

# GENDERED MANIFESTOS ANALYSIS

**PAMUSORO! VAKURU!**

**AS A WOMAN, WHY SHOULD I GIVE YOU MY VOTE?**

Snap Analysis of the Political Party Manifestos 2013 (MDC, MDC –T, ZAPU, ZANU PF)

*(I know he used to do nice stuff for you, but what has he done for you lately?... Janet Jackson)*

Who does government represent? Who is a citizen? Do women have the same rights and power to assert these rights in the space that is politics and governance?

Our new Constitution directs (in section 2.9) that the State must promote full gender balance, and in particular ensure that both genders are equally represented in all institutions and agencies of government at every level. Political parties are in essence governments in waiting and when successful at the polls they proceed to form the institutions that become the state. The guiding principles and values that will inform how they play this role are contained in the Party Manifesto.

The Manifesto lays out the purpose of the party, that is why does it exist as a party and what does it intend to achieve by being in power. The Manifesto gives the potential voter the information to enable her/ him to make an informed choice of the right candidate and the right party to vote for. In short it answers the question 'As a voter why should I give you my vote?'

**BELOW ARE SOME OF THE ISSUES** that as women we consider important and how the different Manifestos are speaking to these.

*Parties are listed in alphabetical order: MDC – Movement for Democratic Change {Green Machine}; MDC T Movement for Democratic Change (Red Wave); ZAPU – Zimbabwe African People's Union; ZANU PF – Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front*

***We have had our say. We have done our bit to remove the campaign rhetoric and boil it down for you Amai, Bomama, so that you can see what each party is offering you as a woman. Read carefully and be guided accordingly in making your choices. Empowerment is about informed choices. SiMuka! Zimbabwe! Vote!***

ISSUE	PARTY POSITION			
	MDC	MDC T	ZAPU	ZANU PF
<b>The Presidential Candidate's Message</b>	Silent	Speaks to working with all people regardless of gender (p.2) and refers to citizens as sons and daughters of God.	Silent. Party image is a big black bull with huge dangling testicles! (Cover page)	Silent , except with reference to liberation war veterans.
<b>A National Vision that includes women</b>	Silent	Party founded to counter centralization of power in a one party state(p.3)  Establish a Gender Commission	Party commits to achievement of 50% representation of women in all spheres of national life.	Party founded on the liberation struggle(p.1-3)  The party stands for Unity regardless of gender (p.4)  Uphold and apply the rule of law regardless of sex  To oppose discrimination on the grounds of sex (p.5)
<b>Multi Party and Gender Responsive Democracy</b>	<b>Specific Section that deals with Gender and Women (p.11)</b>  Legislation that provides a legal framework for participation of women in governance and economic prosperity through ensuring 50/50	<b>Specific Section that deals with Gender and Women Empowerment (p.28)</b>  Party is fully committed to gender equality and equity in all areas (p.28 and all else below)  Party will support full participation of women in all spheres of society	Party commits to achievement of 50% representation of women in all spheres of national life	<b>Specific Section that deals with Gender Culture and Religion (p.23)</b>  Party does not support gender violence (p.24)  The Party spearheads policies that address gender inequality in workplaces and schools (p

	<p>through ensuring 50/50 status in all national processes.</p> <p>Enforcement of Constitutional provisions on women's empowerment through legislative quotas</p> <p>Affirmative Action in areas dominated by men and incentives for women to participate in areas like management, leadership, military, mining, agriculture and construction.</p> <p>There will also be some leeway to promote women in sports to represent the nation in all categories.</p>	<p>of women in all spheres of society</p> <p>Party recognizes women's historical disadvantages in culture, religion and social norms which must be eradicated</p> <p>Establish Gender Commission</p> <p>The Party will ensure women have equal representation in all institutions and agencies of government and at every level in line with goal of 50/50 representation</p> <p>The Party will ensure equal access to resources including land</p> <p>The Party will enforce labour laws that protect women at the workplace</p> <p>The Party will strengthen deterrent laws that punish offenders in all forms of violence</p> <p>Eradicate all laws and practices that violate women's rights</p>		24)
<b>Constitutionalism, the Rule of Law and Protection of</b>	Enforcement of Constitutional provisions on women's	Establish a n independent well resourced , functional and effective Gender Commission (p.10, 28)	Silent	The Party does not support gender violence (p.24)

<p><b>Women's Rights</b></p>	<p>empowerment through legislative quotas wherever possible (p.11)</p>	<p>Gender Commission (p.10, 28)</p> <p>The Party will strengthen deterrent laws that punish offenders in domestic, sexual and politically motivated violence against women(p.28)</p> <p>The Party will enforce labour laws that protect women at the workplace</p> <p>Eradicate all laws and practices that violate women's rights</p>		<p>The Party spearheads policies that address gender inequality in workplaces and schools (p 24)</p> <p>Uphold and apply the rule of law regardless of sex</p>
<p><b>Social Services Peace and a Violence Free Society</b></p>	<p>The Party will ensure affordable feminine hygiene products for women and girls (p.11)</p> <p>The Party will pursue aggressive affirmative action in education targeting women and the girl child (p.11)</p> <p>The party will Pursue protection of the right of all citizens to health and mechanism for sustained focus on women (p.16)</p>	<p>The Party will ensure maternal healthcare (p.21)</p> <p>Unfreeze the hiring of nurses (p.21)</p> <p>The party will prioritise full access to education for the girl child (p.22)</p> <p>The Party will establish Child Protection, especially for the girl child (p.24)</p> <p>There will be equal opportunities, treatment and pay for women (p.26)</p> <p>Increase investment in education at all levels for girls , adolescents and young females in formal and non</p>	<p>Silent</p>	<p>Commitment to reduce death of mothers giving birth (p.20)</p> <p>The Party does not support gender violence (p.24)</p>

		<p>formal employment (p.29)</p> <p>The Party will strengthen deterrent laws that punish offenders in domestic, sexual and politically motivated violence against women(p.28)</p> <p>Enforce labour laws that protect women at the workplace</p> <p>Eradicate all laws and practices that violate women’s rights</p>		
<p><b>Economic Empowerment and Fair National Resource Allocation</b></p>	<p>Affirmative Action in areas dominated by men and incentives for women to participate in areas like management, leadership, military, mining, agriculture and construction.</p>	<p>Party recognizes women’s historical disadvantages in culture, religion and social norms which must be eradicated (p.28 )</p> <p>Ensure equitable access to land for al regardless of gender (p.13)</p> <p>Ensure women have equal access to resources including land (p.28)</p> <p>The Party will enforce labour laws that protect women at the workplace, including equal pay for equal work</p> <p>Eradicate all laws customs traditions and cultural practices that violate women’s rights</p>	<p>Silent</p>	<p>Party realizes that women continue to be marginalized in accessing factors of production (p.22)</p> <p>Will implement policies that benefit special groups like women (p.22)</p> <p>Establish special fund to support women’s projects (p.22)</p> <p>Party spearheads policies that address gender inequality in workplaces and schools (p 24)</p>

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