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ICDP Ghana Condemns Horrific Domestic Violence Incident in Ofankor — Calls for Justice, Protection, and Systemic Reform

Accra, Ghana — ICDP Ghana expresses deep shock and strong condemnation following the widely circulated video showing a man violently assaulting a naked woman, believed to be his estranged wife, in Ofankor within the Ga East Municipality. The footage, which has provoked national outrage, captures the man beating the woman with canes, stripping her naked, stepping on her abdomen, and threatening her with a knife. Reports also indicate that pepper was smeared on her body during the assault.

The suspect, identified as John Odartey Lamptey, was arrested on 17 November 2025. Two of his siblings were also taken into custody for allegedly attacking a tenant who recorded the incident. According to the victim's own account, she had left the matrimonial home months prior but returned after receiving a call claiming that one of their children was ill. Upon arrival, she was met with sexual demands, and when she refused, the brutal assault began. She also indicated that this was not the first incident of abuse and that previous reports made at the Tesano and Ofankor police stations did not result in meaningful action.

This incident is a stark reminder of the pervasive and deeply rooted problem of domestic and gender-based violence in Ghana. ICDP Ghana unequivocally condemns this act of brutality. Violence of this nature is not a private matter — it is a crime and a grave violation of human dignity and fundamental rights.

ICDP Ghana calls on the Ghana Police Service, particularly the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU), to ensure a thorough, transparent, and expedited investigation. We urge the relevant authorities, including the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection, to ensure that the victim receives full legal protection and psychological support, and that justice is pursued without delay. We further encourage the judiciary to treat this case with the seriousness it deserves to deter similar acts of violence.

ICDP Ghana stands ready to extend support to the victim, including access to psychosocial services and we call on other civil society organizations, community leaders, and the general public to join in ensuring that the survivor is protected, not retraumatized, and supported toward healing and justice.

This tragedy also highlights the urgent need for strengthened community education on respectful relationships, consent, and non-violent conflict resolution. ICDP Ghana remains committed to advancing empathy-based parenting and family strengthening programmes to break cycles of violence. We call for increased investment in prevention initiatives, better resourcing of DOVVSU, and full implementation of the Domestic Violence Act to protect survivors more effectively.

ICDP Ghana urges the public to support efforts to combat domestic violence, to speak out when they witness abuse, and to cooperate with authorities when necessary. Silence, minimisation, and cultural justification of such acts only perpetuate harm.

About ICDP Ghana

ICDP Ghana works to promote positive parenting, strengthen families, and prevent violence against women and children through empathy-based training, community engagement, and advocacy.

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