



## **2025 Campaigner Fellowship**

### ***Guide to Petition Pitch Exercise***

## **amandla.mobi's approach to people-power**

amandla.mobi runs campaigns to build a more just and people-powered Mzansi. Campaigns use different tools to build public pressure on a decision-maker to implement demands that improve people's lives.

We don't do 'awareness campaigns' which try to make people more aware of an issue and we also don't run campaigns to convince people to change their behaviour. There is a role for these types of campaigns, but the way amandla.mobi approaches campaigns is to amplify the collective power of Black women and gender non-conforming people, from low-income backgrounds and challenge those in power to make decisions which will make a real difference in people's lives.

We run campaigns that use different tools to build public pressure. Protests, public submissions and petitions are examples of public pressure tools. This guide will help you pitch a petition using our approach.

In the online application, Section 5 involves you pitching a possible petition that might be approved on our awethu.mobi platform. This exercise is designed to test your ability to identify opportunities, decision-makers and demands and write in a conversational style.

Below we break down the steps we go through when designing and pitching a petition. Carefully go through the below document to assist you with completing the online application form.

***Before you even write your petition title, decision-maker, demands and explain why your issue is important, you must follow steps 1 to 5 to brainstorm, research and design your petition.***

Let's go into more detail for each of these petition design steps. We will provide tips and questions to ask yourself to help think through each step, as well as examples.

### **Step 1: Identifying a specific issue for your petition**

You might be passionate about tackling GBV or poverty, but these are big issues. A good campaigner can break down the big issue into smaller more specific issues that they can do something about. Instead of running a petition to end GBV, you might look at what contributes to GBV, such as comments that reinforce rape culture.

***Tip: Brainstorm at least five different ideas you have for specific issues by looking at news articles and/or thinking about issues in your community.***

Below is a good example of a petition that had a very specific issue. The petition demanded action against a radio presenter who suggested that men can't be blamed for acting like dogs if women are wearing revealing clothing. The petition did not end rape culture, but it moved us a small step closer to challenging rape culture.

## **To: The South African Broadcasting Corporation** **Dismiss Tshathugodo for Rape Culture Comments**

This campaign has ended.



We, the concerned people whose signatures are appended below, hereby call upon the South African Broadcasting Corporation (the SABC), to immediately dismiss Ukhozi FM radio presenter Khathide Ngobe, otherwise known as Tshathugodo or 'Tshatha'.

**1,677** of 2,000 signatures

### **Sign the petition**

First Name \*

Last Name \*

Email \*

Province

Phone Number

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email

**SIGN**

When selecting a petition issue, it must be values aligned (fits with amandla.mobi's values) and intersectional. Reintroducing the death penalty is not a values-aligned issue to petition on. Petitioning on the issue of racism whilst making misogynistic comments is not intersectional.

It is also important to note that amandla.mobi is not connected to any political party. We are independent and non-partisan. This means we don't approve petitions that promote a particular political party or politician.

## **Step 2: Could you win your petition in less than a month?**

This petition pitching exercise requires you to pitch a short-term petition. This can be a difficult task because many petitions can take months or even years to win. Here are some examples of petitions that are not short-term:

- Demanding a new police station is built in a community - This is a long-term petition because budget has to be allocated by national government, plans have to be drawn up, etc.
- Demand an increase for the Old-Age Grant - This is an important issue, but for a social grant increase to be agreed to, it has to be considered by National Treasury, and announced in late February during the budget speech, before it is implemented from 1 April of that year.

The above petition issues are important, but for this exercise, you must pitch a short-term petition where the decision-maker can do something immediately to address the issue and there is not a long complicated process that has to be followed. Examples of petitions that are short-term include:

- Calling on a big supermarket to withdraw their sponsorship of an event that gives a platform to racism/ sexism.
- Demanding a Mayor publicly commit to taking disciplinary action against a senior municipality manager if there are reliable reports that the person has done something wrong.

***Tip: Look at the list of specific ideas you brainstormed. Ask yourself, if you launched a petition on this specific issue, could you win this petition in less than a month? For a petition to 'win' it means the decision-maker felt enough public pressure that they decided to implement your demands and this resulted in real impact.***

Petitions that require government funding, changes to policies or legislation are almost always long-term. Short-term petitions are often focused on a decision-maker doing something immediate.

## **Step 3: Find the right decision-maker**

Your petition must have a clear decision maker, someone who has the power and mandate to address the issue by implementing your petition demand. For example, this means you should not select 'all men' as the decision-makers in a campaign on gender-based violence. It's impossible to deliver your petition demands to 'all men'. Rather, one way to address the issue is to petition for the Minister of Police to commit to ensuring all police officers have been trained on GBV processes by the end of the year.

Your decision-maker should also not be too broad, i.e., 'government' or 'all companies'. For example, if workers on a wine farm are striking and calling for a boycott until they are paid better, the decision-maker would be the CEO of the winery.

**Tip: Research who your decision-maker is. Depending on the issue, the decision-maker could be in local, provincial or national government, but there are also different departments in government, like the Department of Water and Sanitation. It is not just those in government we must hold to account, but also businesses, public institutions, political bodies like Parliament etc.**

Some petition issues require you to be creative about the decision-maker. Let's take an apartheid denialist like Steve Hofmeyr. You wouldn't petition Steve Hofmeyr directly because he won't change his views. What gives him power however is the microphone he uses at concerts and festivals to spout white supremacy. Steve Hofmeyr only has that power because companies like Pick n Pay sponsor these events. These companies spend millions to make themselves look good. By targeting Pick n Pay to drop their sponsorship, you can begin to chip away at those who push white supremacy.

#### **Step 4: Identify realistic petition demands**

Your petition demands are a set of specific actions you want the decision-maker to agree to and implement, that will help address your petition issue.

Examples of petitions that do not have a realistic demand would be:

- A petition demanding the Justice Minister sentence someone to life in prison (*Ministers do not and should not have the power to sentence people, it has to go to court*)
- A petition demanding mining companies pay more taxes (*What type of tax? How much more tax? You must be specific*)
- A petition telling the President to end corruption (*Corruption cannot be ended overnight, and it won't be ended by one person*)

Here is an example of a campaign with specific and realistic demands:

- *We demand YOU Magazine cancel its forum event with Nestle. YOU Magazine should put their readers' health first and not give Nestle a platform for their ultra-processed, high-sugar products. You can read more about the petition here:*  
<https://awethu.amandla.mobi/petitions/you-magazine-must-cancel-their-nestle-event-put-child-nutrition-first>

**Tip: Do your research. Depending on your petition issue, you might need to research the issue, research progressive ways your issue can be addressed and research what actions a decision-maker can take. Many demands cannot be implemented within a month, so you must identify demands that could be implemented in the short-term. For example, if you want to stop a political party from being xenophobic, your first step towards that goal might be you demand they retract a statement.**

Often it is important that realistic demands of a decision-maker include a deadline by when you wish the demands to be implemented.

Petition demands must also be values aligned. You can't address an issue such as substance abuse among young people by running a petition to demand that the Mayor of Johannesburg ban Nigerians from living in an area. This is xenophobic.

### **Step 5: Explain why people should sign your petition now.**

Even if someone is concerned about your petition issue, why should they sign your petition now? A good petition clearly explains why urgent action is needed.

For example, the organisation Ndifuna Ukwazi is working to provide people with decent housing. They found out that the City of Cape Town owned land that was being leased to a golf club, but the lease was coming to an end and had to be renewed. They used this opportunity to mobilise people to send objections and to call the the lease not to be renewed, and instead use the land to build affordable housing. Read more about the campaign here:

<https://awethu.amandla.mobi/petitions/cheap-rent-for-the-rich-object-to-the-rondebosch-golf-course-lease>  
[-3](#)

### **Step 6: How will signing your petition get the attention of the decision-maker?**

Successful petitions are able to communicate to anyone reading the petition page, a clear a powerful argument about why their signature could have an impact. Think about who your decision-maker is, and what gives them 'power'. Often CEOs have power because people buy their products, politicians have power because people vote them in, and public servants have power because they have a public mandate. Petitions can be a tool that builds the collective power of people which can force decision-makers to consider demands. For example, if enough people boycott products, that CEO's power is threatened by the loss of profits and they may have to listen.

Here is an example of a petition that makes a convincing argument about why signing could get the attention of the decision-maker. We have made notes in red explaining how the different parts work together.

*If enough of us come together (This is an important sentence because it communicates the importance of coming together in numbers), we can ensure that the minister has no full powers to influence the news and content that the SABC covers, similar to the Hlaudi era. We must spotlight why the SABC Bill is being rushed through Parliament right now (This sentence highlights that something shady is happening, but together we can shine a light on what is happening which may make the decision-makers think twice). Together, we can help protect news independence from political interference by the Communications Minister.*

*If the President and other politicians respect our democracy, constitution, and independence of the public broadcaster, why support this Bill? (Politicians are supposed to respect independent media as a part of democracy, and they don't like being called hypocrits. This sentence exposes the hypocrisy of politicians.) We are currently in the lead-up to elections, and media outlets will be sharing important election updates from various political parties with us.*

*With all these 2024 election activities set to happen, the new SABC Bill that is currently before the PPCC is being rushed to be passed into law, raising concerns. Why the rush? If the Bill is passed in its current state,*

the Minister will have powers to influence the news and content the SABC covers, similar to the Hlaudi era. *(This line here paints a picture of what could happen, and compares the issue to similar problems in the past. It can help remind the reader that we have overcome similar problems to this in the past, so there is hope we can do so again.)*

Read more about the petition here: <https://awethu.amandla.mobi/petitions/withdraw-the-flawed-sabc-bill>

## Step 7: Writing the text for your petition

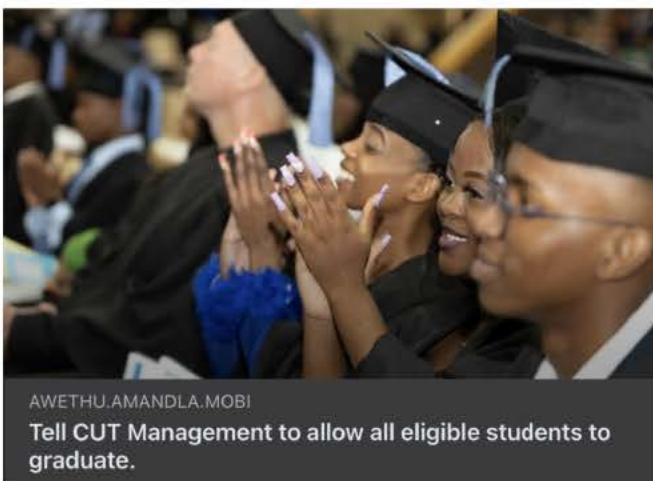
This next step is what you will have to upload as part of section 5 of the online application. You have brainstormed, designed, researched and thought through your petition, now you need to write out your petition text which has four parts:

1. Petition title
2. Decision-maker
3. Demands
4. Why is this issue important

*Tip: It's impossible to write the perfect text the first time, so do multiple drafts. Remember we will be looking to make sure you can write in a way that communicates clearly.*

### 1) Petition Title (Max 10 words, the shorter the better)

Your petition title is the first thing people see. Make sure it's short, specific and to the point. Below are some examples of good and bad petition titles. The bad petition titles on the right are not real petitions.





**Stop Standard Bank funding air pollution and making us sick**



**Add your name to the campaign**

AMANDLA.MOBI

**Stop Standard Bank funding air pollution and making us sick**

To: People of South Africa

**Lets hold hands and donate an apple to a hungry child**

Campaign created by  
Becky



Donate an apple to a hungry child

**Why is this important?**

People are suffering and we must help the voiceless



AWETHU.AMANDLA.MOBI

**Take Skhumba Hlope off air until he apologises**

Amidst the violence at Wits University, Sarah Mokwebo, Hlengiwe Patri




**Ensure greater integration of vertical and horizontal health systems, tell the DDG to amend sub-regulation (2)(a)**

## 2) Name of decision maker, their title and organisation (Try keep this below 12 words)

Once you have done your research and identified the right decision maker, put their name and the government department/ business / institution they work for.

## 3) Petition demands (What you want the decision-maker to do?) Try keep this section between 200 to 300 words.

Briefly outline your petition demands. You do not want to write a small essay explaining the problem (leave that for the *Why is this important?* section). You want one or two sentences mentioning the issue to the decision-maker. The rest should be clear demands in bullet points. Keep this section between 200 to 300 words. See the examples below.

	
<p>To: The DTI, The Dept of Small Business Development, Centurion Lake Hotel, Kim Du Preez who is the seminar coordinator, The Law Society of South Africa</p> <p><b>Stop the "Fronting Seminar"</b></p> <p><small>AM Campaign created by Amanda.mobi Member</small></p> <p>a) The DTI and Small Business Development must stop this seminar from happening. b) Seminar sponsors Innoven Consulting and Axidex must be investigated. c) Centurion Lake Hotel should not host this seminar. d) Kim Du Preez must cancel this seminar.</p> <p><b>Why is this important?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Fronting is criminal conduct.</li><li>2. A general lack of transformation in South Africa's private sector is one of the stumbling blocks in SA.</li><li>3. This seminar seeks to defeat the intended outcomes of transformation laws.</li><li>4. This seminar seeks to teach white people how to get away with fronting.</li></ol>	<p><b>The Green Shift: Ask companies to stop using palm oil</b></p> <p><small>Campaign created by</small></p>  <p>Companies are spending huge amounts of money to create palm oil plantations. We need them to get all their money out deforestation and into alternatives that don't destruct our environment.</p> <p>This would have a huge financial impact and set a gold standard that other companies would then aspire to.</p> <p>Join the global campaign</p> <p>The Green Shifts Global's vision is for all people to have access to food that doesn't cause deforestation. We want a world without supply chains that destroy our planet.</p> <p>Huge amounts of forest is being bulldozed to plant palm trees, this is destroying the natural habitat of animals like orangutans. We need your help.</p> <p>Some companies agree that destroying forests is bad. Their mission is to be an ethical company. However, it still supports a lot of projects that destroy our environment.</p> <p>Companies must put their money where their mouth is.</p> <p>We are calling for much greater transparency about the impact on forests.</p>

**4) Why is this issue important?** *(Try to keep this section between 3 to 4 paragraphs maximum, no more than 800 words)*

This is where you explain why you care about the issue, why other people should care too, an analysis of why it matters right now, and an explanation of how this petition will get people to take back their power that has been undermined by various dominant groups in our society. Ensure you include at least three fact-based references from newspapers and other legitimate sources. Africa Check provides useful information on how to fact-check: <https://africacheck.org/how-to-fact-check/>.

In this section, it's important to make the case for why other people should join your petition. Describe the problem, why it matters and what you want people to do. If you have a personal story of how you or someone you knows has been impacted, include this here as well as links to reliable news articles, reports etc.

***Tip: Make sure your writing is short, sharp and simple. Imagine you are explaining the petition to a friend or family member. Avoid technical, academic or vague language.***

***Don't spend too much time explaining the issue. People tend to over-explain why people should care about a particular problem. People join petitions because they want to address an injustice, but also because they can see there is an opportunity to really make a difference.***

## More examples of good petitions:

### - Good Petition Example 1:

#### 1) **Petition Title:** *(Max 10 words, the shorter the better)*

To Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molelwa : Revoke Enviroserve Shongweni Landfill Licence

#### 2) **Name of the decision-maker and/or their organisation:** *(Try to keep this below 12 words)*

Minister of Environmental Affairs, Edna Molelwa

#### 3) **What you want the decision-maker to do (campaign demands)** *Try keep this section between 200 to 300 words.*

We demand that the Department of Environmental Affairs puts a stop to the environmental injustices and health issues created by Enviroserve's toxic stench, the role of protecting affected communities should not lie with the courts alone. Government must demand that Enviroserve rehabilitate the landfill site and hold them financially accountable for any health, social and environmental threats they have posed in Ntshongweni, Dassenhoek, KwaNdengezi, Buxfarm and Cliffdale, and Shongweni.

We demand the Department of Environmental Affairs and Department of Health come together to create a social, health and environmental audit on the destruction caused by improper waste management.

DEA and DoH must immediately come up with a national strategy that deals with toxic waste without causing harm to health or the environment. We demand this strategy to have maximum public participation involvement and not isolate black communities living with the impacts of improper hazardous waste disposal.

#### 4) **Why is this issue important?** *(Try to keep this section between 3 to 4 paragraphs maximum, no more than 800 words)*

Enviroserve has been in the news a lot lately for their toxic waste landfill site, which has angered the residents of Shongweni. But Enviroserve's crimes are not only limited to those in the current new cycle. They have been polluting in black communities, such as Ntshongweni, Dassenhoek, KwaNdengezi, Buxfarm and Cliffdale, for over 15 years and have left struggling communities with a mountain of health issues including; headaches, fatigue and nosebleeds.

There has been no science-specific research that measures the long term impacts of Enviroserve's pollution and the health issues experienced by communities. A targeted surveillance system that maps out the social, health and environmental impacts created by hazardous waste needs to be developed to avoid far more serious health issues like cancer in the future.

Enviroserve's legal appeal process that is challenging DEA's decision to suspend their operations license, sends a clear message that Enviroserve thinks our lives are cheap and that profit matters more to them than our health, environment and quality of life.

EnviroServ is ignoring our constitutional rights and the increased incidence of illnesses apparently related to the foul odour, not to mention the psychological effects living in the stench of a toxic landfill

is having on us. By refusing to tell us what is going into the landfill and what its possible toxic effects on humans are, you are only serving to increase our fear that the health effects are being caused by the hazardous, ineffectively or untreated waste being accepted at the landfill.

<https://highwaymail.co.za/278776/dea-minister-lifts-shongweni-landfill-suspension/>

<https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/kwazulu-natal/charges-against-enviroserv-execs-in-shongweni-landfill-case-reduced-12055456>

- **Good Petition example 2:**

**1) Petition Title:** *(Max 10 words, the shorter the better)*

SABC, stop airing alcohol ads that associate alcohol consumption with success.

**2) Name of the decision-maker and/or their organisation:** *(Try to keep this below 12 words)*

Madoda Mxakwe, Group Chief Executive Officer, SABC

**3) What you want the decision-maker to do (petition demands)** *Try keep this section between 200 to 300 words.*

We want the SABC to completely stop airing alcohol ads that are associating alcohol consumption with status and success.

It is bad enough that attempts to ban alcohol ads completely on TV were unsuccessful and now television in South Africa has become dependent on alcohol advertising. Since the ads cannot be banned because the SABC says they stand to lose half-a-billion rand in ad revenue per year [1], never mind the fact that banning those ads will in actual fact, help save the country R1.9 billion that the government is already spending on dealing with alcohol-related harm [2], the least our public broadcaster could do is monitor and regulate alcohol marketing and advertising. The WHO recommends a number of different policies to help protect young people from advertising [3]. We call on the SABC to:

- Do not use settings that associate alcohol products with status and success.
- Avoid using young people in the advertisements, or implement a law that only adults from the age of 40 and so, can be in alcohol ads.
- Don't use words such as "Boss, The Man, Good Life, etc.

**4) Why is this issue important?** *(Try to keep this section between 3 to 4 paragraphs maximum, no more than 800 words)*

We live in an era where the digital world influences the lives of many people, especially young black people from poor backgrounds. We see something, we digest it, and we want to copy it. Institutions such as the SABC should not have a negative impact or allow negative airing. As the national broadcasting company, content that is of harmful nature or influence should not be aired, if not controlled. It is no secret that alcohol ads are flooding television. What is more saddening is that these ads glamourise alcohol consumption, and associate it with being successful. In the ads, you will see young people in an environment 'where successful people belong' consuming the alcohol, and promoting and encouraging those who are watching to go buy and drink it.

According to a special issue on alcohol advertising by the Southern African Alcohol Policy Alliance (SAAPA), research has linked exposure to portrayals of alcohol use in the mass media with the development of positive drinking expectancies by children and adolescents. Young people with more positive affective responses to alcohol advertising hold more favourable drinking expectancies, perceive greater social approval for drinking, believe drinking is more common among peers and adults, and intend to drink more as adults. [4] Research conducted by Soul City suggests that young people's views on alcohol advertising, marketing and availability have a direct influence on their drinking patterns and sexual behaviour. Conducted in a rural village in Mpumalanga and an urban township, where young people were encouraged to capture their experiences through photographs and captions, including participating in focus-group discussions, young males believed that drinking a particular brand would lead to them being successful and young women said flavoured drinks were targeted at them. [5]

While there are a number of regulations against alcohol advertising that have passed, such as airing alcohol ads between 2pm - 5 pm on weekday and before 12pm on weekends on TV; and 6am - 9am and 2pm - 5pm on weekdays and no advertising before 12pm on weekends on radio, the laws need revisiting. In 2010, the World Health Assembly of the World Health Organisation endorsed a Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol that countries needed to adopt. Ten policy options were identified, one of them being to reduce the impact of marketing, especially on young people and adolescents.

We must act now because we are what we consume! South Africa has a major problem with alcohol abuse. Even though there are hundreds of organisations and campaigns raising awareness about the dangers of alcohol abuse. We know that advertising causes younger people to drink sooner and in greater quantities. It also creates an environment that normalises drinking and it typically only portrays the positive sides of drinking and not any negatives [6]. If we act now, we can have the power to control what we consume on TV, and by doing that, we will be saving ourselves, and the lives of young people.  
#WeDontNeedAlcoholToBeSuccessful

[1] SABC Could Lose Half a Billion Rand If Alcohol Ads Are Banned. Zodidi Dano for IOL. 16 April 2018

[2] Banning Advertising Alcohol Can Save SA R1.9 Billion. Zeenat Vallie for IOL. 2 March 2018.

[3] 10 areas governments could work with to reduce the harmful use of alcohol. WHO

[4] Impact of Alcohol Advertising and Media Exposure on Adolescent Alcohol Use. Peter Anderson, Avalon de Bruijn, Kathryn Angus, Ross Gordon & Gerard Hastings. SAAPA. 14 January 2009.

[5] Alcohol Ads Luring SA Youth to Drink. Noni Mokati for IOL and Soul City Institute For Social Justice. 24 February 2017.

[6] Proposed New Liquor Law Needs Revisiting. Marvin Charles for IOL. 16 August 2017.

### - Good Petition Example 3

**1) Petition Title:** *(Max 10 words, the shorter the better)*

Stop Johannesburg's R50 recycling fee that threatens waste reclaimers' livelihood

**2) Name of the decision-maker and/or their organisation:** *(Try to keep this below 12 words)*

City of Johannesburg and Pikitup

**3) What you want the decision-maker to do (campaign demands)** *Try keep this section between 200 to 300 words.*

We demand that the City of Johannesburg and Pikitup:

1. Put an immediate stop to the R50 recycling fee.
2. Develop a reclaimer-based recycling system through consultation with reclaimers.

**4) Why is this issue important?** *(Try to keep this section between 3 to 4 paragraphs maximum, no more than 800 words)*

Starting from 1 July, residents living in houses worth more than R350 000 could potentially pay a R50 “recycling fee” if the City of Johannesburg’s proposed waste management tariff is approved [1]. The City said that the R50 additional levy will go to Pikitup to extend a separation at source (S@S) programme which has already been piloted in a few suburbs in Johannesburg.

The City places the bill at the feet of “affluent” residents to extend the S@S pilot programme yet provides no research or statistics to support it. Residents are expected to buy into a system they know nothing about despite having very little trust in the government to provide services and use the money for its intended purpose.

Not only does this recycling fee raise more questions and concerns for residents, it is a grave threat to the livelihood of reclaimers who depend on the collection of recyclables for their daily living. The extension of this project will decrease reclaimers’ access to bins which will significantly decrease their income.

Reclaimers collect between 80 - 90 % of used packaging collected for recycling [2], saving municipalities millions of rands per year. The contribution of reclaimers cannot be overlooked or underestimated. There are alternatives to the City's proposal. As African Reclaimers Organisation (ARO), we have been piloting our own S@S programme, where we work directly with residents in Brixton and Auckland Park who separate materials for us.

Instead of destroying our jobs, Pikitup should expand our pilot across the city.

[1] New R50 levy proposed for 'wealthy' households in Johannesburg. Staff Writer for Business Tech. 6 April 2021.

[2] Packaging SA (2015). 2015 Recycling Assessment Report. Prepared by BMI Research, 01 September 2015.

## Examples of petitions that are not designed or written well.

To: Mayor

Need Mayor's name and name of municipality IF it's the Mayor who has the mandate to address the issue. It could actually be the provincial Department of Health.

Encourage young girls to stop drinking especially when they are pregnant

This is a very long campaign title and is more of a statement than a call to action. It's also not clear how *encouraging* will stop drinking while pregnant.



This photo does not reflect our core constituency and there is no photo credit.

The numbering format of the below text does not flow. There should also be no words that are all in capitals.

This sentence is very unclear and Introduction and Drinking is merged together

1.INTRODUCTIODrinking is a so common. It is widely used by many young and poor people in predominantly black township.

2 BACKGROUNDWhile I was going around the area I am living at I have noticed young women drinking while they are pregnant. And according to my source who doesn't want to be mentioned she told me that she was introduced to drinking by his boyfriend and when they are both drunk they see themselves owning this planet and she wanted to proof to the boyfriend that she loves him.

3. Problem statementDespite the common use of drinking in many communities there is a death of formal studies on the experience and views of its users. This young girls don't know the consequences of drinking while they are pregnant and what need to be done to support this young woman who wish to quit drinking use.

4.purpose of the campaignThe purpose of the campaign is to describe the experience of young women who drinking while pregnant in the area that I am living in and other townships.

A successful campaign clearly outlines how the campaign demand can make a real difference, and that the collective power of people joining the campaign can force the decision maker to act. The text above does not explain how signatures will convince the decision maker to act. It's also not clear how describing the experiences of young women will address the issue. The campaign also has no references to news articles or research.

Although this campaign would not be approved, this section here, which talks from a personal perspective, is important. You can also speak to people in a community, or quote a community member to explain the issue instead of just relying on statistics.

# To Government KARATE LESSONS

Not specific. Government has many departments and there is national, provincial and local government.

This campaign title is vague and it's all upper case. There is no call to action like 'Demand free karate lessons in Alexandra'

This photo is owned by alamy stock photos and can't be used. It has watermarks (light grey words and icons over the image). The photo also was not taken in South Africa. It should be ideally a South African image from a online news article where you credit the photographer and/or source.

The word 'Enable' is not conversational language. A more conversational sentence would be 'If Black women could go to free karate lessons....'



Creating free karate schools for everyone which will enable a great number of black women to have access to tools to stop rapist strangers. Free schools must be set up on townships and allow the voiceless to Graduate to third brown belt (1st Kyu). By doing this government will end gender based violence and rape of South African citizens.

This g should not be capitalised

Many people won't know what third brown belt and 1st Kyu is. Try avoid jargon, and if you need to use words some people may not be familiar with, explain them.

This campaign does have a specific demand to address gender-based violence (GBV). However, it does not engage with the process of how the campaign would ensure this demand is achieved. A good campaign would look at the processes. For example, which government department should be focused on, how would they allocate the budget, would this be done nationally, or would it be better to focus on a municipal level? By when would the campaign want the demand implemented? Does this demand fit in with what current experts on GBV think is a good strategy? The campaign also has no references to news articles or research.

The major problem with this campaign is that even though it focuses on a major issue (gender-based violence), focuses on Black women and has a specific demand, **there are a lot of incorrect assumptions that the campaign is based on.** A high percentage of sexual assaults are committed by perpetrators the survivor knows. So it's not just strangers. Secondly, Karate, or self-defence classes will not end gender-based violence. It is a complex issue that needs a lot of strategies, but the writing here suggests it will solve GBV completely. There is also debate about self defence classes being effective. For those with disabilities, self defence may not be an option. Also given the easy access to guns in South Africa, self defence may not work against an armed perpetrator.