REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 3rd December, 2024

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 10.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell ring for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for ten minutes)

Hon. Salim Edung: Mr. Speaker, we now have the quorum.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if indeed we have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: Now that we have quorum, I direct that the bell stops ringing and we immediately move forward to the business of the day.

NOTICE OF MOTION

PREVENTION OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Hon. Leila Hussein: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT NOTING THAT Article 29 (c) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 stipulates that "Every person has the right to freedom and security of the person, which includes the right not to be subjected to any form of violence from either public or private sources;

FURTHER NOTING THAT Gender Based Violence is a violation of human rights under The Constitution of Kenya;

RECOGNIZING THAT Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is a pervasive issue affecting individuals across Kenya, particularly women and girls, and that it poses a significant barrier to achieving gender equality and social justice;

ALARMED OF the increased number of the victims of the Gender Based Violence; Acknowledging that Kenya is a signatory to international and regional commitments to eliminate GBV, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights;

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MINDFUL THAT counties play a critical role in implementing measures to prevent and respond to GBV, and that effective intervention at the county level can save lives and uplift communities;

This House URGES the County Government to provide funds for sensitization on Gender based violence; set up Gender Violence Recovery Centres in Level 4 and 5 Hospitals to assist victims of gender-based violence recover from the traumatizing experiences; open a desk in police stations for reporting domestic violence and waive counselling fees for victims of Gender-based violence.

MOTION

PREVENTION OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Hon. Leila Hussein: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

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I propose Hon. Umija to second this motion.

Speaker: Hon. Umija, the floor is yours.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my fellow colleague for bringing this motion in this County Assembly. I was just looking at the statistics right now and do you know that Kenya has the highest rates of femicides in Africa. This means that majority of our women are being killed. When Hon. Leila is talking about GBV, it does not necessarily mean women against men. If you look at the statistics, women are victims more on GBV issues.

It is the high time the County Government takes up this issue. We have been having these issues several times. Last week we had a case on GBV which was reported in hospital. It

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was a very sad case. Now the life of that woman and the man has changed because of domestic issues that we do not know. Maybe we do not know the suppressed anger has gone by for a long time.

It is the high time we as African men and women accept counselling. If we cannot solve issues, let us go to counselling sessions. Those are good platforms where we can sit down with other people who can give a third eye and look at what is going on within our relationships. Sometimes we do not accept help. Let us have friends who we can go and vent out to. We should sit down with our close friends and sort out the issues that we have with the friends.

They might give advice or they may listen. Venting out those issues will not result to extreme measures that people are taking to ensure that their partners are either mutilated or they are killed. We are now creating more orphans because of jealousy, anger issues and childhood trauma that have not been managed for a long time. I want to thank Hon. Leila for bringing this issue.

It is the high time the County Government sets up these counselling centres within not only our facilities but also places where we can go and have people listen to our problems. Sometimes, we do not want to share these problems with our friends but we are very free to share with strangers. We can share our problems with strangers by having places where our young men and ladies can go there to share and vent out their issues.

They can set up these centres within the facilities for example in the hospital facilities and in churches. Those are places where people can meet. They can go and have those sessions. Having a Psychiatrist or a counsellor is expensive so the County Government can chip in to part with GBV Fund and pay the counsellors who are sitting out there to listen to people's issues.

It is the high time the County Government takes this seriously. When anger starts within our homes is a small war and if the small wars starts at home, then we are going to make the big wars. Most wars do not come from a political party but sometimes these wars come from homes. It starts there, it escalates and goes to other places where we would not want. We do not want killing of our young men and women.

I pray that this House may support this motion in regards to gender-based and ensure that we have these facilities that ensures people are getting counselling everywhere within our county. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second the motion.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members. I now open the floor and I would like to begin with Hon. Kanyutu.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the motion but only because the one who seconded has been able to put it in clarity that it is not only women and girls. The seconder has made it clear that it is either gender. Mr. Speaker it is only that most men do not report but we have cases where men are being beaten. Mr. Speaker, this issue is very tough on the ground but once a man is beaten, he hardly reports. As the mover of the motion has proposed, we should have a desk. Even if we go to a police station, nobody will recognize that I have gone to report that I was beaten yesterday so that I get counselling.

Mr. Speaker, we have incidences where men are being beaten in public. It is only that sometimes once provoked, they react in manner that causes public outcry. He might have been beaten in a way he feels his life is in danger. Whatever he gets access to like a panga, he works

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on the person and kill. Gender based violence should not be one sided but both. I support we have that desk. Let us have people who will counsel so that once beaten someone will make sure I am back to normal and I will be able to operate my home in a sober way. I wholly support for both genders.

Mr. Speaker, women claim what a man can do, they can do better. They are doing even better killing men. I have the experience. I support. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Hon. Kanyutu. I give the chance to Hon. Stephen.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika. Naunga mkono mswada ambao umeletwa na Mheshimiwa Leila. Huu ni mswada ambao umekuja kwa wakati ambao unafaa na tunafaa kuuzungumzia kwa kindani. Mwenye mswada ameelezea chenye kinastahili kufanywa.

Kwanza amesema katika hospitali zetu tuwe na *Recovery Centre* za kushughulikia hizi kesi. Juzi tumesikia wanawake wamepigwa na kuuawa. Sio mmoja wala wawili na hilo ni jambo ambalo hatuwezi chukulia kwa urahisi. Vilevile naungana na Mheshimiwa Kanyutu kusema ni akina mama wanapata hizi shida. Pia wanaume wameuawa na kupata shida.

Kulingana na tamaduni zetu za Kiafrika inakuwa ni ngumu mwanaumme kuongea mbele ya umati na kusema amecharazwa na mwanamke. Katika kabila yenye nimetoka, siwezi ambia babangu nyumbani kwamba nimepigwa na bibi. Hiyo ni laana. Hua inaonekana wewe sio mwanaume mkamilifu. Hayo ndiyo mambo ambayo inasukumia mwanaume kufanya kitendo ambacho dunia yote itaona kuna kitu imefanyika.

Vilevile upande mwingine wa akina mama, nawaomba tuheshimiane ndio haya mambo yapunguke. Kwa mambo ya kifamilia ndipo kuna shida. Mimi nilisikia kijana akisema alipata msichana na kukula mali yake kisha baadaye akapata mwingine ambaye alimfanyia vizuri kuliko yule wa kwanza. Huyu mwanaume alikuwa amejinyima sana. Akaona mwingine hapo mbele. Kama binadamu, nilisikia kijana aliamua kumfikisha mwisho baada ya kumtesa. Haya ni mambo tunafaa kuangalia kwa kinagaubaga.

Vilevile yale mengine yanauma ni wakati wazee, akina mama na wasichana mambo yanafanyika. Kukiwa na urafiki ya jinsia tofauti kuna yale mambo mnafaa kuangaliana. Akina mama wakati mwingine hawaangalii wazee vizuri. Kama wewe uko na deni, lipa. Wengine wanatembea tu unafikiria hana deni ya mtu. Ni kama saa hizi bwana Spika umekaa hapo vizuri mtu anaweza fikiria hauna deni. Na pengine uko nalo. Haya ni mambo tunafaa kuangalia sana.

Tusiwe tunalalamika wanaume wanaua wanawake. Pia wameuawa. Ni vizuri hii Bunge ijue hivyo. Wengine wako kwa makaburi. Wameuawa. Kama tutakuwa na kitengo cha kipekee pale polisi, pia wanaume wataweza kwenda wakiwa wamejificha na kuripoti zile kesi.

Mimi mwenyewe Bwana Spika, kwa bahati mbaya nichapwe na bibi yangu, kama mwanasiasa, kisha niende niseme nilichapwa, hata kula zitaisha. Afadhali nichapwe, ulie kisha unyamaze. Juzi tulisikia mwanasiasa mmoja; Wetangula alikuwa amechapwa na bibi yake. Naibu wa Raisi wakati huo ambaye ni Raisi wakati huu alimwambia hadharani yeye ni mtu wa kuchapwa na bibi. Atasema nini? Ilikuwa inamdunisha.

Nimeona ni mswada ambao unafaa. Tutenge pesa na tuwe na mahali ambapo tunaita wananchi. Tuko na wafanyikazi katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia. Tunafaa kuita watu wa kuwapa mawaidha katika hio mikutano. Kufahamisha watu vyenye wanafaa kuishi. Mipango ya kando ndio iko na shida. Watu wanauawa. Mtu anatoroka kwake kwa sababu kwake ni moto. Anaweka msichana, kukaa kaa pia kunawaka moto.

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Lazima haya mambo tuongee na tuzungumze kwa sababu ni kama mimba ambayo imetupa nguo. Tukijaribu kuficha bado inaonekana. Wasichana wadogo wanauawa juu ya kukula mali ya wanaume. Ukimaliza ya huyu unaendea ya mwingine, inaisha kisha mwingine kama Kanyutu unakula unamaliza. Kabla ujue unapitwa na wewe. Lazima tuangalie haya mambo ndio serikali ya Kaunti ione kama tunaweza saidia wananchi wetu, asante.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nashukuru Mheshimiwa Leila kwa kuleta huu mjadala. Sio tu hapa Laikipia lakini Kenya nzima kuna shida ya akina mama kuuawa na kuteswa. Ni changamoto iko kila kona kwa redio na magazeti.

Juzi Rais wetu alinena kuhusu mauaji ya akina mama na wasichana. Sisi akina mama tuko na shida. Angalia upande wa familia. Mama anaolewa, mama anaenda, ndugu ya bwana wanapiga yule mama na wasichana wake na kufukuzwa kwa boma. Shida ya akina mama ni mingi sana. Boma bila mama sio boma. Mama ndiye huleta mtoto wa kike katika boma. Nauliza serikali ya Kaunti, kuwe na kitengo maalum. Sisemi wazee hawapigwi. Unapata mzee anaingia akiwa amekunywa pombe na kuingilia mama ambaye amekuwa akitafuta unga. Kwa sababu yeye anajua hakukuja na unga, anaanza vita.

Niseme hivi, kenya tuko na shida hasa akina mama. Hakuna mtu anatuangalia. Niulize Serikali Kuu, wakati tulitengeneza Kaunti 47 na kusema tuchague akina mama wa kutusimamamia katika Bunge kuu, tungekuwa na kikao cha wale akina mama 47 ambao wamechaguliwa wawe wanatuita tunaongea kidogo na kujua mwelekeo na maslahi yetu.

Pia vijana wanateswa. Wanaume pia wanachapwa kwa sababu wanatoka asubuhi na kwenda mtaa kisha jioni anataka kukula na nguo safi. Ile kidogo mama anakuja nayo mzee anataka. Lazima atandikwe. Kama kazi yako na kukuja na shilingi 50 mama 20, mnunulie watoto vitabu na kalamu, wewe ni kukuja na kuitisha nyama; huna shilingi umekuja nayo. Akina mama tuko na shida. Nauliza akina mama wote wa Kenya tijikaze kike na tupambane na hili janga la wamama kuuawa kiholela na wasichana wetu.

Siku moja tutakapokutana na Rais wetu, ambaye anawasikiliza akina mama sana, tutamweleza na tutapewa nafasi ya kujieleza hadi hapa mashinani katika Kaunti zote arobaini na saba. Sisi hatuna mtu anayetusaidia. Hata tukilia hapa na kumpa Spika maneno, huenda kuna mahali yeye hatafika. Bali tukimlilia Rais, yeye husikia sana kilio cha akina mama.

Nataka kumshukuru Mheshimiwa Leila. Mungu akubariki kwa kufikiria hili. Nanyi wanaume katika Kenya nzima, tunawaombea. Tunajua hata kama sisi ni viongozi, sisi ni shingo na nyinyi ni kichwa. Wanaume mlio hapa na hata Kenya nzima, wapeeni akina mama nafasi, na mtoto wa kiume pia apewe nafasi. Mungu awabariki. Asanteni.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Irene Wachuka. I now want to give the floor to Hon. Anthony Theuri.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Asante sana, Bwana Spika kwa kunipa hii nafasi. Nimeona mfano mzuri wa kwa nini boma zinaharibika na watu kuuana, na ni aibu sana. Kama tunaweza kuelewa jinsi ambavyo mwanaume ameumbwa, maisha yangekuwa raisi. Biblia inasema, na sihubiri, mwanaume ameumbwa kwa mfano wa Mungu. Uzuri wa wanaume ni kwamba wanapenda sifa na kuambiwa maneno mazuri yenye kufurahisha moyo.

Sasa hivi nilivyoingia hapa, Mheshimiwa Leila aliniambia mimi ndiye nitaafiki huu mswada, na nikahisi kuheshimika. Punde si punde, akaruka upande ule mwingine. Sasa kama tungekuwa tumeoana na Leila, aweke roho yangu juu hivyo kisha tena airudishe chini, si unaona hayo ni madharau? Licha ya hayo, naunga huu mswada mkono. Nasikitika, hata hivyo,

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kwa sababu huwezi kumwoa mtu kama humpendi. Mapenzi ni kuvumiliana, kuheshimiana na kuelewana.

Mheshimiwa Spika, ni ukweli kile ambacho Mheshimiwa Kagondu amesema. Tupunguze matarajio. Mimi nikikudanganya, kwa sababu wanaume wanajulikana kwamba wana uongo mwingi; anamwambia mtu atampa ndege ilhali hana hata viatu jozi mbili. Au anamwambia atampeleka Mombasa ilhali mwenyewe hajawahi kufika hata Naromoru. Mwingine hata anaahidi kumpa dunia, sijui wengine wetu tutaishi wapi.

Licha ya mambo haya kuwa magumu, yanahusisha pande zote. Nashangaa tunapomwingiza Rais katika mambo haya. Rais hawezi kuingilia kwangu nyumbani; hayo ni mambo yangu binafsi. Hawezi kuingilia boma zetu. Sisi ndio tunastahili kuungana na kuanza kutengeneza mambo kuanzia hapa nyumbani. Nasi kama Jimbo la Laikipia tuko mbele sana katika mambo hayo, shida ni watu wenye kiburi na wanaojifanya.

Ukienda hapa kwenye kituo cha polisi, Jeshi la Uingereza limetutengenezea jumba zuri sana kwa ajili ya kushughulikia dhuluma za kijinsia. Ukienda na kesi yoyote, iwe ulawiti, kupigwa au chochote kile, huendi kwenye meza ya kawaida ya kutoa ripoti kwa polisi. Pale kuna wasichana ambao wamesomea hiyo kazi na kuangalia yale maneno. Hata hivyo, hilo halisaidii. Haya ni mambo yanayohitaji sisi wenyewe kuheshimiana.

Bwana Spika, mimi namheshimu mamangu, na Mungu ailaze roho yake pahali pema peponi. Walipoanza kusumbuana na babangu ambaye simjui, ili wakati mwingine nashuku ni wewe, waliachana tu. Alinichukua nikiwa mdogo akanileta hapa na kunilea na maisha yakaendelea. Sasa hebu tafakari kama mamangu angekufa nami pia nife. Kwa sababu ya hio heshima, mimi nina rekodi nzuri sana. Mimi siwezi kujibizana na mke wangu wala kumpiga.

Nikimaliza, Biblia inatuambia sisi wanaume tuwapende wake zetu jinsi Kristo alivyolipenda kanisa. Nanyi wanawake nyenyekeeni kama mama yenu Sara alivyomnyenyekea Ibrahimu hata akamwita ‘mungu wangu’. Iwapo nampenda Leila ama umija jinsi Kristo alivyolipenda kanisa hata akalifia msalabani, mbona Leila asiniite ‘bwana wangu’? Vita vitatokea wapi? Tuheshimiane, tuwapende watoto wetu na tupende taifa letu kwa sababu haya maneno hayasaidii.

Mheshimiwa Spika, tukiwa hapa sasa hivi, watu wengi wamelala kwenye vyumba vya kuhifadhia maiti kwa sababu ya tamaa nyingi, kwa sababu ya kunyang’anya wengine. Nyanyangu alikuwa ananiambia kuwa hakuna kitu kinachoisha. Kwamba hakuna kigeni duniani humu. Kila kitu kitapita na yapasa watu kugawana.

Nilienda mazishi mahali fulani na tukaambiwa iwapo tunataka nyumba zetu zikae vizuri, wanaume wafanyiwe kama stima. Stima hutumika vizuri ikiwemo, inapika na kutoa mwangaza bali pia lazima uwe makini isikupige mshtuko wa umeme. Ikipotea na kurudi, vilevile, usiulize kwenye imetoka. Tukifuata hayo mawaidha ambayo nimeyatoa hapa tutaishi vizuri na mambo yote yatakuwa mazuri. Naunga mswada mkono, asante.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Theuri. Indeed, a good contribution. Reading the mood of the House, allow me to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Leila Hussein: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank everybody for participating in this motion. It is a serious motion but sometimes some of these Members know how to put a bit of jolliness in it. What I would like everyone to know is that every year there is a theme for sixteen days of activism, and the theme this year is about gender-based violence. I need to correct something that perhaps was not very clear in my motion.

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When I say gender-based violence, gender can be either male or female, Hon. Kanyutu. So, I meant both men and women, not just women. That is what needs to be noted. However, the theme for these sixteen days of activism is for women and children to be protected from violence. I hope I have made that clear. When I say gender-based violence, I mean both male and female.

As my seconder, Hon. Umija had mentioned, sometimes some of these anger issues and violent tendencies stem from childhood trauma, lack of counselling and lack of communication. What I would like to have sensitized is that I believe we should start having counselling in schools for children so that… excuse me…

Speaker: Order, Hon. Stephen! Continue, Hon. Leila.

Hon. Leila Hussein: I would like to see a change in schools right now such that we teach children from an early age how to communicate. Whether the emotions that they feel stem from home or bullying at school, we never know how life goes. When it comes to the desk at the police station; true, there is an entire block that was built by BATUK, but what I would like to emphasize is the sensitization of those police officers.

We had a case roughly a week ago where a young lady was attacked by a certain gentleman, and it took them three hours just to write a statement because they were being mocked by the policemen that were there at that station. They were asking them why they could not go and solve these things wherever it is that they go and solve these things. If possible, i would like the County to sensitize the specific police officers who sit in the gender-based violence counselling block so that they do not be rude to the victims that come to them so that people can easily approach them. Even the men who are beaten by their wives at home can then be able to approach them without being made fun of at such a dire time.

Hon. Kagondu had talked about counselling during public participation. It actually makes sense because everybody needs to learn and figure out how to communicate whatever is troubling them. If not to a friend, they can feel safe to go to a counsellor, walk into any hospital and see a counsellor and talk about it, or even just let it out to their children or colleagues. It is of dire importance. I want to thank everybody who participated in this motion, I really appreciate it.

We have to be sensitive about such issues. We have to stop such kind of violence which is still taking part right now and of late has been happening a lot all over our country. I hope, as I have stated in the motion, that the County sets aside funds to open counselling centres in schools and hospitals. In the case of a police desk, they should place a counsellor there or take a police officer through the training to become a counsellor so that they can better understand these victims. Thank you very much.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until later today, Tuesday, 3rd December 2024 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.51 a.m.

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