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A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT LAW OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REVIEW IN MAURITIUS

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ABSTRACT

This study provides a critical analysis of the provisions contained in the Protection from Domestic Violence Act (PDVA) of 2004 in Mauritius. Focus group discussions held with members of the State Law Office and members of a pro bono committee set up to review the legislation on domestic violence reveal that some provisions of the PDVA have to be reviewed. The definition and the forms of abuse included under domestic violence, attending counseling for both parties whenever a protection order is issued, the protection to be provided by the police as well as the provisions under the remedial order and the affiliated orders have to be redefined. There is a need to combine social and legal sanctions to address domestic violence. The adoption of a differentiated approach to the analysis of domestic violence will provide for a targeted approach and, hence, more effective interventions for victims, perpetrators and children.

Keywords: Domestic Violence, civil and criminal remedies.

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