

Stepping up to keep SA's females safe

 By Leigh Andrews

9 Sep 2019

Local media - social media in particular - has covered the general sense of unrest and discomfort in the country this week, following the most recent spate of femicide cases that spurred the nation to say #Enoughisenough and ask #Amlnext? In addition to marches, a number of platforms have been voicing their support.



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The truth is, as a country we do not have adequate resources and laws that will ensure accountability in regards to how we deal with violence against women and the immigration laws that are practically nonexistent. _____ The reality is, we have a migrant issue in our country, most of whom are not documented...we have immigration laws that are very limited thus far...we need to engage all relevant judicial stakeholders..reach out to the ILO..find ways of navigating the jurisdiction issues...engage the migrants countries of origin and begin practical and sustainable strides. _____ The fact is, violence against women and girls has been in existence for time immemorial ...sad but true! It's a societal issue that calls for a country as a whole to stand against!! Educating women & girls of their rights is a start! Demanding stringent laws..ensuring that male counterparts are doing their part in all corners of the country in heading the call!! It takes all of us!!! _____ #westandwithwomen #femicide #womenslivesmatter #weareafrica #africaus #shereigns #shematters #womensupportingwomen #women4women

A post shared by She Reigns (@shereigns.org.za) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:23am PDT

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Gender equality is a powerful cause and one brave brands have already taken on, spurring a rise in cause-related marketing locally.



#FairnessFirst: Soweto Derby and *Grey's Anatomy* fight to end women abuse

Leigh Andrews 12 Mar 2018



Cause-related marketing: Why we do it and where the value lies

Joanna Oosthuizen 21 Dec 2018



But say the [current trending hashtags](#) with me: #MakeItSafe #EnoughIsEnough #AmINext #JusticeForNene #iamNOTnext #WomenDontOweYouShit #StopKillingUs #FemicideinSA.

“



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We use this day to voice our outrage, our fear, our anger. There will be many hashtags, and powerful posts and sentiments today, and we wish the citizens that have taken to the streets are safe, respectful and respected. Though we will all continue with business-as-usual tomorrow, we will not forget. These tragedies should start a national conversation and provoke a shift in consciousness. We must do better, we must be better. . . . #ItStartsWithYou #WeAreHer #BeThoseMen #AmINext #NoToGenderBasedViolence #JustNo #EnoughIsEnough

A post shared by [Whaam Concepts \(@whaamc\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 3:48am PDT

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It's a chilling snapshot of the current mood online. Clearly, more needs to be done – fast.

And while much of the country has been wearing black to demonstrate mourning, we've also raised our voices – with numerous protests already held to demonstrate we're willing to fight back for our safety.



The protest held outside parliament in the Cape Town CBD on Thursday, 5 September was particularly well attended – with South African president Cyril Ramaphosa finally making an appearance.

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BREAKING NEWS : President Cyril Ramaphosa To Address The Nation on Femicide Protests. Watch the live stream now on :

<http://www.lovetheworldsat.org/watchlisten/live-tv> #xenophobia #looting #news #femicide

A post shared by [LoveWorldSAT \(@lovetheworldsat\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:07am PDT

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He spoke to the crowd at the march and also addressed the nation in a recorded speech later that evening.

But the likes of *GoodThingsGuy*, Matthew Savides, and *The Kiffness* beat him to it in making their voices heard earlier in the week – making a case for using their platforms and followings for good and sharing how males in the country can help the cause, respectively.

The male voice, in support of females

Good Things Guy's Brent Lindeque wrote that they were taking the platform offline for 48 hours to stand with females affected by violence in the country, spurring supporters to sign a petition demanding action from the powers that be, and things snowballed from there.



For the first time in 4 years, my website has been switched off. I cannot
by & ignore what is going on in South Africa.



Because the crime in South Africa is out of control and our President
chooses to be silent about it... we cannot be!!!

The country is burning, women are being murdered & children are being
kidnapped. But that was just today. The crime in South Africa is OUT OF
CONTROL! The country we love is falling apart and I have felt helpless all
day.... [See more](#)

👍 53 💬 15 ➦ 43



Matthew Savides

about 5 years ago



Men, enough is enough.

Enough of the “women belong in the kitchen” stuff. Enough of the casual
“banter” about hitting a woman to keep her in line.

Enough of the cat-calling and wolf-whistling and lewd stares. Enough of
telling her to smile.

Enough of the “not all men” horse manure. Enough of the patronising, of
the unsolicited advice, of the talking-down-to, of the victim-blaming.

Enough of the unwanted dick pics, and of the Facebook Messenger
harassment. And, for crying out ... [See more](#)

👍 67 💬 15 ➦ 41





Matthew Savides
 about 5 years ago




I am angry.
 I am angry at that dad who hung those four kids.
 I am angry at the men who rape and murder and commit vile acts.
 I am angry at the men who fail to hold other men accountable for their problematic behaviour.
 I am angry at police for being ineffective.... [See more](#)

 53
  4
  11



The Kiffness 
 about 5 years ago






I don't have the answers. I'm far from perfect. All I know is that breaking my addiction to porn is one of the most difficult things I've done, but it has changed the way I see women for the better.


 I also know that despite the heavy guilt & shame attached to my porn addiction during my time at Rhodes, speaking about it with people I trust has helped me a lot.

 Men, I know we've been told we're trash. That might be true, but like any environmentalist would say, trash can act... [See more](#)


THEKIFFNESS.COM
Why I stopped watching porn
 I spent the best part of my high school & university addicted to pornogra..

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  102
  243

This is more than just armchair activism, 'clicktivism' or 'slacktivism', where keyboard warriors are accused of signing petitions online and not taking any real action beyond that.



#CSIMonth: Going beyond armchair activism
 Leigh Andrews 24 Jul 2017

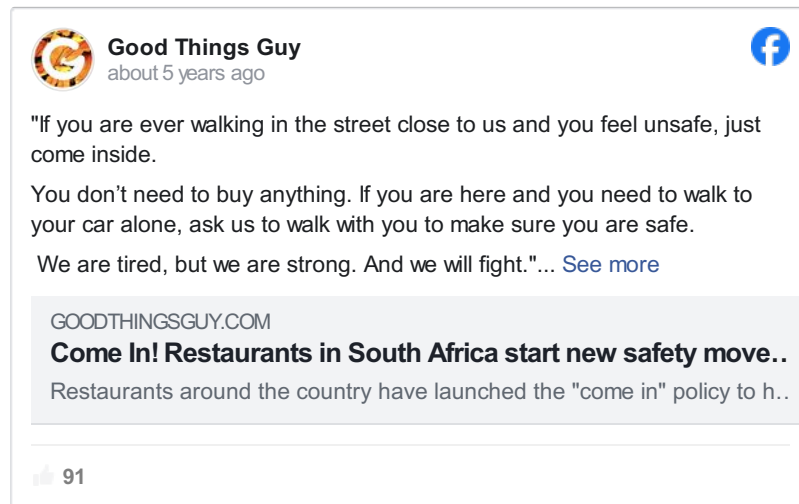


Because while [The Guardian](#) reports that social media activism in particular is a weak form of effecting change, [Everyday Feminism](#) points out that "talking about a social issue online does at least do the job of spreading awareness, building community around a topic and educating those who may have the wool firmly tied around their eyes about the real world. "

This has certainly been the case locally.

Taking the online offline with #Comein

Good Things Guy also shared the news that restaurants across the country are welcoming anyone who feels unsafe on the streets to wait indoors with them.



The Mankind Project is also calling for mass action and participation by men in solidarity with the women of South Africa, taking place around the country on Monday, 9 September at 9am.

[Click here for more info on the event](#) and get ready for the #RealMenStandUp and #AreYouManEnough hashtags to trend.

Small and perhaps slow steps, but effective in spreading a sense that we're not alone – that we're all afraid but ready to stand together to make a change for the better. Let's keep sharing and raising awareness of the need for change!

See more of the social media images and posts making an impact below.

This Facebook post is no longer available. It may have been removed, or the privacy settings of the post may have changed.

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



#AmINext

A post shared by [Carly De Freitas](#) 💎💎 (@itsthatcurlycarlygurl) on Sep 5, 2019 at 10:11am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



#AmINext #uyinenemrwetyana

A post shared by [Wanele L Nkonyeni \(@wanele_l\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:02am PDT



[View this post on Instagram](#)



Great turnout with women and men standing together to say enough is enough!

To fight for our right to live. To be heard. For a better justice system.

@cyrilramaphosa I hope your speech turns into action! I'm holding my breath!

💎💎💎 #aminextprotest #uyinenemrwetyana #aminext

A post shared by [Ivana Raguz \(@ivanalilly\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 3:50am PDT





[View this post on Instagram](#)



💎💎💎💎#uyinenemrwetyana #jozikids #protectourwomen
#stopviolenceagainstwomen #enoughisenough

A post shared by [jozikids](#) (@jozikids) on Sep 2, 2019 at 10:44am PDT



[View this post on Instagram](#)



#femicide #feminist #prayforsouthafrica #aminext

A post shared by [aesthetic stuff](#) (@the.photo.grapher_) on Sep 6, 2019 at 5:02am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



#aminext #nene #southafrica #solidarity

A post shared by [Supper Club Johannesburg \(@supperclub_jhb\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:25am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



As'phelelanga. #RIPUyinene #AmINext #EnoughIsEnough

A post shared by [Asanda \(@asandasizani\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:21am PDT

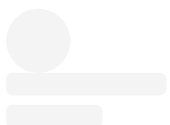


[View this post on Instagram](#)



#AmINext #SilencelsNotAWoman #uyinenemrwetyana - @eden_myrrh

A post shared by [Silence Is Not A Woman \(@silenceisnotawoman_za\)](#) on Sep 6, 2019 at 4:56am PDT





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As a South African, as a woman, as a wife, as a daughter, friend and business owner, as a human, I'm saying this: STOP! Stop this hatred and violence where ever you encounter it. In society, these issues start with comments, stares, jokes- and they escalate into horrific acts of violence. We are all responsible for keeping our own spheres of influence safe for women to just BE! #aminext #stoptheviolence #enoughisenough

A post shared by [Jackal Media](#) (@jackal_media) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:19am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



So proud of Wynberg Campus of Schools. #EnoughIsEnough #AmINext #STOP

A post shared by [Melanie \(@mel_ww_10\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 3:25am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



#enoughisenough #uyinenemrwetyana #womandontoweyoushit

A post shared by [#SASHUTDOWN#PRAYFORSOUTHAFRICA \(@makeadifferenceza\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 4:14am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



•💎💎💎💎💎• . . . #uyinenemrwetyana #aminext #sashutdown
#aminextprotest #justiceforuyinene #justiceforwomen #enoughisenough

A post shared by [TASHYSTU \(@thelifeoftashy_stu\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 3:34am PDT



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#enoughisenough#aminext#stop#isaidno#Iwon'tbesilent#nothertoyounotme#my
clothesdontdeterminemyconsent#youwillnotbenext#iwillnotbenext#womenunite#i
mwithher#strongertogether#imenough#imworthy#shesomeones#stopkillingoursi
sters#womendontoweyou#mybodymyrules#nomeansnotconvinceme#together
westand#womenunite#womenempowerment#💎💎

A post shared by [I'm Enough Women Empowering \(@_im_enough_7xx\)](#) on Sep 5, 2019 at 6:37pm PDT





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Shit You Should Care About... Femicide in South Africa. [redacted] South Africa is currently facing a crisis of femicide: killing women just because they are women. This crisis is now at peak level due to the murder of 19 year old student Uyinene Mewetyana & a high level boxer. [redacted] In South Africa, one woman is killed every 3 hours & it's time for international media to start reporting on it. [redacted] Share this far & wide, so women in South Africa can stop wondering #aminext?

A post shared by [Shit You Should Care About](#) (@shityoushouldcareabout) on Sep 5, 2019 at 3:58am PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



"I'm standing here surrounded by the opposite sex, half naked. I feel safe. I want the same for women" 💎💎 He gets it. #AmlNext #IsItMeAgain

A post shared by Suga (@sugeezy_) on Sep 5, 2019 at 1:14pm PDT

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[View this post on Instagram](#)



"Aren't you scared going into the township?" "No. I'm scared all the time..." One day away from Steri Drive but @sidewalkspecials & @_el_burro downed tools this am to join the protest against gender based violence! It's in our hands to make the change and it's EVERYBODY'S responsibility! 💎💎💎💎💎💎

#sidewalkspecials #aminext #elburro #enoughisenough #makeastand
#sashutdown #nomore #solidarity #saveourwomen #saveourchildren #fightback
#uyinenemrwetyana #justiceforuyinene #makeachange

A post shared by Sidewalk Specials (@sidewalkspecials) on Sep 5, 2019 at 3:58am PDT

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ABOUT LEIGH ANDREWS

Leigh Andrews AKA the #MilkshakeQueen, is former Editor-in-Chief: Marketing & Media at Bizcommunity.com, with a passion for issues of diversity, inclusion and equality, and of course, gourmet food and drinks! She can be reached on Twitter at @Leigh_Andrews.
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