



ALERT

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OUTLAWS CHILD MARRIAGES

20 January 2015

The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (the Forum) welcomes today's (20 January 2015) ruling by the Constitutional Court to out law child marriages. The ruling renders section 22(1) of the Marriage Act unconstitutional. This therefore means that no person male or female may enter into any type of marriage before attaining 18 years. The Forum has always maintained that child marriages, whether for religious purposes or other, are a violation of children's rights. In light of this ruling, the Forum urges the government to align the Marriage Act with the Constitution and also align other outstanding domestic laws to protect and promote human rights for all.

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