

**The Justice Desk's CEO and Founder will be speaking at  
the 3rd BTS Global Interdisciplinary Conference**



**The Justice Desk**  
A Human Rights NPO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA - This July, the CEO of internationally awarded South African human rights non-profit organisation, The Justice Desk, will be speaking at the 3rd BTS Global Interdisciplinary Conference, alongside globally acclaimed author Paulo Coelho, in Seoul, South Korea.**

**The Justice Desk (TJD), which operates in South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, is a youth-led, run, and inspired non-profit that empowers everyday people to become human rights defenders and changemakers in their communities. Their special focus is fighting for the rights of children, as well as in ending all forms of gender-based violence (GBV), which has seen them impact over 2 million people.**

**Since 2018, TJD (which is based in South Africa) has had a strong connection to South Korea through many of its volunteers, interns, and support networks. Since then TJD and the Korean Embassy have continued to work together, strengthening the love and Ubuntu connection between the two countries.**

**Jessica Dewhurst, CEO, and Founder of The Justice Desk will be a plenary speaker at the '3rd BTS Global Interdisciplinary Conference', hosted by the International Society for BTS Studies and the Semiosis Research Center at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, Korea. Other keynote speakers include internationally acclaimed author Paulo Coelho, Korean Deaf Child Education Research Institute President Jungsun An, Army Help The Planet (AHTP) Co-Director Maria Facioli, and music critic and author Dr. Youngdae Kim.**

**Ms. Dewhurst is an award-winning human rights defender from South Africa who has worked across the globe and holds various qualifications from The University of Cape Town, The United Nations, and Cambridge University. She has been named one of Africa's and South Africa's most inspiring youth for her work; and has received countless awards from the likes of Queen Elizabeth II, the South African presidency, Prince Edward, Countess Sophie, The Obama Foundation, and Lead SA. She was also named Glamour Magazines "Women of the Year" for her work in activism.**

**One of TJD's flagship projects, "The Mbokodo Club" which supports girl survivors of rape and GBV, was inspired by the Korean Band BTS' first speech at the United Nations. TJD's CEO recalls, "We were inspired to start The Mbokodo Club project after hearing BTS's' "love myself, love yourself" speech, which laid the foundation on which our project grew. We are now able to offer vulnerable girls from communities facing rape and GBV leadership and empowerment workshops, mental health care, trauma counseling, and self-defence and fitness classes. This project has gone on to become a phenomenal success, reaching and empowering hundreds of young girls and inspiring people from across the globe - all because of BTS, who themselves have also changed so many lives across the globe!"**

**The conference seeks to bring together academics, fans, practitioners, and artists, in a supportive and inclusive space to share research that will expand on the theme of "Post-Pandemic Era, Welcome to New Humanity". Dr. Jiyoung Lee, Research Professor at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, states that "We are really impressed by the dazzling activities of The Justice Desk, of which Jessica has founded, such as the special project called 'The Mbokodo Club Project' inspired by BTS. The Justice Desk's incredible efforts to combat crimes against women's safety and dignity, such as GBV, align with the theme of our new humanity and public commitment."**

**As an organisation whose mission is to "Promote the Power of Everyday Activists", The Justice Desk believes in the power that ordinary people have to effect impactful and lasting change in their communities. Ms. Dewhurst will therefore be visiting Seoul to promote The Justice Desk's work, give a variety of talks, as well as to meet with other organisations doing similar work. "Through our project's impact, we hope to inspire both the conference participants as well as young people around the world to stand up for what is right, to lead positive change in their communities, as well as to claim their power as Everyday Activists."**

**The Justice Desk is proud to represent what two incredible countries, such as South Africa and South Korea, can do when they come together in the spirit of ubuntu and collaboration.**

**The '3rd BTS Global Interdisciplinary Conference 2022' will be held from the 14th to the 16th of July.**