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## **UCT statement on alleged harmful psychiatric practices with respect to Trans (including non-binary) children**

The University of Cape Town (UCT) acknowledges discrimination and forms of violence experienced by trans, gender diverse and gender non confirming individuals.

As such, the university recognises the rights of those in the trans community and support contemporary evidence-based approaches to working with transgender, gender diverse and non-gender conforming individuals. We appreciate the bravery of the individuals who have raised awareness about the specific needs of the trans community in the health care sector.

We are continually engaged in curricular interventions to ensure that graduates are prepared for inclusive and just health care practice.

[UCT's Inclusivity policy](#) requires that all health science students in the university are introduced to curriculum that provides knowledge about the medical care and support for sexually diverse and gender diverse communities. Through the academic project, we believe that our graduates are equipped with knowledge and skills that create a non-discriminatory, affirming and supportive health care environment for all patients and their specific health care needs.

We would strongly encourage members of the public who have been negatively affected by discriminatory health care practices seek psychosocial support through [Triangle](#) and/or report their experiences of discrimination to the National [Health Service Ombud](#).

With regards to the matters raised in communication from Dr Marion Stevens, director of the Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition. UCT takes these claims seriously and will respond directly to Dr Stevens as soon as we have concluded our internal process.

***ENDS***

***Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department***

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