



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**e Press Release: 3rd Degree – Forced Sterilisation**

**TX: Tuesday 22 June at 9.30PM**

In a hard-hitting investigation, 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree reveals that at certain state hospitals, HIV-positive women are forcibly sterilised. It's a misguided but cruel attempt by health workers to stop the spread of the virus, intended to punish "wayward" women for getting infected.

3<sup>rd</sup> Degree looks at the lives of several women here and in neighbouring Namibia who are struggling to come to terms with the fact that they can't conceive. For them, the pain – and emptiness - of never being able to bear children again, just doesn't go away.

This unspoken, ignored practice adds up to medicalised violence against women with HIV. It's nothing less than a cruel and cynical violation of their human rights.

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