

06 June 2018

Dear Prof. Joseph Karanja  
[karanjaig@gmail.com](mailto:karanjaig@gmail.com)

We hope this letter finds you well.

We are writing to you as the South African team of Global Doctors for Choice to let you know that we have become aware of the backlash you have received since your expert witness testimony in the past week.

It is with regret that we learnt that our own colleagues, medical doctors, as well as the public in general, are attacking you for your pro-choice position. We are aware that opposition groups have come out in force attempting to derail the process and have sent negative and false messages to the public through the media. We reject and note that some segments of the Kenyan media took your testimony out of context and published inaccurate news about the case and the information you provided.

As a result, we, the members of Global Doctors for Choice in South Africa, want to publicly state our support for you, Prof Karanja, as you continue to fight for the human rights of women and girls to autonomy, bodily integrity and dignity. In keeping with obstetric practice and standard worldwide, the life of a pregnant woman takes priority over a fetus. We affirm your stand and applaud you for fighting for the right to evidence-based care to ensure that women and girls do not die or suffer needlessly due to unsafe abortions.

We respect and recognize the work you do as important, and as a renowned and respected gynecologist with over 30 years of experience, for providing reproductive health services to women and girls and advocating for a policy environment that protects their rights to access such services.

Let us know how we can be further of assistance to you.

Yours in Reproductive Justice,



Dr Tlaleng Mofokeng on behalf of GDC/SA lead team, Prof Eddie Mhlanga and Dr Patrick Godi