

Stand with Swift SA's #ThatsNotOK

By Leigh Andrews

14 May 2018

Focus was back on the film industry last week, with Roman Polanski negating the importance of the #MeToo movement, branding it 'mass hysteria', and one of SA's directors called out on sexual misconduct allegations. Pledge to stand with Sisters Working in Film and TV (Swift)'s #ThatsNotOK.



Screengrab from the #ThatsNotOK PSA.

Piers Morgan commented sarcastically at the time of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's 'joke taken out of context' comments about #Peoplekind a few weeks ago, by saying: "Mankind ended last night."



#FairnessFirst: Why Trudeau will bounce back from #Peoplekind

Leigh Andrews 12 Feb 2018



Morgan may be right.

#MeToo: Et tu, brute?

Though the Trudeau incident was hardly hardcore, there's been a flood of incidents worldwide that have left females wondering about the male mindset. It's closer to home than ever before, as [Variety now reports](#) that South African film and TV director Khalo Matabane has allegedly been accused of sexual misconduct by at least half a dozen women.



US premiere for *The Number* at Pan African Film Festival

30 Jan 2018



It's been dubbed:

“ the first high-profile case to emerge in South African media in the wake of the global #MeToo movement. ”



#MeToo trends in SA as women share stories of sexual harassment

Julia Breakey 17 Oct 2017



But it doesn't stop there. The global ramifications keep coming. In an article he opened with: "Sometimes, real life is beyond parody," Morgan wrote in the [Daily Mail](#) that he thought the below had been tweeted by a satirical site like *The Onion*, if not misquoted, or misleadingly paraphrased. It wasn't.

“ Disgraced filmmaker Roman Polanski says the [#MeToo](#) movement is 'total hypocrisy' <https://t.co/XXbrBrDkSC>—
TIME (@TIME) [May 9, 2018](#) ”

[Time](#) reveals that Polanski made the comment to *Newsweek Polska*, “in an interview [published last week and] given just days before the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences stripped him of his nearly 50-year membership, citing a case in 1977 in which he pleaded guilty to unlawful sex with a minor.”

It's fitting that *Time* reported this, as *Time* made the #MeToo 'silence breakers' its Person of the Year for 2017.



Time names sexual abuse 'Silence Breakers' as Person of the Year

7 Dec 2017



In the interview, Polanski said:

“ Everyone is trying to sign up to #MeToo 'chiefly out of fear' and compared it to North Korea's public mourning for its leaders that is so intensive that 'you can't stop laughing.' He did not explain further. ”

#MeToo is hardly hysteria. Instead, it's about standing up and saying "that's not OK" - whether this is happening to you or someone you know.

Say #ThatsNotOK

Last year's study conducted by industry body Sisters Working in Film and Television (Swift) revealed that up to two-thirds of women working in the South African film and TV industries claim to have reported 'some form of sexual harassment in the workplace.'



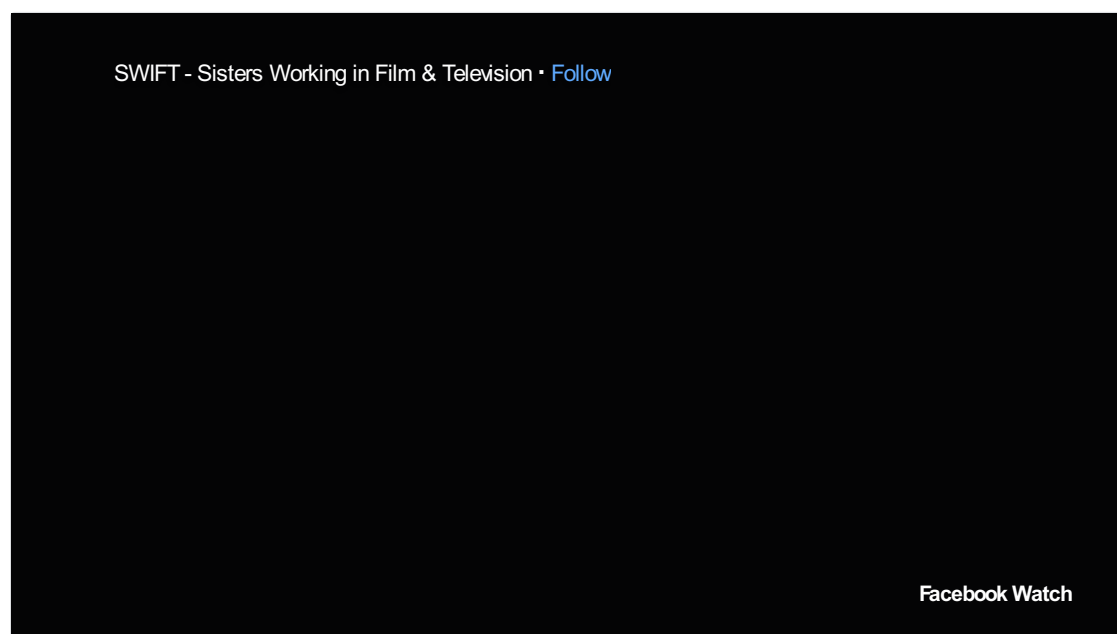
Swift: 78% of women in the film/TV industry victims of discrimination

Juanita Pienaar 19 Jul 2017



Swift started a gender department to offer pro bono legal advice to women reporting sexual abuse and also launched the #ThatsNotOK campaign at the time, together with a series of short video public service announcements portraying real-life incidents from the poll.

Seems it's time to reshare the PSA created with Actor Spaces:



It's time for the #TimesUp movement to extend to all reaches of the industry. We need to all take a stand and say #ThatsNotOK.

Read more

#MeTooZA - Sexual harassment in the South African workplace



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