

PRESS RELEASE **NO EMBARGO** 08 AUGUST 2021

ALJAMA-AH SUPPORTS WOMENS STRUGGLE FOR THE RIGHTS TO MAINTENANCE

IS THE SA GOVERNMENT FAILING WOMEN

For decades mainly women have been on the forefront struggling to secure maintenance from their spouses, partners and grandparents where need be for the basic benefits and needs of their minor children in so far as food, clothing, education and medical needs is concerned.

The sad reality is that on paper our law appears to be there to ensure the welfare and best interest of the minor children are catered for but the sad reality is that a deterioration of in the system, lack of resources and lack of care are creating failures within our Justice system to cater for the needs of minor children.

The ultimate victims continue to be women and minor children. The majority of women across all spheres, religions and cultures are continuing to struggle to secure assistance and maintenance from the father of their children to ensure the well being of the minor children.

Concerns raised by those affected stems from applications at court where many have noted to being subjected to bullying tactics by clerks forcing women to accept a pittance of maintenance offered due to poor investigations conducted and guidance provided and a desire and pressure to finalize matters.

Maintenance defaulters continue to allude to the system in a bid not to pay maintenance. Courts are flooded with matters and it is dealt with like a processing factory pushing out numbers opposed to quality and care.

Ultimately the woman is just expected to look after the children, no matter the financial struggle and burden placed upon her. The lack of empathy and inequality and lack of care needs to stop as it starts from the moment an application is made for maintenance.

Indeed the Justice system is failing us in many ways.

Registered as a Political Party in terms of Electoral Commissions Act, 1996 (Act No 51 of 1996) Reference No 447. Reg. Level: National Room V410. Old Assembly Building, 120 Plein Street, Cape Town, 8001 | Tel: +27 21 403 2911 | Fax: +27 21 86 684 8625 | www.aljama.co.za









The purpose of Aljama-ah's webinar is to detail the failures within the system, highlight the needs and ultimately secure like minded individuals and professionals to step up and take heed of failures within the system affecting women and children.

Al jama-ah would like to take these matters further by educating our elderly on the fact that they are able to apply for maintenance from their children.

Al jama-ah aims to address the frustration expressed by many women in the queues at maintenance courts and offices. We are concerned about the anxiety, stress and constant postponements and the months of lack of interim relief.

Aljama-ah party leader Mr MGE Hendricks is also a member of Parliament and the findings from the webinar can be detailed and be brought before Parliament. Mr Hendricks can elevate the concerns, and constructive solutions can also be brought to Parliament so that these matters can be addressed as a matter of urgency as well.

Our webinar takes place on Saturday 14th August at 2.30pm.Contact our Marketing and Communications Manager, Nisa on 061 677 2122 or info@aljama.co.za for our zoom meeting link and program.

For further media enquiries contact our National spokesperson and specialist in family law Advocate Shameemah Salie

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