

DRESS CODE

Modernised Safari

Virtuous Women of SWGC are ready for change!

On the **18TH AUGUST 2023** . The college held its second Women's Day event. The event aimed to essentially ask us to imagine "a world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination," creating a gender-balanced college in which men and women have equal opportunities and are fairly treated. The day was about unity, celebration, reflection, advocacy, and action.



SWGC women participated in the conversation around gender parity and empowering its female employees to promote equality. The event was attended by 500 personnel, all of whom being women, under the theme: "Virtuous Women of SWGC are declaring an end to Patriarchy and vowing to Be Bold for Change" with three Hashtags (#): #VirtuousWoman #DownWithPartriachy #BeBoldForChange



Patriarchy remains deeply entrenched. According to the most recent South African Revenue Service figures, women face job discrimination. According to these figures, women earn 28% less than males. In every society, patriarchy plays a significant influence in the proliferation of domestic violence. Violence against women stems from women's lack of authority in society compared to males. It also goes beyond the dichotomy of race and class.

Rape and domestic violence continue to be prevalent. Every four minutes, a woman in South Africa is raped or abused, according to the Saartjie Bartman Centre for Women and Children, despite South Africa's aggressive attempts to combat this epidemic, which affects all socioeconomic groups regardless of education, social rank, or economic affluence.



Violence against women erodes women's physical and mental well-being, interferes with their productive engagement in society, destroys families, and unravels the fabric of communities. "As the college management, we have taken a conscious decision to empower female employees by ensuring that they are capacitated through leadership skills training programmes, given leading roles in various committees of the college, our recruitment process priorities women and people with disability, equal and respect treatment at all college levels and participation of female employees at all management and governance structures of the college," a speech written by Mr. Joey Monyamane, which was read by Ms. Mashale, the Acting Deputy Principal – Academic Services in his absentia.



Keynote speaker Nompumelelo Mkhathshwa, Member of the National Assembly of South Africa and Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Higher Education, Science, and Innovation, reflected on whether we are virtuous in the tasks bestowed upon us! She made it clear that whilst such events are imperative to boost staff morale, we cannot shy away from addressing patriarchal issues women face within the college.

Several guest speakers ranging from motivational speaker Thabang Mashigo, Chief Financial Officer Dineo Maithufi, Dietician Colette Zeeman, Professional Nurse Angela Motsusi, Company Executive Dr. Cathy Ru-Mwila, and Education and Training Specialist Dr. Ntombekhaya Mxenge shared the stage to shared their experience of their journeys of life whilst motivating women of SWGC on how to build a strong woman. ■

