim issues, specializing in violence against women.

Prince William Art Display

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Location: Bull Run Hall

Date: March 19 & March 26

Time: 10:00-2:00pm

- Images of the outlining the political conflict will be displayed throughout the lobby of Bull Run Hall. Staff from Sexual Assault Services will be on hand to answer questions any students might have about the conflict in Kenya. Additional information will be provided by news archived after the initial violence. Currently we have 21 images to display.