

GIOST

Global Institute on Sexual Terrorism, LLC
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BIO

Many women experience sexual harassment and violence repeatedly throughout their lives.

LaKeisha Caples is a researcher and professor of literature. For the past 10 years she has written about issues surrounding racism, feminism, and the exploitation of black women. In 2018, she accepted a teaching position in China. Later, she began dating an individual. During that time, she became the victim of cyber-sexual violence (image-based sexual abuse) when the ex-partner recorded explicit material without her knowledge or consent. When she reported him to the authorities, the perpetrator began intimidating and threatening LaKeisha and her children. The perpetrator began doxxing and stalking them both on/offline after she continued to speak out and demand his arrest. The perpetrator solicited co-conspirators to place her under surveillance and to repeatedly break into her apartment. After the content was sold on porn websites, LaKeisha's case was identified as human trafficking. Until today, LaKeisha continues to demand justice and accountability.

On all levels, LaKeisha's journey has been challenging. Homeland Security, FBI nor local law enforcement have filed charges against the perpetrator or co-conspirators. The lack of access to law enforcement is part of the history of racial injustice. When perpetrators know that victims cannot get assistance from law enforcement, the abuse escalates. LaKeisha calls this matrix of sexual violence, sexual terrorism, which is extreme sexual violence that can occur on/offline. Violent extremists work in criminal networks or cyber mobs to attack victims. The larger the mob, the greater the attack. This she refers to as cyber-sexual terrorism. A term she coined to express the poly-victimization or layers of crimes victims experience with online sexual violence. However, she refuses to give up her fight. LaKeisha founded the Global Institute on Sexual Terrorism, LLC (GIOST). An organization to respond to extreme sexual violence. GIOST is the first think tank, research, and training institute on the subject matter of sexual terrorism, which is an issue of national security that fuels gender hatred, destabilizes institutions, increases organized crime, and creates mass violence on/offline. Additionally, LaKeisha founded Global Center on Sexual Terrorism NFP which helps victims access resources for healing, restoration, and justice at no cost. LaKeisha believes that justice is a necessary part of the healing process. Further, LaKeisha plans to use her platform to share her story and raise awareness about sexual terrorism and the lack of access to justice, particularly for Black women.

A world traveler, LaKeisha has taught at the university level in the US and Southeast Asia. A published author, in 2018 she began publishing Global Influencers Magazine highlighting women in business. She is working towards completing a PhD in literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She studied at the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. LaKeisha attended Governors State University graduate school of business with a focus in management and international business. A Ronald McNair Scholar, LaKeisha earned her Master's and Bachelor's degrees from Chicago State University in Literature. As a research assistant at the University of Chicago School of Public Policy, she conducted onsite research at the Cook County Jail in Chicago and collected the narratives of women inmates. The consistent themes in each of their narratives was childhood sexual abuse. Nearly all of the women had been victims of repeated sexual violence by different men at various points in their lives. The research was later used to help pass a bill for incarcerated mothers to be remanded to drug-treatment centers in lieu of prison to retain custody of their children.