

# SISTER

A Five-Year Campaign to  
**RESCUE TORTURED WOMEN**



***When we rescue those who suffer,  
we rescue ourselves...***

There is, perhaps, no greater example of suffering than the diminishment and torture of women and children while we stand by, refusing to look. ***If they were our mother, sister, or daughter, we wouldn't stop until we had snatched them from the jaws of that suffering.*** But, in fact, they are our own—we just haven't realized that fundamental truth until now.

There are approximately 4 million women in Papua New Guinea (PNG) nation located in the South Pacific. ***Of these, roughly 1.4 million, which is more than one in every three women, are victims of gender-based violence each year.*** The number is staggering.

But what makes the plight of women in PNG particularly disturbing is that many cases of violence involve torture and murder, thought to be justified by a deep-rooted belief in sorcery. When trouble comes, women of all ages are routinely accused of being witches who brought the trouble. They aren't, of course, but accusing and then torturing or murdering these women continues in unprecedented numbers.

**HERE ARE TWO CASES THAT SHED LIGHT ON THE HEART-CRUSHING REALITY:**

#### **ANGELYN IS SEVEN YEARS OLD.**

She was dropped off at a health center in Western Highlands Province after being tortured for what doctors believe to be more than two years—often in front of other children—by those who accused her of sorcery. Angelyn had broken hands and feet. She also had a broken collarbone, femur, and elbow. She had knife wounds all over her body and had been severely burnt on her lips and genitals.

Angelyn was rescued by the Tribal Foundation in July 2021 and is now beginning her slow road to recovery.



**MARY WAS A WIFE IN HER THIRTIES** who sold vegetables to earn a modest living. In July 2021, she was accused of using sorcery to kill a two-year-old boy who died of illness. Based solely on this absurd charge, her accusers seized Mary and bound her between two poles using barbed wire. There she was tortured and burned relentlessly. Nine hours after this picture was taken, they cut off her arms and legs with a machete and left the pieces of her body on the side of the road. ***She knew nothing of sorcery. Her crime was being a woman.***

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**HELP US RESCUE  
OUR SISTERS**  
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**To this end, we are assembling a coalition of people like you** to raise five million dollars to eradicate sorcery-based violence in PNG, a five-year initiative that we know will change the lives of over a million women in PNG currently suffering from terrible abuse. The task at hand is significant but ending the torment of women and children always is.

If you think that the plight of the women of PNG is the responsibility of someone else or some other government, you would be wrong. That's what everyone else is saying.

If you think that the task of freeing so many women from the clutches of such suffering is out of reach, you would also be wrong. Ending sorcery-based violence is not only possible, it can be dramatically reduced and eliminated in only a few short years!

#### **WHAT IS THE WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED?**

- Someone must pay for the media required to ring the bells both in PNG and in the West.
- Someone must build the homes that provide safe harbor for the Marys and Angelyns of our world.
- Someone must do the hard work of educating those lost in ignorance, and lobbying for reform.
- Our research indicates that for every girl rescued and placed into recovery, liberation comes to another 1000 due to media attention and the hope offered to so many women who see that they too could be free.

#### **WHY PAPUA NEW GUINEA TRIBAL FOUNDATION?**

The Tribal Foundation, headquartered in the United States, Australia, and PNG, with its deep understanding of PNG's culture and customs, has developed a clear, five-year path to save so many women like Mary and lift millions of PNG women out of their plight. Many have been saved on this path, but without more resources, even the gains that have been made will be lost.

