

Is It Time for a Zimbabwean Sexpo?

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- *Written by Zimbo Jam Network - Published in Zimbo Life*

One of our photojournalists in Joburg attended the 2014 edition of the Health, Sexuality & Lifestyle Expo, commonly known as 'Sexpo'. He explores the possibility of having such an event in Zimbabwe...

Over 200 exhibitors, showcasing everything from books and videos on how to improve your sex life to toys to help you spice things up in the bedroom – or the kitchen – should you fancy to do your couple cooking there too, took part in this year's expo.

Among the exhibitors were Nicole Austin and hubby Tracy Lauren Marrow better known as Ice T & Coco, who were promoting the latter's sex toys range, 'Coco Licious'.

There were also lap dancers, porn stars, exotic dancers and sex gurus. Couples could attend workshops on improving their sex life and tuning in to the other's sexual needs.

Thousands of South Africans flocked to the giant Gallagher Convention Centre from September 25-28 for the sex showcase, including many who admitted that this was their first time ever to attend Sexpo, all for different reasons.

Leanne Krueger a 36 year old single woman told Zimbo Jam, "I came only to have my portrait painted by Pricasso." Tim Patch, widely known as 'Pricasso' (note the spelling well), is famed for his acrylics on canvas paintings that he craft using his penis as the preferred brush.

Dressed in his collar, Pastor McDonald Malherbe and wife Michelle came along with their 20 year old daughter Carol. Mrs Malherbe said, "We don't want her to sneak away and experiment with strangers. Here we can teach her with real life examples. She will get over the excitement and decide as a mature young woman." Pastor Malherbe added on, "there is nothing evil about sex, it all depends on how you practice it."

Others came to stock up on sex toys and tools. Condom manufacturer, Durex had sold out of condoms, lubes and other products within three hours of the show's opening and had to restock to meet demand.

Those who dared seek stimulation with a little pain stopped at 'Different Strokes' to get a whipping, nipple clipping or a moment of suspension from professional dominatrix.

It was the comments from Malherbe and his wife that got us thinking that maybe here was an opportunity to have a pared down version of Sexpo in Zimbabwe.

We'd obviously have PSI, talking about circumcision, all the condom manufacturers doing their thing and reproductive health specialists. But a more important service would be to offer couples a chance, many for the first time, to look at their sex life together, and see how they could improve it.

A series of workshops or private counselling sessions could make this possible. We could also demystify some sexual issues that many people can never ask about – because there is oftentimes no one to ask.

If you look at all the misunderstandings and expectation gaps that couples grapple with, it's easy to see how something like this could be the foundation for an even bigger movement to get Zimbabweans to start talking more openly and candidly about sex.

The more we looked at this idea though, the more we thought that maybe Zimbabweans, while needing something like this, would not attend... because we would all be so embarrassed that someone would see us walking out of 'ZimSexpo' in the arms of that person we love.

Imagine also, the organisers trying to get this approved by the censorship board...
