

# Crimes Against Women and Children

## A Medico-legal Guide

*Crimes Against Women and Children: A Medico-legal Guide*, has been written as a workbook in order to provide relevant information in a user-friendly manner to members of the health profession, the legal profession, justice and welfare personnel, NGOs and others involved in assisting women and children survivors of crime. The *Guide* is designed to be used as a resource for workshop purposes and will be accompanied by a looseleaf *Instructor's Manual* with appropriate teaching materials and lesson plans.

The *Guide* is divided into 12 modules covering the following topics:

- South Africa and the transition to democracy
- Protecting and enforcing rights and resolving conflicts
- Health rights in the new health system
- Medical law and ethics
- Medical records, reports and evidence in court
- Interviewing and counselling
- Understanding and protecting the rights of women survivors of violence
- Understanding and protecting the rights of children
- Basic traumatology
- Applied reproductive anatomy and physiology
- Medico-legal aspects of sexual offences
- Medico-legal aspects of paediatric practice

Each of the modules may stand alone or be used as part of an ongoing workshop programme. Where there is a relationship between the different modules this is indicated in the text. The modules contain different icons which refer to important aspects of the text; definitions; ethical and legal issues; psychological issues; medical issues; questions and talking points. In appropriate cases diagrams and illustrations have been used and relevant information has been summarised in convenient tables.

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