

# Pindula

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## Tinopona Katsande

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**Tinopona 'Tin Tin' Katsande** is a popular Zimbabwean actress, radio and television personality. She rose to national stardom when she featured in the soapie [Studio 263](#) in the early 2000s playing the role of 'Joyce Huni'. She was a disc jockey at [ZiFM Stereoand](#) and was dismissed when a sex tape leaked. However in February 2018 she was rehired by the same radio station. She runs her own NGO called *SpeakOut-Handinyarare*

Tinopona Katsande



Born

Tinopona Mapereke Katsande  
(1979-05-03) May 3, 1979 (age 39)

[Zimbabwe](#)

Residence

Zimbabwe

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Occupation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Actor</li><li>• DJ</li></ul>
Years active	2002-present
Organization	SpeakOut-Handinyarare
Known for	Being a Radio DJ and Actor
Spouse(s)	Virimai Chigariro
Children	Yambuko NokutendaIshe Chigariro (son)

## Background

Tinopona Mapereke Katsande was born on 3 May 1979 in [Mutoko, Zimbabwe](#) and grew up on her father's farm.<sup>[1]</sup> She once married to former [Zimbabwe Saints](#) Board of Trustees secretary and [Bulawayo](#) businessman [Sakhiwe 'Sakhi' Ndlovu](#).<sup>[2]</sup> However, she is now married to Virimai Chigariro and the two have a son, Yambuko NokutendaIshe.

## Education

Tinopona attended Murewa High School, before moving on to Hillcrest College (in [Mutare](#)) and then settling at [St Johns Emerald Hill](#).<sup>[3]</sup> She would then go to California, USA to study and advance her modelling career<sup>[1]</sup>

## Modelling career

She started her career in her teens as a model, having made Miss Mutare in 1997, and then she went on to become a Miss Zimbabwe finalist in that same year. She went to California, USA, to study and furthered her modelling career for 9 years.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Acting career

Upon returning from California in 1999, she got a slot as a television presenter on the Zimbabwe TV breakfast show, AM Zimbabwe which ironically paved way for her acting career. She landed a role as one of the main cast members of the local soap opera, [Studio 263](#), in which she played 'Joyce Huni'.<sup>[1]</sup>

In 2017, she featured in a drama Kuchina the Genesis which is about four women living in a fictional town called Moonshine where their lives are plagued by crime and sleazy secrets. Katsande played the role of Getty who is bored with her marriage to former car thief and drug lord Lucas and is determined to make serious changes.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Charity Work

Katsande claims she had been involved in helping those in need. In 2013, she was part of the programme, 'Celebrities Combined' which had a mandate to help sick children. The programme involved public personalities in the arts industry and aimed to raise money for those in need of medical assistance.<sup>[5]</sup>

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## Domestic Violence

In 2012, Katsande was allegedly assaulted by her boyfriend [Brian Munjodzi](#) after she paid him a visit one weekend. Munjodzi allegedly pounced on Katsande after she told him that she was tired and wanted to rest. The former went on to pull Katsande's hair, slapping and kicking her on the chest. She allegedly bled from the nose and mouth and sustained serious facial injuries.<sup>[6]</sup>

## The Sextape

In 2012 she made headlines after the tabloid [H-Metro](#) leaked her sex tape. It never became clear what the motivation behind the leaking of the sex tape was or who exactly had leaked it. Some even suggested that she had leaked it on purpose in the hopes of gaining the fame which [Pokello Nare](#) and [Stunner](#) got after their sex tape was leaked. She was suspended in September 2013 by ZiFM Stereo and fired in December of the same year.<sup>[7]</sup> Dancehall chanter [Winky D](#) described the sextape as boring in a song.<sup>[8]</sup>

## Infertility Revelations

In January 2014, Katsande again came up in the open to reveal that she suffers from endometriosis which causes infertility. Katsande said by coming out in the open, she wanted to inspire and perhaps save a life in the process.<sup>[9]</sup> However, just 20 months later, she would give birth to a bouncing baby boy despite previously being advised she could not have children.<sup>[10]</sup>

## Being rehired by Zifm

It was reported that Katsande was rehired by Zifm stereo in 2018 and would be hosting a show called 'Formation' on Sunday. She said

- *About restoration*

*Five years ago I was fired from my job as a co anchor on the breakfast show on one of Zims biggest commercial radio station for a leaked sex tape that went viral on social media. Albeit I was a victim of #revengeporn , I was one hundred percent responsible for any and all consequences that were to follow. I blamed no one but myself. Yes I had shot the sex tape several years prior to it leaking with my then boyfriend believing Ofcause that it would always remain between just the two of us but things took a wrong turn. I was devastated. I was at the helm of my career then in radio broadcasting earning a handsome salary and loved by all. I was the shining star in my family, the envy of friends and foe alike. I woke up to a new day everyday with zest and compassion knowing I had a responsibility to use the radio platform to brighten up someone's day. Then the curtain came down. I literally went from hero to zero in the blink of an eye. I lost everything. I lost integrity, I lost my image, I lost my reputation, I lost my pride and ofcause I lost my source of income. I went from eating lavish meals in any restaurant I wanted (usually on someone else's tab might I add lol. It's all part of the fame package you see so embrace it when it comes) to eating raw avos from the tree in my back yard because I couldn't even afford a loaf*

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*of bread. Shame and embarrassment ruled my roost for months I shyed away in my bedroom too distraught to even respond to the few family and friends who perpetually reached out to me to help me out where when and how they could.*

*I had hit rock bottom and the only thing I could do was look up, for by HIS GRACE in all the darkness I never forgot that I had an awesome Creator who although seemed silent at the time, I knew HE had not forsaken me. HIS word which I read fervently reassured me that if I remained steadfast in my faith in HIS work and HIS promises HE would lead me to green pastures again. It took a bit of a while but slowly and speedily I began to pull myself up and out of my self made dungeon. I accepted my reality of the situation then and opened up to getting the help I needed to keep moving forward. I began to live again. I knew no corporate wanted to touch me anymore at that time. I knew getting a gig on any other other radio station was a complete waist of my time at that time regardless how brilliant I was. I knew I had to turn to my other talents that God gave me and other skills I had acquired over the years to find a way to sustain a decent livelihood after all I couldn't possibly depend on the kindness of those dear to me to go on for too long. I did hair, I did and taught nails. I started facilitating tv presenting and radio presenting workshops. I turned my backyard into a mini horticulture farm. Slowly but surely things began to fall into place but still.... my heart was broken. All I wanted really was to get back to my radio job that I so loved and cherished. My career in broadcasting was everything to me and EVERYDAY for 5 five years my prayer had something to do with " Jehovah mundirangarirewo pabasa pangu. Ndidzosereyi to my rightful position". For five years HE seemed still but I knew HE was not deaf. Along the way attempts were made to get me back on air on several platforms but all turned out futile. I DIDN'T LOOSE HOPE!*

*Today I stand before man in absolute awe of God's faithfulness to me YET AGAIN. Starting this Sunday the 18th of February 2018 I am back on radio on the same radio station with my own show. Yes my fb friends and family I AM BACK doing what I do best – being a phenomenal vivacious radio presenter. I GOT MY SECOND CHANCE and I'm running with it.*

*Words fail me when I want to thank all you who have stood by me through the ups and downs of it all. Some I know personaly, some only through our unity on this platform and some who have stood quietly but loyally in the terraces. You know who you are I cannot possibly name you one by one , but to each and everyone of you I say THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU. As I write this tears of infinitive gratitude are pouring down my cheeks. MWARI wedu wenyasha arambe achikurangarireyi in all you do. Amen*

*To those going through any type of darkness right now please please allow my journey of restoration to be a testimony to you. We ALL faulter ,we are but human , but we ALL have the capacity to rise up again.Never ever count yourself out because of a bad situation you are in.*

*Remain steadfast in your prayer and faith. The world will judge yes and that's okay but know that the decision comes from above. I'm far from perfect and yes I still err in the rightful path of my CREATOR but I'm a better human being for it. I will continue to try and do what pleases HIM. That's what lifes about. Just keep aiming to be better and above all never give up in what you want and believe in.*

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## Pictures



## About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

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To join the Pindula community of editors, please go to <https://contribute.pindula.co.zw?> or just get in touch with us on **WhatsApp: +263 77 770 7852.**

## References

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