

# Torture fact sheet

Torture is a  
**Crime**

## Facts about torture;

### What is Torture?

It is the intentional infliction of severe pain whether physical or mental on a person by any person whether a public official or other person acting in an official or private capacity for a specific purpose.

### Why Torture?

Reasons include: obtaining information or confession, punishing a person for an act he/she or another person has done or suspected to have done, intimidating or coercing the person or any other person to do or to refrain from doing any act or simply for gratification of those carrying out or observing.

### Who are the Perpetrators?

Everyone can be a perpetrator but most common are; security personnel (police officers, prisons officers, Local defense forces, Army, Intelligence agencies), people in authority (politicians and opinion leaders).

### Who are the Victims?

Anyone can become a victim of torture regardless of age, gender, religion, social class, ethnicity or level of education. Nobody should be considered immune, although being a member of a particular political, religious, or ethnic group or minority can very often be determining.

### What To Do When Tortured?

- Report to Police, Uganda Human Rights Commission office or any Courts of Law.
- For treatment and rehabilitation services (physical, psychological, social and legal), go to African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV) or any health centre near you.

**African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation  
of Torture Victims**

Kampala: +256 312 263 918, Gulu: +256 392 833 598  
[www.actvuganda.org](http://www.actvuganda.org), TOLL FREE LINE: 0800202791



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