



Press Kit

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ABOUT US

Founded in 2006, the Research and Advocacy Unit (RAU) is a Zimbabwean based think tank dedicated to undertaking sound independent policy research to inform, influence and enhance policy making processes while also strengthening active citizenship. With a team of experienced researchers, advocacy experts and communication strategists, RAU conducts research in areas such as human rights, democracy and governance particularly issues pertaining to women, children and state institutions.

VISION

To be a key organisation fostering a democratic culture through citizen empowerment

MISSION

To conduct research on human rights and governance issues, particularly those pertaining to women, youths, children and State institutions, with a view to bringing about policy changes which promote a democratic culture within Zimbabwe

PROGRAMMES

ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

The programme explores women and youths views on governance through participatory methodologies, developing on RAU (and others') contributions to a gendered assessment of democracy in Zimbabwe. Women and youths are actively engaged on governance issues to increase both their voice and participation.

INFLUENCING POLICY

The programme uses evidence based research to influence policy creation and reform at both local and central government levels, including portfolio committees in Parliament.

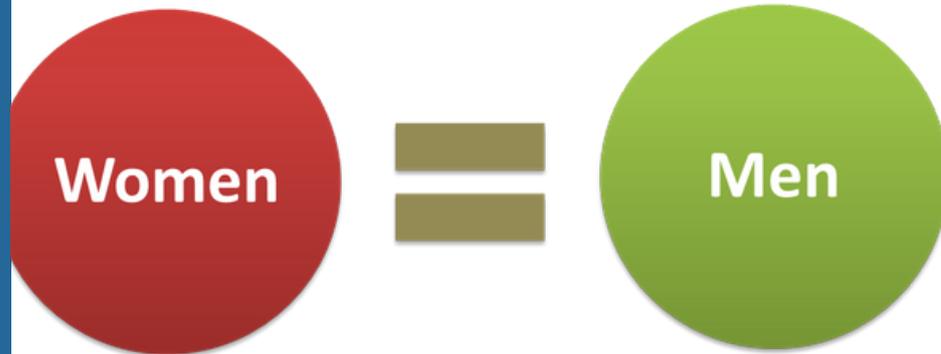
RAU ADVOCACY APPROACHES

RAU adopts key strategies including use of multimedia, development of policy briefs and positions, undertaking campaigns on specific causes, and initiating critical conversations among stakeholders to get important messages across the different audiences. RAU also produces documentary videos as part of its advocacy.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

The RAU website is a digital library and searchable archive of over a hundred reports and opinion pieces on a wide variety of topics on the thematic areas of human rights, democracy and governance among others.

Some of
RAU's
research
areas



Our Popular Reports

- RAU reports have seen an exponential growth in the number of downloads over the years. Some of our most popular reports include:
- How to get equality for women and improve the nation
<http://researchandadvocacyunit.org/blog/2017/07/07/how-get-equality-women-and-improve-nation>
- Till death do us part
<http://researchandadvocacyunit.org/publication/gender-zimbabwe-23>
- Gender Equality and Equity Analysis of Zimbabwe's Constitution and Commission Legislation
<http://researchandadvocacyunit.org/publication/gender-3>
- Zimbabwe since the elections in July 2013: The View from 2017
<http://researchandadvocacyunit.org/publication/governance-programme>
- Conflict or Collapse? Zimbabwe in 2016
<http://researchandadvocacyunit.org/publication/activism-59>
- MARRIED TOO SOON: CHILD MARRIAGE IN ZIMBABWE
<http://researchandadvocacyunit.org/publication/gender-zimbabwe-7>

RAU'S RESEARCH TEAM



SHASTRY NJERU, DIRECTOR

Shastri has worked in Zimbabwe in various capacities: team leader in an NGO, researcher, university lecturer and an administrator; over a period of more than 25 years. He has experience in human rights, dealing with the past, governance, political processes, research, programmes management and evaluation work. The experience has made him a campaigner for accountability and post conflict transformation and publisher in the areas. Shastri has interest in post conflict recovery, gender and transitional justice research where he has published a number of peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters.



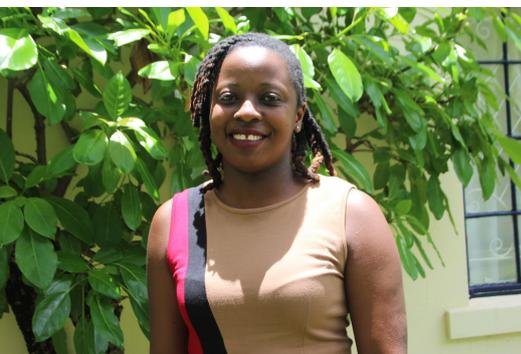
TONY REELER, SENIOR RESEARCHER

Tony Reeler is a former academic at the Universities of Malawi and Zimbabwe, Tony was founding director of the Amani Trust [1993]. He worked for Idasa until the establishment of RAU in 2006. He has published widely in the fields of mental health, trauma, human rights, and governance. Currently works on issues of governance and elections, providing research reports, analyses, and opinion pieces.



LLOYD PSWARAYI, SENIOR RESEARCHER

Lloyd Pswarayi is a Researcher at Research and Advocacy Unit with a Political Science background. He has expertise in programming in the areas of human rights, governance, political processes and research. He is currently working on programming that is aimed at addressing women and youth exclusion at policy level. Lloyd has special interest in Peace and Security studies..



TINOTENDA CHISHIRI, JUNIOR RESEARCHER

Tinotenda has four years of experience working with women on issues that include political and civic participation, economic and social empowerment. She holds an honour's degree in Political Science from the University of Zimbabwe and is currently studying towards a master's degree in Human Rights, Peace and Development at Africa University.

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