

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

NAME Veena O’Sullivan		POSITION TITLE Head of HIV & Sexual Violence Team, Tearfund		
EDUCATION/TRAINING				
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION		DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	MM/Y Y	FIELD OF STUDY
<i>St Josephs College of Arts and Science, India</i>		<i>Bachelor of Arts</i>	<i>05/90</i>	<i>Economics, Sociology</i>
<i>National Institute of Fashion Technology, India</i>		<i>Diploma</i>	<i>06/92</i>	<i>Fashion Design</i>

A. PERSONAL STATEMENT

I started my career in international development over 19 years ago, as a project head for a coalition of NGOs establishing best practices in HIV/AIDS interventions in Karnataka, India. In 2000, I moved to the UK and joined Tearfund UK working in over 20 countries globally. As the sole architect of Tearfund's HIV and Sexual Violence (SV) response I have been able to build Tearfund into an organisation with credibility in these areas. After 3 years in 2005, I was able to inspire and facilitate Tearfund and its international partners (about 120 partners across 25 countries) to have a corporate HIV strategy, change its personnel policies and invest £3 million of its own resources for the cause. HIV response is a key success area for Tearfund demonstrating significant outcomes achieved across 10 countries, which even resulted in Tearfund being the second only civil society organisation that received funding from the World Bank. I have been involved in key forums and processes such as the development of the NGO Code of Good Practice in HIV, drafting the Inter Agency Standing Committee guidelines for HIV, as a task force member of the Joint Learning Initiative (JLI) for maternal health and a key contributor to USAID's policy paper on faith and family planning.

B. POSITIONS AND HONOURS

Head of HIV and Sexual Violence Unit , Tearfund (2006 – present). Key functions:

- Corporate Strategist
- Team management
- Grant portfolio management
- Strategic partnerships and coalitions

HIV Programme Development Advisor, Tearfund (2002 - 2006). Key functions:

- Technical support to global programmes
- Establish good practice across the organisation
- Development of innovative projects.
- Capacity building of staff and partners in 20 countries globally.

India Desk Officer, Tearfund (2000-2002)

HIV Coordinator (State wide), AIDS Forum Karnataka (1996-1999)

Positions

- Founder of a global faith coalition committed to ending sexual violence called the 'We Will Speak Out' coalition (2011) and currently functioning as the Steering Group Chair (2013-current)
- Co-chair of SGBV Learning Hub for Joint Learning Initiative (2014)

C. SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (5 max) – all publications available from

<http://tilz.tearfund.org/en/>

- Made in the image of God: The role of the Church in ending female genital mutilation/cutting in Tanzania, 2013
- Breaking the Silence: the role of the Church in addressing Sexual Violence in South Africa, 2013.
- Home Based HIV Counselling and Testing by Church Groups in Kenya and Zambia – Perceptions among Households visited, Community Workers and Church Leaders, 2012
- I was sick and you cared for me: church-based response to palliative care in Tanzania, 2011
- Silent No More: the untapped potential of the Church in addressing Sexual Violence. 2011

D. RESEARCH, RESEARCH SUPPORT AND DISSEMINATION

See above (C).

E. MOST RELEVANT EXPERIENCE (Primary prevention of violence against women and children)

As above - In my current role I have experience of managing a team of technical experts (SV in Humanitarian contexts and masculinities) and programme managers of multi-country programmes to end sexual violence against women and children. I co-facilitate workshops to engage and mobilise faith leaders in prevention of sexual violence against women and children and am have developed key strategic partnerships with UNFPA, UNWomen and UNAIDS Country offices. I am currently based in Durban, South Africa where I work with survivors of sexual violence and have been leading the development of a survivor lead movement in Kwa-Zulu Natal.