

Acknowledgements

This manual is a joint project of Gender Links and the AIDS Law Project (ALP) at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies.

GL is a Southern African NGO, based in Johannesburg, South Africa, that promotes gender equality in and through the media.

The ALP has been at the cutting edge of research and litigation in the HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa and has recently been involved in litigation around providing access to anti-retrovirals to pregnant women with HIV to reduce the risk of vertical transmission. The ALP has a strong emphasis on helping to create informed public opinion on HIV/AIDS through better quality coverage by the mainstream media.

The development of the manual began with the establishment of a reference group (see **Annex A**) that developed the framework and chapter outline for the manual. Specialist authors (see **Annex B**) wrote the individual chapters. The manual was tested at three provincial workshops in South Africa (Gauteng, the Western Cape and KwaZulu Natal) and three regional workshops (in Namibia, Swaziland and Zambia) between September 2002 and May 2004. Media trainers from around the region commented on the final draft of the manual at a training of trainers workshop on Gender, HIV AIDS and the Media in Botswana in May 2004. Details of these workshops, and supplements produced as part of the training, can be found on the Gender Links website – www.genderlinks.org.za.

Pat Made, an independent media trainer, Liesl Gertholtz, Head of the ALP Legal Department and GL Director Colleen Lowe Morna edited the manual. GL Senior Researcher Alice Kwaramba did the proof reading and Lindiwe Nkutha coordinated the project.

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