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**PRESS RELEASE:**

**PLEDGING TO ERADICATE HATE CRIMES AGAINST LESBIANS**  
**Mural reveal at the sentencing of lesbian Zoliswa's murderers**

More than five years ago, Zoliswa Nkonyana was murdered – she was stoned and stabbed to death because she was a lesbian. Finally, after a highly delayed and frustrating court battle, the four men convicted of her brutal murder are being sentenced at the Khayelitsha Magistrate's Court on Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.

As part of the “enhancing state responsiveness to Gender Based Violence” project (a project that aims to foster a culture of accountability, political leadership and women’s access and voice on the need to address gender based violence) **Heinrich Boell Foundation (HBF)** and the **Tshwaranang Legal Advocacy Centre (TLAC)** in partnership with **Free Gender** are to reveal a **mural** that is to **advocate for the eradication of hate crimes against lesbians**. Everyone will be welcomed to pledge their commitment to this cause following the end of the court case. Participants will include friends and family of Zoliswa, non-profit organizations, local ward councilors and other government officials and stakeholders.

Please join us for this important occasion on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.

**Time:** 10:00 – 14:00 (dependant on the time that the court case ends)

**Venue:** From Khayelitsha Magistrate's Court we're marching to the wall

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