



NEWSLETTER

COLLECTIVE MEMORY

AVIPA - GUINEA

L'Association des Victimes Parents et Amis du 28 Septembre 2009 (AVIPA, the Association of Victims, Parents and Friends of the September 28 Massacre), is a survivor network based in Conakry, Guinea. AVIPA brings together more than 400 survivors of all kinds of violence, including sexual violence. Among other activities, AVIPA provides holistic care services to survivors to support their reintegration into society.



Oral history and collective memory are critical parts of the Guinean identity. Based on the wishes of survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, AVIPA has organised various collective memory activities. Survivors have attended music therapy sessions, during which they wrote and recorded their song 'La Justice'.

Another important piece of collective memory produced by AVIPA is the book 'Nos Vies d'Après' (Our Lives After). The book contains the portraits and testimonies of 123 sexual violence survivors,



documenting the stigma

they have faced as well as their reintegration journey. Through this book, survivors take ownership of their narrative. This way, their history cannot be misrepresented by others, and their truths will never be forgotten.

THOSE THAT READ OUR STORIES, WEEP TOGETHER WITH US

Guinean survivors have been advocating for reparations for many years. Finally, with the support of the Global Survivor's Fund, the first stone for the Centre des Survivantes (Survivors Centre) was laid down on the 29th of March 2022. Today, the centre stands proudly in the village of Maferinyah,



in the Focariah region of Guinea. The Centre serves as a safe space for survivors to meet, organise activities, receive psychosocial support, and conduct advocacy. Furthermore, the centre functions as a space for collective memory, where survivors show their community that they are strong with their heads up.

Learn more about AVIPA:



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