

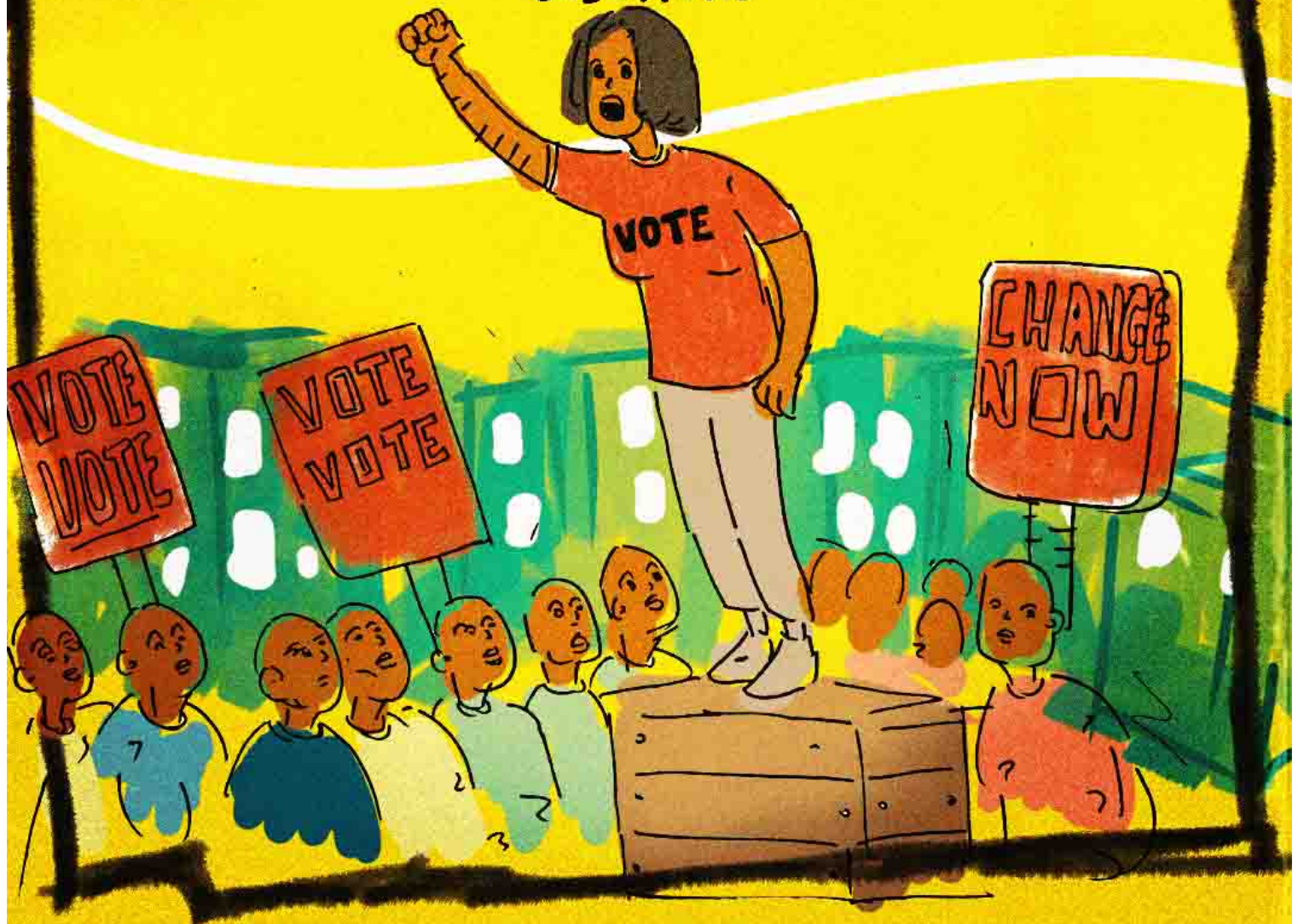
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THE GOOD, THE BAD
AND THE POLITICS OF
WOMEN
ON THE iNTERNET

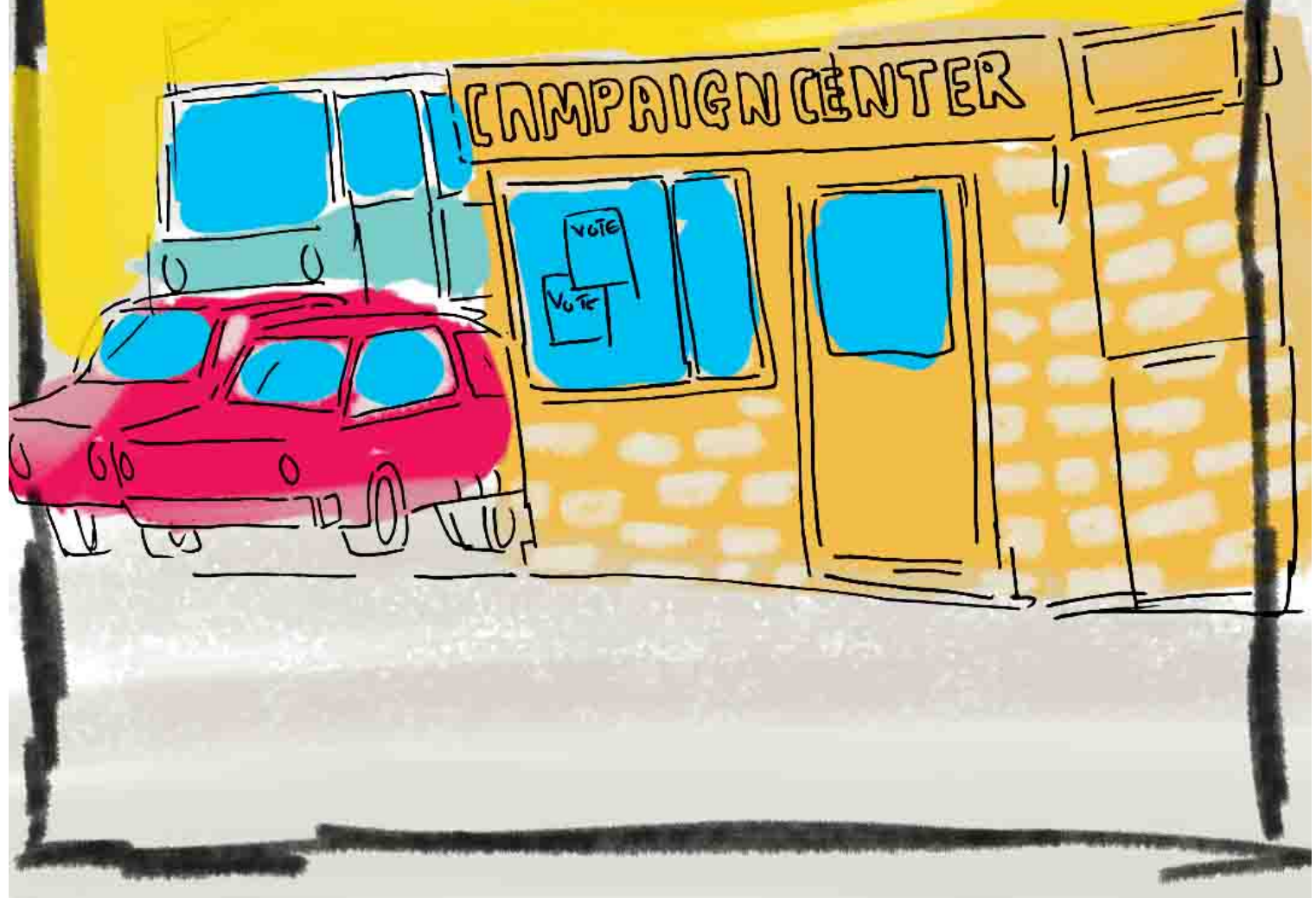
**READ MORE ABOUT THE CHALLENGES FEMALE
LEADERS FACE WITH THE INTERNET**

**[HTTPS://WWW.KICTANET.OR.KE/EXAMINING-ONLINE-GENDER-
BASED-VIOLENCE-ON-FEMALE-POLITICIANS-AND-LEADERS-IN-
KENYA/](https://www.kictanet.or.ke/examining-online-gender-based-violence-on-female-politicians-and-leaders-in-kenya/)**

**i'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO FIGHT AND
REPRESENT MY COMUNITY. EVEN AS A
WOMAN.SO i JUMPED AT THE
OPPORTUNITY TO
RUN FOR OFFICE IN THE LAST
ELECTIONS**



MY CAMPAIGN WAS AMAZING, I HAD THE COMMUNITY
BACK ME UP, MY MANIFESTO WAS SOLID AND RELATABLE, I
HAD VOLUNTEERS FROM ALL AGES AND GENDERS.





WINNER!!!

**i WON!! i WON!! IT WAS THE GREATEST NIGHT OF
MY LIFE, AND WHEN i STOOD UP THERE
i DIDN'T SEE MY VICTORY AS A SERVICE TO
WOMEN, OR PEOPLE OF A CERTAIN TRIBE, i SAW
IT AS A WIN FOR MY COMMUNITY! A CHANCE FOR
CHANGE! FOR EVERYONE**

**YOU NEED A HUSBAND
TO KEEP YOU YOU BUSY**

WE HATE YOU

**WOMEN SHOULD
STAY IN THE
KITCHEN**



**BUT AS SOON AS I WON, I STARTED
RECEIVING ONLINE ABUSE.
THE INTERNET MADE ME FEEL
UNSAFE**

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WOMEN LEADERS FACE
SUSTAINED ONLINE
ATTACKS OF GENDERED
DISINFORMATION AND
HARASSMENT MORE THAN
THEIR MALE
COUNTERPARTS

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PEOPLE USE FALSE NARRATIVES ABOUT THEIR SEXUALITY OR MARITAL STATUS TO DISCREDIT THEIR WORK AND ULTIMATELY SWAY THE PUBLIC'S OPINION OF THEM. AS A RESULT, ONLINE GBV HAS A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC SPHERES, AND WOMEN ARE RESPONDING BY SELF-CENSORING OR EVEN OPTING OUT OF DIGITAL SPACES ALTOGETHER.

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THERE REMAINS A LONG WAY TO GO IN
BRIDGING THE DIGITAL GENDER DIVIDE,
CREATING SAFE SPACES ON ONLINE PLATFORMS
AND TRANSFORMING THE CURRENT CAPITALIST
AND EXPLOITATIVE INTERNET MODEL INTO ONE
THAT ALLOWS WOMEN TO THRIVE AND GROW.

THE INTERNET IS FOR EVERYONE