

bitch," prostitute and lesbian.

The boys also snapped the girls' bras, stuffed paper down their blouses and rubbed their hands up and down girls' back, according to Eve's lawyers. One boy grabbed a girl's breasts, while another cut a girl's hair, they said.

"I started to think maybe I am ugly and maybe I am a bitch," Eve said in a recent interview in the Schoharie Country farmhouse where she and her younger sister were born. "By the time I left, I was just like a wreck. I had really bad posture. I was depressed all the time."

Eve's case—one of the growing number of sexual harassment lawsuits involving schoolchildren—could be the first federal peer harassment lawsuit to go to trial seeking punitive damages, said Eve's attorney, City University of New York law professor Merrick Rossein.

A case tried under California law ended earlier this fall with a girl awarded \$500,000 in damages. Eve's lawsuit does not specify a dollar amount.

"There is a difference between flirting and hurting, said lawyer Brooks Burdette of New York City, who also is representing Eve. "What happened in our case was systematic. It was a lot more than childhood horseplay."

Eve claims her former school district 100 km southwest of Albany failed to protect her from sexual harassment, violating Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972 prohibiting sex discrimination

in schools. AP

Source: Philippine Daily Inquirer, 5 November 1996

38 PERCENT OF RAPE VICTIMS IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE CHILDREN

ORANGE FARM, South Africa—In this struggling community 25 miles of Johannesburg, children have become prey.

A 15-year old tells a local physician she is not sure of her parentage. She wonders if the man who says he is her father is telling the truth, "because every day he would come and climb on top of me and beat me," said Dumiso Zulu, the doctor, recounting the girl's words.

A mother refuses to consider that the likely suspect responsible for the anal sores found on her 21-month-old baby is the child's father. "No, it can't be," she told Verina

Sithole, a nurse, who laments: "You just become disturbed for the day if you see such a case."

A 12-year old girl runs home crying one day after a seemingly nice neighborhood man invites her to visit him. It was chillingly familiar scenario, reminiscent of the three months of abuse she endured two years ago when a local clergyman lured her with kindness and spare change, then repeatedly raped her and secured her silence with threats to kill her mother.

Child rape—and rape in general—has emerged as the new South Africa's ugly secret, perhaps the most alarming aspect of a nationwide ex-

plosion of crime.

Nationwide, reported cases of child rape have increased dramatically in recent years, from 7,559 in 1994 to 10,037 in 1995, to 13,859 in 1996, according to national police statistics.

Overall, South Africa may have the highest rate of reported rape in the world, police say. Based on total rape figures for the first eight months of 1996, South Africa's rate of 141 reported rapes per 100,000 females is almost double the US rate for 1995 of 72 rapes per 100,000 females, according to law enforcement statistics from both countries. Child rapes account for about 38 percent of South Africa's total rape caseload.

Source: Today, 19 February 1997

SOUTH AFRICA-DEVELOPMENT: REKINDLING THE CULTURE OF UBUNTU

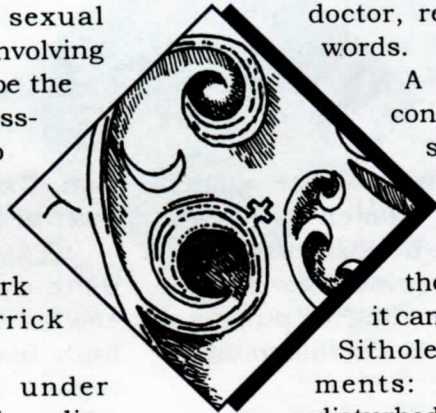
by Gumisai Mutume

KGOTSONG, South Africa—A group of five women sing in the blazing October sun as they toss building materials to each other.

They also mix the cement, fetch the water and assist the man laying the bricks. The house belongs to one of the five. When they complete it they will start on another until all are built.

Generally, people no longer build houses in this manner. But here in Kgotsong, a former Blacks-only township located some 200 kilometres out of Johannesburg, the spirit of Ubuntu is being rekindled and played out.

Ubuntu involves sharing. It



testimonies from women who had suffered devastating physical and psychological effects of female genital mutilation had significant impact on the audience.

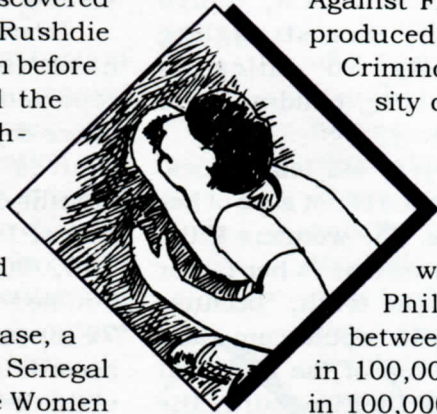
On her return to Chad, however, Yacoub discovered that, like Salman Rushdie and Talisma Nasreen before her, she had irked the Islamic establishment. She has since lived in a deadly atmosphere of threats and intimidation.

Hearing of her case, a group of women in Senegal who were part of the Women Living Under Muslim Laws network mobilized women's and human rights organizations in a massive campaign to put pressure on the Chadian authorities. Speaking to a Senegalese newspaper, Yacoub recalled, "The letters came from Africa, Europe, USA, from everywhere. They were sent to the President and the Ministry of Justice. . . . People in the Presidency have told me that, seeing all this, the President called the imam and asked him to stop because the affair was getting out of hand."

Source: *Action*, No. 191 June/July 1996

RP WIVES MORE LIKELY TO BE KILLED THAN AUSSIES

SYDNEY, Australia—Young Filipino women living in Australia are five times more likely to be killed than their Australian counterparts, according to a report released Friday.



The reports also found that Filipino women who migrate to Australia as a sponsored spouse of partner are "particularly vulnerable" to domestic violence.

The report, "Violence Against Filipino Women," was produced by the Institute of Criminology at the University of Sydney.

It says that between 1989 and 1992 the annual rate of homicide for women born in the Philippines and aged between 20 and 39 was 5.6 in 100,000, compared with 1 in 100,000 for Australians.

Center for Philippine Concerns Australia spokeswoman Melba Marginson said violence was an on-going problem.

"I think violence against Filipino women will still continue because more and more the present government is not...leading in putting a stop to racism in this country," she said.

I hope this report will serve as a big reminder to the present government. Also it is a good reminder for those who have been saying, we Asians are having it easy here.

"We are not. So many murders have occurred. . . (and) it is not only happening in the Filipino women's community."

Launching the report, "Race Discrimination," Commissioner Zita Antonios said it came at a time when there was a major racism debate going on in Australia.

"Racism is a poison," she told guests at New South Wales Parliament House.

"It is not something you release from time to time in the national interest."

"There are serious consequences for not attacking racism and for not stopping it as soon as it emerges."

"There are social costs, there are economic costs and there are political costs and there are economic costs and there are political costs and I think it is a very important message all of us should be thinking about in the current environment," she said without directly naming federal independent member for Parliament Pauline Hanson, whose maiden speech nearly two months ago sparked the current immigration debate. AP Source: *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, 30 October 1996

GIRL CRIES SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN SCHOOL

STAMFORD, New York—Ninth-grader Eve Bruneau is now in a new school earning high marks, serving as a captain of her junior varsity soccer team and playing flute and saxophone in the band.

Three years ago, at South Kortright Central School, she was depressed, cried frequently and begged her mother to let her stay home. She didn't feel safe. Previously a straight-A student, she had failing grades.

The reason she was forced to change schools, according to her lawsuit against South Kortright—sexual harassment.

The federal lawsuit, which started trial Monday in Binghamton, claims that boys in Eve's sixth-grade class called her and other girls names such as "dog-faced