



RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Professor Juan Bornman, Ph.D.

Director, Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communication
University of Pretoria, South Africa

***Abuse of children with communication disabilities in
South Africa***

30 July 2018, Monday
1-2 pm

Room S404B, South Wing, Sturt Campus

Evidence suggests that individuals with disabilities, specifically those individuals with intellectual disabilities and severe communication disabilities are at greater risk of experiencing violence against them. Ally is a young adult with spastic quadriplegia and little or no functional speech. She has never received any formal education. She was referred to the Centre for AAC shortly before her 18th birthday as she was summoned as a witness in an abuse court case. This presentation will describe the factors that were considered in making intervention choices for Ally and also describe the progress she has made.



Professor Juan Bornman (PhD) trained as a speech pathologist and audiologist. For the past 28 years she has passionately researched and taught a number of topics related to communication disability, AAC and human rights for persons with disability. She has published 4 books, 7 book chapters and more than 60 journal papers. Juan was awarded a fellowship by the International Society of AAC (ISAAC) in 2016 for exemplary work in the field. In 2018 she was also one of four professors to receive the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award from the University of Pretoria. To date she has supervised 9 PhD theses, 12 Master's dissertations and 58 mini-dissertations to completion.

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