



16 Days of Activism Against
Gender Violence
November 25 - December 10

Center for Women's Global Leadership

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16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

November 25 - December 10

Campaign Profile



What is the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign?

The **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence** is an international campaign originating from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute sponsored by the Center for Women's Global Leadership in 1991. Participants chose the dates, November 25, **International Day Against Violence Against Women** and December 10, **International Human Rights Day**, in order to symbolically link violence against women and human rights and to emphasize that such violence is a violation of human rights. This 16-day period also highlights other significant dates including December 1, which is **World AIDS Day**, and December 6, which marks the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. (See enclosed "Description of dates" for more information.)

The **16 Days Campaign** has been used as an organizing strategy by individuals and groups around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of violence against women by:

- ◆ raising awareness about gender-based violence as a human rights issue at the local, national, regional and international levels
- ◆ strengthening local work around violence against women
- ◆ making a clear link between local and international work to end violence against women
- ◆ creating a method to share and develop new and effective strategies
- ◆ showing the solidarity of women around the world organizing against violence against women
- ◆ creating tools to pressure governments to implement promises made to eliminate violence against women

Every year, the Global Center composes a Campaign theme in consultation with women's human rights advocates worldwide and then circulates an announcement for the campaign as widely as possible. Over the years, Campaign themes have included, "Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights (1991)," "Democracy without Women's Human Rights....is not Democracy (1993)," "Awareness, Accountability, Action: Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights (1994)," "Vienna, Cairo, Copenhagen and Beijing: Bringing Women's Human Rights Home (1995)," "Demand Women's Human Rights in the Home and in the World (1997)," "Building a Culture of Respect for Human Rights (1998)" and "Fulfilling the Promise of Freedom from Violence (1999)." If you have suggestions for a future **16 Days Campaign** theme or would like to receive future announcements, please contact the Center.



How can I become involved?

- ◆ Join an already existing student, community, national or international organization and help them coordinate activities for the **16 Days** -- or take action on your own!
- ◆ Educate your community about violence against women using circulars, posters, banners, speakouts, interviews, editorials, or articles to get information out!
- ◆ Organize a rally, panel, film festival, workshop, etc. with a focus on violence against women.
- ◆ Exchange messages of support and solidarity with individuals and organizations coordinating activities for the **16 Days**!
- ◆ Request this year's **16 Days** announcement from the Global Center which includes suggestions for action based on the current theme.
- ◆ Visit the Global Center website for suggested activities and browse through descriptions of activities which people have organized in previous years.



How do I link up with all of the other activities being organized throughout the world?

Contact the Center for Women's Global Leadership and we will send you the names, fax numbers and e-mails of other individuals and organizations coordinating **16 Days** activities. This will enable you and other participants in the campaign to exchange letters of solidarity and support and where possible work together in the future.

If you organize an activity for the **16 Days**, send a brief description with dates of your planned activities, your name and your contact information to the Global Center so that we can post the information to the *International Calendar of Campaign Activities*. An on-line submission form is available on the Global Center's website. Once the calendar has been compiled, we will send copies to participating organizations. The calendar will highlight your efforts as part of a broader movement for women's human rights and provide you with examples of activities and strategies used by other individuals and organizations during the Campaign.



For more information about the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence,
please contact:

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e-mail: cwgl@iqc.org
website: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>

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Description of Dates



International Day Against Violence Against Women

Why November 25?

November 25 was declared International Day Against Violence Against Women at the first Feminist Encuentro for Latin America and the Caribbean held in Bogota, Colombia, July 18-21, 1981. At that Encuentro women systematically denounced gender violence from domestic battery, to rape and sexual harassment, to state violence including torture and abuses of women political prisoners. November 25 was chosen to commemorate the violent assassination of the Mirabal sisters (Patria, Minerva and Maria Teresa) on November 25, 1960 by the dictatorship of Rafael Trujillo in the Dominican Republic.

What are the feminist encuentros?

The "feminist encuentros" are conferences of feminists from Latin America who come together every two years in a different Latin American country in order to exchange experiences and to reflect upon the state of the women's movement. Sexuality and violence in their wide ranging forms and contexts have always been included in the wide ranging themes of these gatherings. These encounters have stimulated the creation of regional networks, workshops, video and radio programs, women's studies curricula, and a growing number of women's documentation centers throughout the region which are dedicated to collecting and making available information about the history and priorities of the women's movement. They have also provided a space for formulating and discussing the focus of a growing number of women's magazines and newsletters, which contain articles, analysis and reports of the wide ranging actions being undertaken by women throughout the region.

Who are the Mirabal sisters?

Patria, Minerva, Maria Teresa and Dedé were born in Ojo de Agua near the city of Salcedo, in the Cibao region of the Dominican Republic to Enrique Mirabal and Maria Mercedes Reyes. The Mirabal sisters - "Las Mariposas (the Butterflies)" - were political activists and highly visible symbols of resistance to Trujillo's dictatorship. They were repeatedly jailed, along with their husbands, for their revolutionary activities toward democracy and justice. On November 25, 1960 three of the Mirabal sisters, Minerva, Patria and Maria Teresa were murdered along with Rufino de la Cruz by members of Trujillo's secret police. The three women were being driven by Rufino to Puerto Plata to visit their imprisoned husbands. The bodies of the three sisters were found at the bottom of a precipice broken and strangled. The news of their murders shocked and outraged the nation. The brutal assassination of the Mirabal sisters was one of the events that helped propel the anti-Trujillo movement. Trujillo was assassinated on May 30, 1961 and his regime fell soon after.

The sisters have become symbols of both popular and feminist resistance. In the years since their deaths, the Mirabal sisters have been commemorated in poems, songs and books. An exhibition of their belongings has been mounted at the National Museum of History and Geography, a stamp in their memory has been issued and a private foundation is raising money to renovate a family museum in their hometown. On March 8, 1997, International Women's Day, a mural was unveiled on the 137-foot obelisk (that Trujillo had erected in his honor) in Santo Domingo. It depicts the images of the four sisters. The painting on the obelisk is entitled "Un Canto a la Libertad" (A Song to Liberty).

For more information see Julia Alvarez's fictional account of the Mirabal sisters in her 1994 novel, "In the Time of the Butterflies;" Bernard Diederich's book "Trujillo: The Death of the Dictator;" and "The Mirabal Sisters," in Connexions, an International Women's Quarterly, No. 39, 1992.

World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day is observed every year on December 1. This day marks the beginning of an annual campaign designed to encourage public support for and development of programs to prevent the spread of HIV infection and provide education and promote awareness of issues surrounding HIV/AIDS. It was first observed in 1988 after a summit of health ministers from around the world called for a spirit of social tolerance and a greater exchange of information on HIV/AIDS. World AIDS Day serves to strengthen the global effort to face the challenges of the AIDS pandemic.

For more information about World AIDS Day and the current theme, contact UNAIDS Secretariat, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, ph: (41-22)791 3666, fax: (41-22)791 4187, e-mail: unaids@unaids.org, website: <http://www.unaids.org>.

The Montreal Massacre

On Wednesday, December 6, 1989 a 25 year-old man, Marc Lepine, walked into the University of Montreal's School of Engineering Building at about five in the afternoon, with a .223 calibre semi-automatic rifle. He began a shooting spree during which he murdered fourteen women and injured thirteen others: nine women and four men. Marc Lepine believed it was because of women students that he was not accepted to the engineering school. Before killing himself, he left an explanatory letter behind which contained a tirade against feminists as well as a list of nineteen prominent women, whom he particularly despised.

The fourteen women who were murdered in the massacre were: Anne-Marie Edward, Anne-Marie Lemay, Annie St. Arneault, Annie Turcotte, Barbara Daigneault, Barbara Maria Klueznick, Genevieve Bergeron, Helen Colgan, Maud Haviernick, Maryse Laganier, Maryse Leclair, Michele Richard, Natalie Croteau and Sonia Pelletier.

These women became symbols, tragic representatives, of the injustice against women. Women's groups across the country organized vigils, marches and memorials. There was an increase in support for educational programs and resources to reduce violence against women. Both federal and provincial governments made commitments to end violence against women. In 1991, the Canadian government proclaimed December 6th National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. In 1993, an organization calling itself the Dec. 6 Coalition set up a revolving fund for women leaving violent situations to establish themselves and their children in a safer, more secure environment. Also in 1993 a campaign called Zero Tolerance was launched offering men the opportunity to show solidarity with women against violence against women. As a direct result of the massacre, several mothers of the victims began groups to restrict gun laws and promote awareness of the continued violence against women.

For more information see "The Montreal Massacre" edited by Louise Malette & Marie Chalouh, Gynergy Books/Ragweed Pr; ISBN: 0921881142 or visit the Men for Change website at <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca>.

International Human Rights Day

On December 10 peoples and states the world over celebrate the adoption, in 1948, of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. On this landmark date in contemporary history, the nations of the world joined together to try and bury, once and for all, the spectre of genocide raised by the Second World War. This document was one of the first major achievements of the United Nations and provided the basic philosophy for many legally binding international instruments to follow. Resolution 217A (III) by the General Assembly, proclaims the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms..."

Organizations and individuals use Human Rights Day as an opportunity to both commemorate the signing of this historical document and to promote the principles which are enumerated throughout the document. Human Rights Day, according to High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, is "an occasion to demonstrate that the principles of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* were not theoretical or abstract."

To obtain a copy of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and to see a description of activities the United Nations has planned for Human Rights Day, please visit the UN website at <http://www.unhchr.ch/udhr/index.htm>.

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Countries with Campaign Activities 1991 - 1998

Angola	Ghana	Romania
Argentina	Guatemala	Russia
Armenia	Haiti	Rwanda
Australia	Honduras	Scotland
Austria	Hong Kong	Serbia
Bangladesh	Hungary	South Africa
Barbados	India	Spain
Benin	Indonesia	Sri Lanka
Bolivia	Ireland	Suriname
Brazil	Israel	Switzerland
British Virgin Islands	Italy	Tajikistan
Bulgaria	Jamaica	Tanzania
Cambodia	Japan	Thailand
Cameroun	Jordan	Tibet
Canada	Kenya	Togo
Cayman Islands	Korea	Trinidad & Tobago
Chile	Malaysia	Tunis
Colombia	Mali	Turkey
Congo	Mauritius	Uganda
Costa Rica	Mexico	Ukraine
Cote d'Ivoire	Mozambique	United States
Croatia	Nepal	Uruguay
Cyprus	The Netherlands	Vanuatu
Czech Republic	New Zealand	Venezuela
Dominican Republic	Nicaragua	Zambia
Ecuador	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
El Salvador	Norway	
England	Pakistan	[list in formation]
Fiji	Palestine	
Finland	Panama	
France	Peru	
Gambia	Philippines	
Germany	Poland	

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Participating Organizations 1991 - 1998

16 Days Committee\Rwanda, Rwanda
A Woman's Place Project, New York, USA
ABA CEELI, Russia
Academia Mexicana de Derechos Humanos, Mexico
Acção para o Desenvolvimento Rural e Ambiente (ADRA), Angola
ACIAR, Costa Rica
Action Health International (AHI), Nigeria
ADS, El Salvador
African Women Empowerment, Nigeria
Agradecemos a la Embajada de Dinamarca, Costa Rica
Ahmedabad Women's Action Group (AWAG), India
Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK), Bangladesh
Al-Haq, Israel
Alaide Foppa, A.C., Mexico
Alfalit de El Salvador - Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo, El Salvador
All Women's Action Society, Malaysia
Alliance Against Trafficking (AATWIN), Nepal
Almacén de Recursos, Mexico
Alternative for India Development, India
Alternatives for Battered Women, New York, USA
Amnesty International, Atlanta, USA
Amnesty International, California, USA
Amnesty International, Cote d'Ivoire
Animus Association, Bulgaria
Annai Indira Sathiya Samuga Nala Mahalir Mandram (AISSNMM), India
Aquí Nosotras Network, England
Area Mujeres de ALAI, Ecuador
ASA Foundation for Women, Suriname
Asia & Pacific Development Center, Malaysia
Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Malaysia
Asian Women's Human Rights Council (AWHRC), Philippines
Asian Centre for Women's Human Rights (ASCENT), Philippines
Asmita Resource Centre for Women, India
Asociación de Abogadas Chihuahuenses, A.C., Mexico
Asociación Colombiana de Clubes - UNESCO, Colombia
Asociación de Ayuda Materna Ñuña, Argentina
Asociación de Mujeres Campesinas de Huancabamba (AMHBA), Peru
Asociación de Mujeres para la Salud, Spain

Asociación Distrital de Educadores (ADE), Colombia
 Asociación Mexicana contra la Violencia a las Mujeres, A.C. (COVAC), Mexico
 Asociación Mundial de Radios Comunitarias (AMARC), Ecuador
 Asociación para el Desarrollo Integral de Personas Violadas, A.C. (ADIVAC), Mexico
 Asociación PRODEMU, Peru
 Asociación Regional Sureste Contra el SIDA, A.C., Mexico
 Asociación Solidaridad Países Emergentes (ASPEM), Peru
 Asociación Venezolana para una Educacion Sexual Alternativa (AVESA), Venezuela
 Asociația Femeilor din România, Romania
 Association de Lutte contre les Violences Faites aux Femmes (ALVF), Cameroun
 Association for Community Development (ACD), Bangladesh
 Association for Rural Advancement, South Africa
 Association for the Prevention & Handling of Violence in the Family, Cyprus
 Association Ivoirienne pour la Defense des Droits (AIDF), Côte d'Ivoire
 Association of Business Women Khujand, Tajikistan
 Association pour le Progres et la Defense des Droits des Femmes Maliennes (APDF), Mali
 Association Tunisienne des Femmes Democrates, Tunis
 Augusta Productions, Canada
 Austrian Coalition for Women's Human Rights, Austria
 Austrian Women's Shelter Network, Austria
 Autonomous Women's Center against Sexual Violence, Serbia
 Babaye Ugma Ug Karon Sa Agusan - Surigao (Bukas), Philippines
 Ban Ying e.V. Koordinationsstelle, Germany
 Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Bangladesh
 BAOBAB, Nigeria
 Bat-Adam, Israel
 Be active, Be emancipated (B.a.B.e.), Croatia
 Black Sash, South Africa
 Bodyshop, England
 Bray Women's Refuge, Ireland
 Bulawayo Women Lawyers Association, Zimbabwe
 Burlington Women's Council, Vermont, USA
 Business Women Association, Tajikistan
 C.B.C.I. Centre, India
 Campaign Against Gender Violence, Sri Lanka
 Campaign Against Pornography, England
 Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA), Trinidad & Tobago
 Casa de Apoio viva Maria, Brazil
 Casa de Cultura da Mulher Negra, Brazil
 Casa de la Mujer de Chimbote, Peru
 Casa da la Mujer de la Unión, Uruguay
 Casa de la Mujer de Valparaíso, Chile
 Casa de la Mujer La Morada, Chile
 Casa de la Mujer Rosario Castellanos, Mexico
 Cayman Islands Business & Professional Women's Club, Cayman Islands
 Center for Reproductive Law & Policy, New York, USA
 Center for Women, Family and Gender Studies, Russia
 Center for Women's Global Leadership, New Jersey, USA
 Center for Women War Victims, Croatia
 Center for Women's Development, Costa Rica
 Central American and Caribbean Women's Art Festival for Human Rights, Costa Rica
 Central American Human Rights Commission (CODEHUCA), Costa Rica
 Centre Actu-elle, Canada
 Centre County Women's Resource Center, Pennsylvania, USA
 Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour le Développement (CRAD), Haiti
 Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR), Sri Lanka
 Centro Costarricense de Producción Cinematografica, Costa Rica
 Centro de Amigos para la Paz - LIMPAL, Costa Rica
 Centro de Apoyo a la Mujer Maltratada (C.A.M.M.), Argentina

Centro de Apoyo a Mujeres y Menores, Mexico
 Centro de Asesorías y Servicios Mujer y Familia, Nicaragua
 Centro de Atención a la Mujer Trabajadora, Mexico
 Centro de Atención en Salud Reproductiva, Mexico
 Centro de Atención y Prevención del Abuso Sexual y el Maltrato, Mexico
 Centro de Encuentros Cultura y Mujer (CECYM), Argentina
 Centro de Estudios de la Mujer, Honduras
 Centro de Estudios e Investigación sobre el Maltrato de la Mujer, Ecuador
 Centro de Estudios e Investigaciones de la Mujer Ecuatoriana (CEIME), Ecuador
 Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo Rural (CESDER), Mexico
 Centro de Estudios, Promoción y Asesoría para el Desarrollo (CEPAD), Peru
 Centro de Estudios Sociales (CESOC), Chile
 Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina (CIPAF), Dominican Republic
 Centro de la Mujer de Moquegua, Peru
 Centro de la Mujer Panameña, Panama
 Centro de Mulheres 8 de Marco, Brazil
 Centro de Planificación y Estudios Sociales (CEPLAES), Ecuador
 Centro Feminista de Información y Acción (CEFEMINA), Costa Rica
 Centro Integral de la Mujer (CIM), Bolivia
 Centro Nacional para el Desarrollo de la Mujer y la Familia, Costa Rica
 Centro para el Desarrollo e Integración de la Mujer (CEDIM), Peru
 Centro Regional para la Educación y Organización (CREO), Mexico
 Centrum Praw Kobiet, Poland
 CEPROM, Peru
 Chirapaq, the Center for Indian Cultures, Peru
 CIDHAL, Mexico
 CIPAF, Dominican Republic
 Círculo de Estudios de Género, Mexico
 Civil Liberties Organisation (CLO), Nigeria
 Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC), Nigeria
 CLADEM, Argentina
 CLADEM, Peru
 Clearinghouse on Femicide, California, USA
 Coalición Política de Mujeres Andinas, Venezuela
 Coalition on Violence Against Women (COVAW), Kenya
 Colectivo 25 de Noviembre, Costa Rica
 Colectivo de Hombres por Relaciones Igualitarias, A.C. (CORIAC), Mexico
 Colectivo de Mujeres de Matagalpa, Nicaragua
 Coletivo de Mulheres Negras da Baixada Santista, Brazil
 Colectivo Feminista Sexualidade Saude, Brazil
 Columbia University School of Public Health - Law and Policy Project, New York, USA
 Comisión 25 de Noviembre, Guatemala
 Comisión Bicameral para los Derechos de la Mujer, Venezuela
 Comisión Chilena de Derechos Humanos, Chile
 Comisión de Estudiantes de Filosofía pro Derechos Humanos, Costa Rica
 Comisión de Mujeres del ICE, Costa Rica
 Comité Cívico, Bolivia
 Comité de Maternidad sin Riesgos en Morelos, Mexico
 Comité de Privadas de Libertad, Costa Rica
 Comity Camerounais de Promotion des Droits des Femmes (CCPDF), Cameroun
 Commission for Laity and Family, India
 Community Life Project (CLP), Nigeria
 Community Resource Centre of Kanata, Canada
 Comunicación e Información de la Mujer A.C. (CIMAC), Mexico
 Concertación de Mujeres por la Paz, la Dignidad y la Igualdad, El Salvador
 Confederación Nacional Agraria (CNA), Peru
 Conselho Estadual los Direitos la Mulher (CEDIM), Brazil
 Coordinación de Organismos de Mujeres, El Salvador
 Coordinadora de Mujeres del Cibao (CMC), Dominican Republic

Coordinadora de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales de Mujeres (CONG de Mujeres), Venezuela
 Coordinadora de Trabajo con Mujeres de Ayacucho (COTMA), Peru
 Coordinadora Política Nacional de Mujeres Ecuatorianas (CPME), Ecuador
 Coordination des Associations pour le Droit l'Avortement et la Contraception (CADAC), France
 Costa Rican Human Rights Commission (CODEHU), Costa Rica
 Council for Equality, Sub-Committee on Violence, Finland
 Council for the Defense of Human and Environmental Rights, Truth and Liberty, Benin
 Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, British Virgin Islands
 CRP, Nigeria
 Cultural Academy for Peace, India
 CUSO - West Africa Regional Office, Ghana
 Defensoría de la Mujer, Costa Rica
 Delegación de la Mujer, Costa Rica
 Development, Security and Peace Council (DESEPAZ), Chile
 Dirección de Cultura de la UCV, Venezuela
 Dirección de Salud, Bolivia
 Dirección Nacional de la Mujer (DINAMU), Ecuador
 Diversa, Mexico
 Doble Jornada, Mexico
 Domestic Violence Resource Centre, Australia
 Douglass College Government Association (DCGA), New Jersey, USA
 Douglass College - LABIA, New Jersey, USA
 Douglass College - Women's Support and Resource Center, New Jersey, USA
 Dutchess County Coalition Against Domestic Violence, New York, USA
 Earth Peace International Film Festival, Vermont, USA
 Eastern Cape NGO Coalition, South Africa
 Eastern Michigan University - Women's Center, Michigan, USA
 Education WifeAssault, Canada
 EKTA, India
 El Centro Amauta, Peru
 El Centro de la Mujer Peruana "Flora Tristan", Peru
 El Centro IDEAS, Peru
 El Colegio de Abogados, Guatemala
 El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico
 El Colegio de Sociólogos de Venezuela, Venezuela
 El Grupo Feminista de Donostia, Spain
 El Grupo Iniciativa por un Tribunal contra la Violencia hacia las Mujeres Haitianas, Haiti
 El Instituto de Apoyo a la Mujer Campesina (IAMAMC), Peru
 El Ministerio de Promoción de la Mujer y el Desarrollo Humano (PROMUDEH), Peru
 El Ministerio de Salud, Peru
 El Movimiento Amplio De Mujeres (MAM), Peru
 El Programa de Apoyo al Repoblamiento y Desarrollo de Zonas de Emergencia (PAR), Peru
 El Programa de Género del Servicio Universitario Mundial en Venezuela, Venezuela
 El Programa Mujer, Justicia y Genero, Costa Rica
 Electra, Croatia
 Emace Foundation of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka
 Embaixada do Reino da Suécia, Angola
 Empowerment Action Research Centre (EMPARC), Nigeria
 European Movement Serbia, Serbia
 European Youth Forest Action (EYFA) - Women's Project, The Netherlands
 Eveil de la Femme - Réseau, Action, Femme, Congo
 FAMPLAN, Jamaica
 Federación Provincial de Mujeres de Ica (FEPROMU-ICA), Peru
 FEJUVE, the Association of Neighborhood Committees, Bolivia
 Feminist Association "Humanitarian Initiative", Ukraine
 Feminist International Radio Endeavor (FIRE), Costa Rica
 Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, Fiji
 Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM), Fiji
 Filipino Women's Council, Italy

First Asian Protective Behaviors - Engineering and Management Services, Philippines
 Foundation for Women's Solidarity, Turkey
 Foundation Stop Violence Against Women, Suriname
 Frauen Helfen Frauen in Not e.V., Germany
 Friends of Women Foundation, Thailand
 Fundacion Alicia Moreau de Justo, Argentina
 Fundación María Guare, Ecuador
 Fundación Mujer Iglesia, Dominican Republic
 FUNDEMU (Women's Rights Foundation), Argentina
 Gabinete de Enfermeras y Centro de Orientación, Mexico
 Gabriela Network, Philippines
 Gania Unnayan Committee, India
 Gender Studies and Human Rights Documentation Centre, Ghana
 Global Kids, New York, USA
 Goddard College - Women, Violence and Human Rights Group, Vermont, USA
 Good Shepherd Social Justice Commission, New Zealand
 Group for Women's Rights and Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia
 Group TICIME, Mexico
 Grupo de Mujeres de San Cristobal las Casas A.C., Mexico
 Grupo Interagencial de Genero y Avance de la Mujer (CIGAM), Guatemala
 Haifa Women's Coalition, Israel
 Hofstra University Women's Studies Program, New York, USA
 House of Ruth, Inc., California
 Human Rights Commission, Chile
 Human Rights Committee - District Swat, Pakistan
 Human Rights Network Uganda, Uganda
 Human Rights Watch/ Women's Rights Project, New York, USA
 Humanistic Committee on Human Rights (HOM), The Netherlands
 Immaculate Heart College Center, California, USA
 Immigrant and Visible Minority Women Against Abuse (IVMWAA), Canada
 Indian Association of Women's Studies, India
 Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC), Nepal
 Instituto de Estudios Juridico Sociales de la Mujer (INDESO-Mujer), Argentina
 Instituto de Genero, Derecho y Desarrollo, Argentina
 Instituto de la Mujer, Chile
 Instituto Ecuatoriano de Investigaciones y Capacitacion de la Mujer (IECAIM), Ecuador
 Instituto Laboral para el Desarrollo Regional (ILDER), Peru
 Instituto Latinoamericano de Naciones Unidas para la Prevencion del Delito y Tratamiento del
 Delincuente (ILANUD), Costa Rica
 Instituto Latinoamericano de Servicios Legales Alternativos (ILSA), Colombia
 Instituto Social y Politico de la Mujer (ISPM), Argentina
 InterAction, Washington, D.C., USA
 Inter-African Committee (IAC), Nigeria
 Interamerican Women Activists Concertation for Human Rights (CIMA), Costa Rica
 Interfaith Council of New York, New York, USA
 International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Cameroon
 International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Nigeria
 International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), New York, USA
 International Reproductive Rights Research and Action Group (IRRRAG), New York, USA
 International Union of Students, Czech Republic
 International Women's Development Agency (IWDA), Australia
 International Women's Tribune Centre (IWTC), New York, USA
 IRIS, Switzerland
 Isis Internacional, Chile
 ISIS-WICCE, Uganda
 Israel Women's Network, Israel
 Juntas por Venezuela, Venezuela
 Kalyanamitra, Indonesia
 Komiti Agensem Vaelens Agensem Woman (KAVAW), Vanuatu

Korea Sexual Violence Relief Center, Korea
 Korea Women's Development Institute, Korea
 Korea Women's Hotline, Korea
 Las Dignas, El Salvador
 Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN), Chile
 Les Organisations Non Gouvernementales contre la violence au foyer, Togo
 Loyola University, Louisiana, USA
 LRRDC, Nigeria
 Lugar de Mujer, Argentina
 Maitree, India
 Manchester Justice for Women, England
 Marymount Manhattan College - International Club, New York, USA
 Marymount Manhattan College - International Studies Program, New York, USA
 Masimanyane Women's Support Centre, South Africa
 MATCH International Centre, Canada
 Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Costa Rica
 Ministry of Education, Costa Rica
 Ministry of Gender and Community Development - NGO Law Reform Fund, Uganda
 M.O.B.I.L.E., North Carolina, USA
 Mor Çati Kadın Siğinağı Vakfı, Turkey
 Moscow Sexual Assault Recovery Centre, Russia
 Mount Holyoke College - Violence and Peace Group, Vermont, USA
 Movimiento de Emancipación de la Mujer (MEMCH), Chile
 Movimiento de Mujeres, Chile
 Movimiento de Mujeres "Melida Anaya Montes", El Salvador
 Movimiento Manuela Ramos, Peru
 Movimiento por Una Vida sin Violencia (MOVIDA), Dominican Republic
 Mujeres para el Bienestar (MUPABI), Dominican Republic
 Mujeres por la Dignidad y la Vida, El Salvador
 Mujeres Radicales, Argentina
 Municipal Agriculture Office - Region 9, Philippines
 Muvman Liberasyon Fam (MLF), Mauritius
 Nadja Centre, Bulgaria
 Naripokkho, Bangladesh
 National Centre for the Development of Women and the Family, Costa Rica
 National Clearinghouse on Marital and Date Rape, California, USA
 National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Washington, DC, USA
 National Council of Women of Thailand, Thailand
 National Law School of India University - Gender Forum, India
 National Network of Non-Governmental Institutions in the Area of Women, Dominican Republic
 National Network on Domestic and Sexual Violence Against Women, Chile
 National Organization for Women - North Virginia Chapter (NoVA NOW), Virginia, USA
 National Women's Network for International Solidarity, England
 Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute, Hungary
 New Cause - Network for Education of Women Credit, Autonomy and Self Employment, India
 Nicaraguan Institute of Agrarian Reform (INRA), Nicaragua
 Northern Ireland Women's Aid Federation, Ireland
 Norwegian People's Aid, Norway
 November Women's Action Coalition, England
 Núcleo de Apoyo a la Mujer (NAM), Dominican Republic
 Office for Women's Rights - City of Seattle, Washington, USA
 Ontario Institute for Studies in Education - Feminist Organizing Collective, Canada
 OPEN SECRET - Young Women's Group, Scotland
 Ośrodek Informacji Środowisk Kobiety (OŚKA), Poland
 Ova Pacem, Vermont, USA
 OXFAM, South Africa
 Pacific Lutheran University - Women's Center, Washington, USA
 Pakistan Association for Women's Studies, Pakistan
 Palestine Human Rights Information Center (PHRIC), Israel

Palestinian Working Women Society, Israel
 Pastoral Social, Colombia
 Pavee Point Travellers Centre, Ireland
 Pax Christi, New Zealand
 Peace Education Now, Florida, USA
 Peace Links, Pennsylvania, USA
 Penn State University Women's Concerns, Pennsylvania, USA
 People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA), South Africa
 People's Council for Social Justice, India
 Philippine News & Feature, Philippines
 PLAFAM, Venezuela
 Política de Mujeres Ecuatorianas, Ecuador
 Programa de Apoyo a la Mujer Campesina, Mexico
 Programa Mujer y Derechos Humanos of the InterAmerican Human Rights Institute, Costa Rica
 Project Harmony, Russia
 Puntos de Encuentro, Nicaragua
 Purple Ribbon Campaign, Canada
 Radio LoRa, Switzerland
 Radio Revista "Hablemos de Nosotras", Nicaragua
 Red Chilena contra la Violencia Domestica y Sexual, Chile
 Red Contra la Violencia a las Mujeres de Cochabamba, Bolivia
 Red de Mujeres AMARC, Ecuador
 Red de Mujeres contra la Violencia, Nicaragua
 Red de Mujeres de Loja, Ecuador
 Red de Mujeres de Zona Sur, Argentina
 Red Nacional de Promoción de la Mujer, Peru
 Red por la Salud de las Mujeres del D.F., Mexico
 Rede Nacional Feminista de Saúde e Direitos Reprodutivos, Brazil
 RESPOND, Inc., Massachusetts, USA
 Revolutionary Association of Women of Afghanistan (RAWA), Pakistan
 Rural Social Poor's & Action for Development Society, India
 Rural Women Development Centre, Nepal
 Rutgers University HIV/AIDS Task Force, New Jersey, USA
 Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, Canada
 Sabah Women Action Resource Group (SAWO), Malaysia
 Sakhi for South Asian Women, New York, USA
 San Francisco Women's Foundation, California, USA
 Sanhita, Gender Resource Centre, India
 Sarah Yasmine, The Netherlands
 Service d'information du Centre de Recherche et d'Action pour le Developpement (SICRAD), Haiti
 Servicio a la Acción Popular (Se.A.P.), Argentina
 Servicio Paz y Justicia (SERPAJ), Panama
 Shelter Rights Initiative (SRI), Nigeria
 Shirkat Gah, Pakistan
 Social Change and Development (SCAD), India
 SOS Corpo Genero e Cidadania, Brazil
 S.O.S. Femmes, Mauritius
 St. Michael's Family Resource Centre, Ireland
 StopAids, Nigeria
 State University of New York (SUNY), New Paltz Women's Studies Department, New York, USA
 Susan B. Anthony University Center - University of Rochester, New York, USA
 Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender Studies - University of Rochester, New York, USA
 Swayam, India
 Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA), Tanzania
 Terre des Femmes, Germany
 Tibetan Women's Association, Tibet
 Timau Child & Family Programme, Kenya
 Tulane University School of Social Work, Louisiana, USA
 TV Cultura, Peru

Uganda Women's Network (UWONET), Uganda
 UNASSE, Mexico
 União de Mulheres do Município de São Paulo, Brazil
 Union of Women Journalists - "Femin-Info", Ukraine
 Union of Women of Ukraine - "Bereginya", Ukraine
 United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India, India
 United Nations Association of San Diego, California, USA
 United Nations Children's Fund - Regional Office for South Asia, Nepal
 United Filipinos in Hong Kong (UNIFIL-HK), Hong Kong
 United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) - Caribbean Office, Barbados
 United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) - Latin American Office, Ecuador
 United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), New York, USA
 United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) - South Asia Regional Office, India
 United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) - Western Asia Regional Office, Jordan
 Universidad Central de Venezuela - Centro de Estudios de la Mujer, Venezuela
 Università di Padova - Istituto di Scienze Politiche, Italy
 University College of Cape Breton - Human Rights Centre for Research, Education and Public Policy, Canada
 University of British Columbia - Women Students' Office, Canada
 University of Heredia (IEM) - Women's Studies Institute, Costa Rica
 University of New Orleans - Women's Center, Louisiana, USA
 University of Rochester - Office of the Dean of Students, New York, USA
 University of Rochester - Office of the Dean of the College, New York, USA
 University of Rochester - Women's Caucus, New York, USA
 University of Vermont - Women's Center, Vermont, USA
 University of Vermont - Department of Social Work, Vermont, USA
 University of Vermont - Non-Traditional Student Association, Vermont, USA
 University of Vermont - President's Commission on the Status of Women, Vermont, USA
 University of Vermont - Student Social Work Organisation, Vermont, USA
 University of West Indies - Women and Development Unit, Barbados
 UNME, Bolivia
 Upper Patawag Young Farmers Club, Philippines
 Violence Against Women Campaign - Organizing Committee, Cambodia
 Violence Against Women in War Network (VAWW-NET), Japan
 Voz de la Mujer, Peru
 Vrouwenberaad Ontwikkelingssamenwerking, The Netherlands
 WAND Health Network, Barbados
 White Ribbon Campaign, Canada
 William Paterson College - Women's Center, New Jersey, USA
 Williston Central School, Vermont, USA
 WIZO, Israel
 WJP, Nigeria
 WOMANKIND Worldwide, United Kingdom
 Women Against Violence Against Women Network, Australia
 Women against War Crime, England
 Women and Autonomy Center (VENA), The Netherlands
 Women and Earth, Russia
 Women and Earth, Connecticut, USA
 Women-Church Convergence, Illinois, USA
 Women Empowered Beyond Beijing (W.E.B.B.) For Equality, Development & Peace, Oregon, USA
 Women Enraged, California, USA
 Women for Women's Human Rights, Turkey
 Women Helping Battered Women, Vermont, USA
 Women in Black, Austria
 Women in Black, United Kingdom
 Women in Development Committee, US Peace Corps, Zimbabwe
 Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), Ghana
 Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), Nigeria
 Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), Uganda

Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), Zambia
 Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), Zimbabwe
 Women in Law in Southern Africa Research Trust (WLSA), Mozambique
 Women in Nigeria (WIN), Nigeria
 Women INK., New York, USA
 Women, Law and Development Centre Nigeria (WLDCN), Nigeria
 Women Make Movies, New York, USA
 Women Working for Social Progress, Trinidad & Tobago
 Women's Action Group, Zimbabwe
 Women's Aid, Ireland
 Women's Aid Organization (WAO), Malaysia
 Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA
 Women's Centre, India
 Women's Centre for Peace and Development (WOPED), Nigeria
 Women's Commission of the Lawyers' Association, Argentina
 Women's Congress for Change, Mexico
 Women's Consortium of Nigeria, Nigeria
 Women's Counselling Center, Croatia
 Women's Crisis Centre, Russia
 Women's Defence Pressure Group, Nepal
 Women's Department of the Ombudsperson's Office, Costa Rica
 Women's Desk - Government of the British Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands
 Women's Feature Service (WFS), India
 Women's Forum of Pernambuco, Brazil
 Women's Human Rights and Citizenship Initiative, Turkey
 Women's Human Rights Campaign, Ireland
 Women's Human Rights Group Losinj, Croatia
 Women's Information Consultative Center, Ukraine
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WiLPF), Canada
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WiLPF), USA
 Women's Place, Canada
 Women's Political Agenda, Costa Rica
 Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC), Nepal
 Women's Rights Center, Armenia
 Women's Rights Network, Massachusetts, USA
 Women's Studies Centre, Israel
 Women's Voice, India
 W.O.R.C., Vermont, USA
 Workers of Wonder Program (WOW), New York, USA
 Working Women Organisation (WWO), Pakistan
 Yayasan Pembela Perkara Perempuan, Indonesia
 Youth Approach for Development & Co-operation (YADC), Bangladesh
 Y.W.C.A., Canada
 Y.W.C.A. of Saskatoon, Canada
 Y.W.C.A., Fiji
 Y.W.C.A., India
 Y.W.C.A. of New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA
 Y.W.C.A. of Watsonville, California, USA
 Y.W.C.A., Zambia
 Zenska Akeija Rijeka, Croatia
 Zenska Grupa Mali Lopinj, Croatia
 Zenska Grupa Poref, Croatia
 Zenska Infoteka, Croatia
 Zero Tolerance for Violence against Women Campaign, United Kingdom
 Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre and Network (ZWRCN), Zimbabwe

[list in formation]

CENTER FOR WOMEN'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Organizational Profile

MISSION

The Center for Women's Global Leadership (Global Center) develops and facilitates women's global leadership toward women's human rights and social justice worldwide. The Center's programs promote the leadership of women and advance feminist perspectives in policy-making processes in local, national and international arenas. Since 1990, the Global Center has fostered women's leadership in the area of human rights through women's global leadership institutes, strategic planning activities, international mobilization campaigns, UN monitoring, global education endeavors, publications, and a resource center. The Center works from a human rights perspective with an emphasis on violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and socio-economic well-being. The Center's programs are in two broad areas: Policy & Advocacy and Leadership Development & Global Education.

POLICY & ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The Global Center played a galvanizing role at the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna and the 1995 World Conference on Women in Beijing. Working in collaboration with women's leaders and NGOs around the world, the Center helped secure international commitments that clearly state "women's rights are human rights." With these benchmarks in place, the Center now works to hold policy making bodies accountable to their promises to the world's women.



International Mobilization Campaigns

The **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence** is an annual campaign--November 25 to December 10--which focuses attention on gender-based violence as a human rights issue. In coordinating the campaign, the Global Center assists hundreds of women's organizations in dozens of countries as they stage their events and focus on national legislation and global policies aimed at the elimination of violence against women. The Center determines and publicizes the theme of the campaign and publishes an international calendar of activities.



UN Monitoring & Advocacy

The Global Center plays a major role at various UN meetings addressing the implementation of commitments from Vienna and Beijing, in particular at the UN Commission on the Status of Women and the UN Commission on Human Rights. Both of these meetings are critical opportunities for the women's human rights community to put the spotlight on the successes and

failures in implementing commitments to women. The Global Center facilitates planning sessions so that women's human rights advocates can monitor and contribute to these meetings effectively; convenes the women's human rights caucus and other gatherings; and sends out alerts and reports both before and after such meetings.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

This program seeks to expand women's effectiveness in the arena of human rights by providing educational, skill-building, and leadership development experiences as well as increasing an understanding of the global context critical for women's leadership in the future.



Women's Global Leadership Institutes

The annual Women's Global Leadership Institute is at the core of the Center's work and feeds into all its programmatic activities. An intensive two-week residential program, the Institute enables women from all regions of the world to become more effective leaders in human rights policy making and practice. Each institute brings together about 25 leaders who engage in policy discussions; develop local and global strategies; attend workshops on women's leadership, United Nations operations, and human rights education; and learn about organizational issues such as fundraising, strategic planning, and using technology.



Human Rights Education and Training

The Center produces a wealth of information and conducts many programs on women's human rights education. The Center is proud to announce the publication of *Local Action/Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls*, a comprehensive training manual that includes the whole spectrum of women's human rights in an "interactive" format. In addition, through the Feminist Translation Project, the Center is making information about women's human rights accessible to diverse women by providing culturally sensitive feminist translations.



Regional and Thematic Institutes

The Center creates opportunities for women from all regions to have access to leadership development and to learn how to participate in policy making on women's human rights. A number of projects will be undertaken around the world over the next five years. In 1998, the first such Institute, Feminism in the Muslim World Leadership Institute, was held in Turkey in partnership with the International Solidarity Network of Women Living Under Muslim Laws.

For more information, contact:



Center for Women's Global Leadership

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160 Ryders Lane · New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-8555 USA
Tel: (1-732)932-8782 · Fax: (1-732)932-1180 · E-mail: cwgl@igc.org
Website: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/>

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Video

The Vienna Tribunal: Women's Rights are Human Rights, 1994, Augusta Productions, with the National Film Board of Canada, in association with the Center for Women's Global Leadership

Director: Gerry Rogers

Length: 48:13 minutes

Description: *The Vienna Tribunal* highlights the testimonies given by women around the world at the Global Tribunal on Violations of Women's Human Rights at the UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993.

Contact: In the United States: Women Make Movies, 462 Broadway, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10013, USA, Fax: (1-212)925-2052;

Outside the United States: Augusta Productions, 54 Mullock Street, St. John's NFLD, Canada A1C2RB, Fax: (1-709)579-8090;

Video in Spanish: SERPAJ-Mexico, Ignacio Mariscal 132, Colonia Tabacalera, Mexico, D.F. 06030, Fax: (52-5)705-0771.



November 25 - December 10, 2000 will mark the Tenth Anniversary of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. We invite all individuals and organizations to participate in a contest to name the 10th Anniversary theme and logo. The winner of the contest will receive a design award of \$2000. All submissions need to be received by the Center by April 15, 2000 in order to be considered. The Center will notify the winner by May 1.

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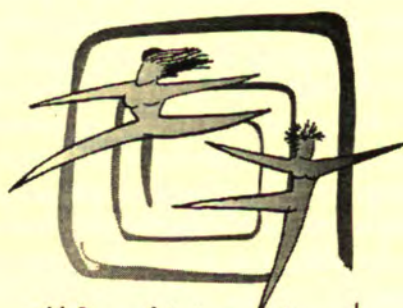
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16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

November 25 - December 10, 1999*

Ninth Annual Campaign * Ninth Annual Campaign * Ninth Annual Campaign * Ninth Annual Campaign * Ninth Annual Campaign

Fulfilling the Promise of Freedom from Violence



*16 Days of Activism Against
Gender Violence
November 25 - December 10*

International Calendar of Campaign Activities

* November 25 - December 10

For the past eight years, activities organized around the world during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence - November 25 - December 10 - have raised awareness of all forms of violence against women. The 16 Days of Activism is an international campaign which developed from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute sponsored by the Center for Women's Global Leadership in 1991. Participants chose the dates in order to symbolically link violence against women with human rights.

The 16 Days highlights four significant dates. The International Day Against Violence Against Women, November 25, commemorates the Mirabal sisters who were brutally murdered by the Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic in 1960. December 1 is World AIDS Day. December 6 marks the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, when a man gunned down 14 women engineering students for "being feminists." On December 10, 1948 governments acknowledged the human rights of all to "life, liberty and the security of person...without distinction of any kind," as they signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



16 Days of Activism Against
Gender Violence
November 25 - December 10

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

November 25 - December 10, 1999

*Ninth Annual Campaign * Ninth Annual Campaign * Ninth Annual Campaign* Ninth Annual Campaign **

Fulfilling the Promise of Freedom from Violence



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Contact the Center for a free 16 Days Take Action Kit.

TAKE ACTION TO END VIOLENCE!

Violence against women occurs in all aspects of women's lives. It encompasses abuses of women's civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights. This broad understanding of violence against women as a human rights violation has moved advocates and governments to transform and expand their work. For example, when the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences was appointed by the Commission on Human Rights at its Fiftieth Session to investigate reports of violence against women her mandate was defined to include:

- Violence in the family (including domestic violence, traditional practices, infanticide, incest, etc.);
- Violence in the community (including rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, commercialized violence, labour exploitation, etc.);
- Violence by the State (including violence in detention and custody, as well in situations of armed conflict and against refugee women).

On the eve of a new millennium, the eradication of gender-based violence remains an urgent task. Increasing the attention of international communities and governments provides the basis for sustained action including documentation, advocacy, education, legal reform, etc. Whether your organization focuses on domestic violence or violence against women in situations of armed conflict or violations of women's right to health, your activities will come together during the 16 Days to address "violence against women" as a whole. The International Calendar of Campaign Activities posted online at <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu> illustrates activities organized last year - both in terms of strategies used and various forms of violence addressed. The Calendar, compiled annually by the Center, connects local activities to the global women's movement and serves as a tool in pressuring governments to recognize citizens' demands to eliminate gender-based violence.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION

Some suggestions for action during the 1999 16 Days which reflect major events throughout the year focusing on women's human rights include:



On March 8, 1999, the UN Inter-Agency Video Conference on Violence Against Women called for the formal recognition by the United Nations of November 25 as the International Day Against Violence Against Women.

- ♦ Act Now to have November 25, 2000 recognized as the International Day Against Violence Against Women!
 - Write letters to representatives in your national government.
 - Send a note to the Secretary General's office at the UN.
 - Include as one of your demands during the Beijing +5 review.
- ♦ Send information on your actions to the Global Center. Include addresses, where possible, of representatives you contacted so that we can follow-up by sending them an *International Calendar of Campaign Activities* to show the solidarity of the women's human rights movement!



Governments will be evaluating progress in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, June 5-9, 2000.

- ♦ Learn about your government's commitments at the IV World Conference on Women and what they have done to both implement and enforce these commitments. For copies of the Platform for Action and National Action Plans submitted by governments, go to <http://www.un.org.womenwatch>.
- ♦ Participate in regional preparatory meetings being planned by governments prior to the meeting of the Special Assembly in June 2000.
- ♦ Prepare reports based on evaluation and analysis of the strategies and work you have done to combat gender-based violence and send copies to your government.



Radhika Coomaraswamy, the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences, will focus her report to the UN Commission on Human Rights in 2000 on trafficking and economic and social policies affecting women.

- ♦ Gather information from your work on these issues and send it to: Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland; fax: (41-22)917 0212; e-mail: csrvaw@sltnet.lk.
- ♦ You can access the Special Rapporteur's past reports to the Commission, including her 1997 report on trafficking, at <http://www.unhch.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf>.



December 19, 1999 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

- ♦ Pressure your government to ratify CEDAW. If they have already ratified, but have made reservations, which are contrary to the purpose of the Convention, pressure your government to remove them. A list of countries who have ratified CEDAW and a list of reservations made upon ratification can be found at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/conven.htm>
- ♦ Engage your governments NOW in discussions about the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and the statute for an International Criminal Court, which will be open for ratification after adoption by the General Assembly. For more information about the Optional Protocol, contact International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (fax: (60-3)2984203; e-mail: iwraw@po.jaring.my) or the International Criminal Court, contact the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice (ph: (1-212)697 7741; fax: (1-212)973 0332; e-mail: iccwomen@igc.org).



Organize human rights education activities in your community using *Local Action/Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls* to raise awareness about human rights at the local level.

- ♦ To obtain a copy of this publication, contact Women, Ink., 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017 USA; ph: (1-212) 687 8633; fax: (1-212)681 2704; e-mail: wink@womenink.org; website: <http://www.womenink.org> or to obtain excerpts from the publication, visit the Global Center website at <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>



Join the 16 Days movement! Become part of an already existing student, community, national or international activity for the 16 Days or take actions on your own. Submit your planned activity to us for posting to the *International Calendar of Campaign Activities* and become part of the growing global movement organizing during this time. Your submissions will also enable the Center to refer other individuals/ organizations which are interested in your activities to you.

Please send a description of planned activities for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence by October 15, 1999 to: Linda Posluszny, 16 Days Campaign Coordinator, Center for Women's Global Leadership, 160 Ryders Lane, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555, USA.
Fax: (1-732)932-1180. E-mail: cwgl@igc.org.

We would also be grateful for any pictures, reports, posters, stickers etc. that are produced as part of your activities.

16 JOURS D'ACTIVISME CONTRE LA VIOLENCE FAITE AUX FEMMES

25 novembre - 10 décembre 1999

* Neuvième campagne annuelle * Neuvième campagne annuelle * Neuvième campagne annuelle *

Tenir la promesse d'éliminer la violence



Au cours des huit dernières années, les activités organisées dans le monde pendant les 16 Jours d'Activisme contre la violence faite aux femmes du 25 novembre au 10 décembre, ont accru la sensibilisation du public sur toutes les formes de violence faite aux femmes. Les 16 jours d'Activisme font partie de la campagne internationale développée par le premier Institut de Women's Global Leadership sous l'égide du Center for Women's Global Leadership, en 1991. Les participantes ont choisi ces dates du 25 novembre au 10 décembre afin de lier de façon symbolique la violence faite aux femmes et les droits humains.

Le 25 novembre a été déclaré Journée internationale de la Non-violence à l'égard des femmes par le premier Encuentro pour l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes, en 1981. Cette date commémore l'assassinat des sœurs Mirabal par la dictature de Trujillo en République Dominicaine, le 25 novembre 1960. Le 10 décembre marque la Journée internationale des Droits de l'Homme - anniversaire de la signature de la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme, en 1948. Cette période de 16 jours met également en évidence d'autres dates importantes, comme le 1^{er} décembre, journée mondiale de lutte contre le SIDA et le 6 décembre, date anniversaire du massacre de Montréal, quand un homme avait assassiné 14 femmes, élèves ingénieures, parce qu'elles étaient "féministes."

Pour obtenir un dossier gratuit "16 Jours d'Activisme - Agissez", contacter le Global Center.

AGISSEZ POUR METTRE FIN À LA VIOLENCE!

La violence contre les femmes se produit dans tous les aspects de la vie des femmes. Elle englobe les abus dans les domaines des droits civils, culturels, économiques, politiques et sociaux. Cette compréhension holistique de la violence faite aux femmes comme étant une violation des droits humains a poussé les militants et les gouvernements à modifier et à renforcer leurs actions. Par exemple, lors de la nomination, par la Commission des Droits de l'Homme à sa cinquantième session, du Rapporteur Spécial sur la Violence Faite aux Femmes, ses Causes et ses Conséquences, chargé d'examiner les rapports sur la violence faite aux femmes, son mandat était défini de façon à inclure:

- la violence dans la famille (y compris la violence au sein de la famille, les pratiques traditionnelles, l'infanticide, l'inceste, etc.)
- la violence dans la communauté (y compris le viol, l'attaque sexuelle, le harcèlement sexuel, la violence commercialisée, l'exploitation au travail, etc.)
- la violence exercée par l'Etat (y compris la violence dans les cas de détention et de garde à vue et dans les situations de conflit armé et à l'encontre des femmes réfugiées).

A l'aube d'un nouveau millénaire, l'éradication de la violence faite aux femmes reste encore une tâche urgente. Une prise de conscience accrue de la part de la communauté internationale et des gouvernements jette les bases d'une action renforcée dans les domaines de la documentation, du soutien, de l'éducation, de la réforme juridique, etc. Que votre organisation soit axée sur la violence familiale ou sur la violence faite aux femmes dans les situations de conflit armé ou encore sur les violations du droit des femmes à la santé, toutes ces activités vont se rassembler pendant les 16 Jours afin de présenter un front commun face à "la violence faite aux femmes." Le Calendrier international des activités de la campagne, disponible sur internet à <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>, indique les activités organisées l'année dernière - les stratégies utilisées et les formes de violence examinées. Le Calendrier, qui fait l'objet d'une compilation annuelle par le Center, lie les activités locales au mouvement mondial des femmes. Il sert aussi d'instrument de pression auprès des gouvernements pour qu'ils reconnaissent les revendications des citoyens et citoyennes en vue d'éliminer la violence faite aux femmes.

SUGGESTIONS D'ACTION

Voici quelques suggestions d'action pendant les 16 Jours de 1999, qui reflètent les principaux événements de l'année dans le domaine des droits humains des femmes:



Le 8 Mars 1999, la Conférence Video sur la Violence Faite aux Femmes, organisée par "l'inter-agency" de l'ONU, exigeait la reconnaissance formelle par l'ONU du 25 Novembre comme la Journée Internationale contre la Violence Faite aux Femmes.

- ◆ Agissez immédiatement pour obtenir que le 25 Novembre soit reconnu comme Journée Internationale Contre la Violence Faite aux Femmes!
 - envoyez des lettres aux représentants de vos gouvernements respectifs.
 - expédiez un message au bureau du Secrétaire Général à l'ONU.
 - incluez cette demande dans la liste de vos exigences pendant la revue de Pékin + 5.
- ◆ Envoyez toute information concernant vos actions (à venir) au Global Center. Incluez si possible les adresses des représentants que vous avez contacté de façon à ce que nous puissions appuyer votre action en leur envoyant un Calendrier International des activités de la Campagne - démontrant ainsi la solidarité du mouvement pour les droits humains des femmes!



Les gouvernements évalueront les progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre du Programme d'Action de Pékin, 5-9 Juin 2000.

- ◆ Prenez connaissance des engagements de votre gouvernement à la IV^{ème} Conférence mondiale des femmes et étudiez ce qui a été fait pour mettre en œuvre et respecter ces engagements. Des copies du Programme d'Action et des Plans d'Action nationaux sont disponibles à : <http://www.un.org/womenwatch>
- ◆ Participez aux réunions régionales préparatoires organisées par les gouvernements avant la réunion de l'Assemblée spéciale de juin 2000.
- ◆ Préparez des rapports fondés sur l'évaluation et l'analyse des stratégies et des travaux réalisés en vue de lutter contre la violence faite aux femmes et envoyez des copies à votre gouvernement.



Radhika Coomaraswamy, Le Rapporteur Spécial sur la Violence Faite aux Femmes, ses Causes et ses Conséquences, concentrera son rapport à la Commission des Nations Unies, en 2000, sur le trafic et les politiques économiques et sociales qui affectent les femmes.

- ◆ Rassemblez l'information réunie à partir de vos travaux sur ces questions et envoyez-la à : Radhika Coomaraswamy, Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations, 1211 GENEVA 10, Suisse ; télécopie : 41 22 917 0212 ; courrier électronique : <srvaw@sltnet.lk>.
- ◆ L'adresse électronique à laquelle vous pouvez accéder pour prendre connaissance des rapports précédents faits à la Commission, y compris le rapport de 1997 sur le trafic est la suivante : <<http://www.unhch.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf>>.



Le 19 décembre 1999 marque le vingtième anniversaire de la *Convention sur l'élimination de toutes les formes de discrimination à l'égard des femmes (CEDAW)*.

- ◆ Exercez une pression sur votre gouvernement pour qu'il ratifie la CEDAW. S'il l'a déjà ratifiée, mais avec des réserves qui sont contraires aux objectifs de la Convention, exercez une pression afin qu'il les retire. La liste des pays qui ont ratifié la CEDAW ainsi que la liste des réserves qui ont été exprimées au moment de la ratification se trouvent à : <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/conven.htm>>.
- ◆ Engagez DÉS MAINTENANT le dialogue avec votre gouvernement sur le Protocole optionnel à la CEDAW et le statut d'un Tribunal Pénal International, qui sera ouvert à la ratification après adoption par l'Assemblée Générale. Pour complément d'information sur le Protocole optionnel, contactez l'International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (fax: (60-3)2984203; e-mail: <iwraw@po.jaring.my>) ou le Tribunal Pénal International, contactez le Women's Caucus for Gender Justice (ph: (1-212)697 7741; fax: (1-212)973 0332; e-mail: <icwwomen@igc.org>).



Organisez des activités dans votre communauté en utilisant le manuel d'éducation sur les Droits humains afin d'accroître la sensibilisation au niveau local.

- ◆ Pour obtenir une copie de cette publication, contactez Women, Ink., 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017 USA; ph: (1-212)687 8633; fax: (1-212)681 2704; e-mail: <wink@womenink.org>; website: <<http://www.womenink.org/>> ou pour obtenir des extraits de la publication, visitez le site internet du Global Center à <<http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/>>.



Rejoignez le mouvement des 16 Jours! Participez à une activité déjà existante - qu'elle soit étudiante, communautaire, nationale ou internationale ou entreprenez une activité nouvelle, pendant ces 16 journées. Faites-nous savoir quelle sera cette activité afin que nous puissions l'inclure dans le Calendrier des activités de la campagne et qu'elle fasse partie du mouvement mondial en expansion. Votre participation permettra également au Center de vous mettre en contact avec les individus ou les organisations intéressées par ces activités.

Envoyez une description de vos activités programmées pour les 16 Jours d'Activisme contre la violence faite aux femmes, avant le 15 octobre 1999 à : Linda Posluszny, Coordinatrice des 16 Jours, Center for Women's Global Leadership, 160 Ryders Lane, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555, USA. Télécopie : (1-732)932-1180. E-mail : <cwgl@igc.org>.

Nous vous serions reconnaissants de bien vouloir nous envoyer toute affiche, rapport, dépliant, sticker élaborés dans le cadre de vos activités.

16 DÍAS DE ACTIVISMO CONTRA LA VIOLENCIA HACIA LAS MUJERES

25 de noviembre al 10 de diciembre de 1999

* Novena Campaña Anual * Novena Campaña Anual * Novena Campaña Anual * Novena Campaña Anual *

Hagamos Realidad la Promesa de una Vida sin Violencia



En el transcurso de los últimos ocho años, las actividades organizadas alrededor del mundo en torno a los 16 días de activismo contra la violencia hacia las mujeres --del 25 de noviembre al 10 de diciembre-- han creado conciencia pública sobre la gravedad de todas las formas de violencia contra las mujeres. Los 16 días de activismo son una campaña internacional propuesta durante el primer Instituto de Liderazgo de las Mujeres organizado por el Centro por el Liderazgo Global de las Mujeres en 1991. Las participantes eligieron esas fechas, 25 de noviembre y 10 de diciembre, con el fin de vincular simbólicamente la violencia contra las mujeres con el tema de los derechos humanos. El 25 de noviembre fue declarado el Día Internacional de la No Violencia hacia las Mujeres durante el Primer Encuentro Feminista Latinoamericano y del Caribe en Bogotá en 1981. Esta fecha conmemora la muerte de las hermanas Mirabal, asesinadas por la dictadura de Trujillo en la República Dominicana el 25 de noviembre de 1960. El 10 de diciembre es el Día Internacional de los Derechos Humanos y conmemora el aniversario de la firma de la Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos en 1948. Este periodo de 16 días también incluye otras fechas significativas como el 1 de diciembre, Día Mundial contra el SIDA, y el 6 de diciembre, que marca el aniversario de la Masacre de Montreal, en la que un hombre asesinó en 1989 14 mujeres estudiantes de ingeniería "por ser feministas".

Para recibir un "16 Days Take Action Kit" gratis, favor de contactar el Centro.

TOMA ACCIÓN PARA PONER FIN A LA VIOLENCIA!

La violencia contra las mujeres ocurre en todos los espacios de la vida de las mujeres. Incluye violaciones a los derechos civiles, culturales, económicos, políticos y sociales de las mujeres. Esta comprensión amplia de la violencia contra las mujeres como una violación a los derechos humanos ha llevado tanto a defensoras/es como a gobiernos a transformar y a expandir su trabajo al respecto. Por ejemplo, cuando la Relatora Especial sobre la Violencia contra las Mujeres, sus Causas y Consecuencias fue asignada por la Comisión de Derechos Humanos en su quincuagésima sesión para investigar los informes de violencia contra las mujeres, la definición de su mandato incluyó:

- La violencia en el medio familiar (incluyendo la violencia doméstica, las prácticas tradicionales, el infanticidio, el incesto, etc.)
- La violencia en la comunidad (incluyendo la violación, el abuso sexual, el hostigamiento sexual, la violencia comercializada, la explotación laboral, etc.)
- La violencia por parte del Estado (incluyendo la violencia en el marco de la detención y la custodia, así como la violencia en situaciones de conflicto armado o en contra de las mujeres refugiadas).

En vísperas del nuevo milenio, la erradicación de la violencia contra las mujeres sigue siendo una tarea urgente. El incremento de la atención de las comunidades internacionales y de los gobiernos a este tema sienta las bases para acciones sostenidas, que incluyen la documentación, la defensa, la educación, la reforma legal, etc. Ya sea que tu organización haga trabajo en torno a la violencia doméstica, la violencia contra las mujeres en situaciones de conflicto armado o en torno a el derecho de las mujeres a la salud, todas las actividades se sumarán durante los 16 días para visibilizar de una manera integral el problema de "la violencia contra las mujeres." El Calendario Internacional de Actividades de Campaña, que puede localizarse en: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/>, ilustra tanto las estrategias como la diversidad de formas de violencia que se incluyeron en relación a las actividades del año pasado. El Calendario, compilado anualmente por el Centro, conecta las actividades locales al movimiento internacional de mujeres y puede servir como herramienta para presionar a los gobiernos a que reconozcan la demanda ciudadana de eliminar la violencia de género.

SUGERENCIAS PARA LA ACCIÓN

Algunas sugerencias para la acción durante los 16 días de 1999, que reflejan eventos importantes en el transcurso del año en torno a los derechos humanos de las mujeres, incluyen:



El ocho de mayo de 1999, la "UN Inter-Agency Video Conference on Violence Against Women" exigieron el reconocimiento formal por la ONU del 25 de noviembre como Día Internacional Contra la Violencia Hacia la Mujer.

- ◆ Pongase en acción ahora mismo para el reconocimiento formal del 25 de noviembre del 2000 como Día Internacional Contra la Violencia Hacia la Mujer.
 - Escribe cartas a representativas/os de su gobierno nacional.
 - Manda una nota al secretario-general de la ONU.
 - Incluye como una de sus demandas durante la revista de Beijing + 5.
- ◆ Favor de enviar información sobre sus acciones al Centro. Incluye direcciones, donde posible, de representativas/os con quien comunicaste para apoyar su acción y enviarle el Calendario Internacional de Actividades de Campaña para demostrar la solidaridad del movimiento de los derechos humanos de la mujer.



Los gobiernos evaluarán los avances en la implementación de la Plataforma de Acción de Beijing, 5-9 de junio de 2000.

- ◆ Investiga cuáles fueron los compromisos de tu gobierno durante la Cuarta Conferencia Mundial de la Mujer y qué es lo que se ha hecho para implementar y cumplir estos compromisos. Si te interesa una copia de la Plataforma de Acción y saber sobre los Planes de Acción Nacional que han presentado los gobiernos, favor de ver: <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch>>.
- ◆ Participa en las reuniones regionales preparatorias planeadas por los gobiernos previas a la reunión de la Asamblea Especial de junio del año 2000.
- ◆ Prepara informes basados en la evaluación y el análisis del trabajo y las estrategias que ha llevado a cabo tu organización para combatir la violencia de género y envía copias a tu gobierno.



Radhika Coomaraswamy, La Relatora Especial sobre la Violencia contra las Mujeres, sus Causas y Consecuencias, enfocará su informe a la Comisión de Derechos Humanos en el año 2000 sobre el tráfico de mujeres y sobre las políticas económicas y sociales que afectan a las mujeres.

- ◆ Compila información sobre el trabajo de tu organización en torno a estos temas y envíalo a: Radhika Coomaraswamy, Relatora Especial sobre la violencia contra las mujeres, Oficina del Alta Comisionada para los Derechos Humanos, Naciones Unidas, 1211 Ginebra 10, Suiza; Fax: (41-22)917 0212; e-mail: <rsrvaw@sltnet.lk>.
- ◆ Se puede tener acceso a los informes anteriores de la Relatora Especial a la Comisión, incluyendo su informe de 1997 sobre el tráfico de mujeres, en: <<http://www.unhch.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf>>.



El 19 de diciembre de 1999 marca el vigésimo aniversario de la Convención sobre la eliminación de todas las formas de discriminación contra la mujer (CEDAW, por sus siglas en inglés).

- ◆ Presiona a tu gobierno para que ratifique la Convención. Si ya la ratificó, pero tiene reservas que sean contrarias al propósito de la Convención, presiona a tu gobierno para que las retire. Se puede encontrar una lista de los países que han ratificado CEDAW y una lista de las reservas planteadas al momento de la ratificación en: <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/conven.htm>>.
- ◆ Involucra a tu gobierno cuanto antes en las discusiones sobre el Protocolo Facultativo a la Convención (CEDAW) y al estatuto de la Corte Penal Internacional, que se abrirá a la ratificación luego de su adopción por la Asamblea General. Para mayores informes sobre el Protocolo Facultativo, favor de contactar International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (fax: (60-3)2984203; e-mail: <iwraw@po.jaring.my>) o sobre la Corte Penal Internacional, favor de contactar a la Comisión de Mujeres por la Justicia de Género (ph: (1-212)6977741; fax: (1-212)9730332; e-mail: <iccwomen@igc.org>).



Organiza actividades en tu comunidad usando el manual de educación sobre derechos humanos, "Local Action/Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls," para crear conciencia pública sobre los derechos humanos a nivel local.

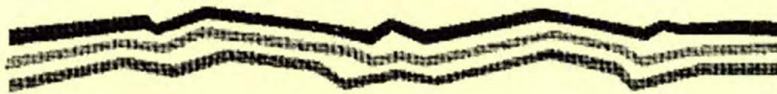
- ◆ Para obtener una copia de esta publicación, favor de contactar Women, Ink., 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017 USA; ph: (1-212)687 8633; fax: (1-212)681 2704; e-mail: <wink@womenink.org>; website: <http://www.womenink.org/> o para obtener extractos de la publicación, favor de ver <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/>.



Únete al movimiento de los 16 días! Súmate a las actividades estudiantiles, comunitarias, nacionales o internacionales programadas para los 16 días o inicia nuevas acciones. Envíanos tus actividades programadas para incorporarlas al Calendario Internacional de Actividades de Campaña y súmate a un creciente movimiento internacional que se organiza en torno a este periodo. A través de los datos sobre tus actividades, el Centro podrá poner en contacto a otras personas u organizaciones interesadas contigo o tu organización.

Favor de enviar una descripción de tus actividades programadas para los 16 Días de Activismo contra la Violencia hacia las Mujeres antes del 15 de octubre de 1999 a: Linda Posluszny, Coordinadora de los 16 Días, Center for Women's Global Leadership, 160 Ryders Lane, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555, USA. Fax: (1-732) 932-1180. E-mail: cwgl@igc.apc.org .

Te agradeceríamos también el envío de fotografías, informes, carteles, pegatinas, etc. que formen parte de las actividades.

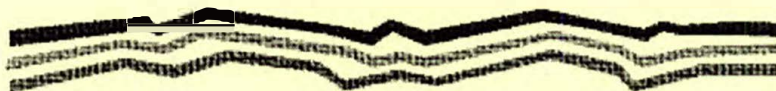


*We invite you
to be part of the*

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

On-line!

Visit the Center for Women's Global Leadership's website at
<http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>



This website will feature the contents of the *16 Days Take Action Kit*, the *International Calendar of Campaign Activities*, suggestions for action, links to other organizations, resource information and information about the Global Center and its programs.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

Description of Your Activity

Name:

Organization:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Website:

Other Participating Organizations:

Description of Activities:

Submitting a description of your planned activity allows the Center to compile the International Calendar of Campaign Activities. The Calendar will highlight your efforts as part of a broader movement for women's human rights and provide you and others with examples of activities and strategies used by organizations around the world during the 16 day period.

Please return this form to the Center for Women's Global Leadership; Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, 160 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555; fax: (1-732) 932-1180; e-mail: cwgl@iqc.org This form is also available on-line at <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>

Women Prepare for the Beijing + 5 Review

by Susana Fried and Charlotte Bunch

During the year 2000, the UN will review progress on implementation of the *Beijing Platform for Action* through what has come to be called the "Plus 5" review process. There will be regional meetings in the five UN regions, a second international Preparatory Committee during the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) annual session in New York 28 February - 17 March, 2000 and a Special Session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the 21st Century," in New York June 5-9, 2000. While this is NOT a UN World Conference, it is an important time for activists to question what their governments have done at the national level as well as to monitor what governments and the UN claim to have done internationally.

BACKGROUND

The first preparatory committee (PrepCom) for the fifth year review was held from March 15-19, 1999 as an added week to the CSW's annual session. Delegates adopted an "enabling" resolution, which sets the basic framework for the review, including the preparatory process, the format and structure of the session, the substantive content/structure of the review, and the rules of participation. The resolution, "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'" is available on-line at <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/enabling.htm>>.

For the PrepCom, the Secretariat (UN Division for the Advancement of Women) distributed a series of background documents, including a report of the Secretary-General entitled: *Framework for further actions and initiatives that might be considered during the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century."* This document (E/CN.6/1999/PC/2 - hereafter referred to as PC/2) set out recommendations for the content of the review and proposed a framework along five functional categories which are still under consideration:

- a. Political will and commitment to creating an enabling environment for implementation of the *Platform for Action*;
- b. Capacity-building for advancement of women and gender main-streaming;
- c. Accountability for and assessment of the implementation of the strategies and action in the *Platform for Action*;
- d. Cooperation and partnership for implementing the *Platform for Action*;
- e. Assistance to women and girls currently subject to discrimination and disadvantage.

This document also proposed four cross-cutting themes: 1. Globalization and the economic empowerment of women, especially poor women; 2. Women, science and technology and the new information age; 3. Women's leadership; and 4. Human security and social protection to form the main work of the CSW following the fifth year review. After some discussion of the themes and their relationship to the 12 critical areas of concern, it was decided that further elaboration of themes and emerging issues should happen at the regional meetings and be finalized at the March 2000 PrepCom.

PREPARATORY PROCESS

In October 1998, the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), distributed a questionnaire to governments regarding implementation of the *Beijing Platform for Action* (PFA). Reports will be prepared based on the responses to these questions, along with an analysis of national action plans, reports submitted by States parties to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), statistics available from various UN sources, and information generated since 1995 in the review of implementation conducted by the CSW. The enabling resolution invites Member States to submit their responses to the questionnaire and "to report on good practices, positive actions, lessons learned, the use of qualitative and quantitative indicators for measuring progress wherever possible, key challenges remaining in the critical areas of concern of the *Platform for Action* and obstacles encountered." In addition, governments that have not yet done so, are invited to prepare and submit national action plans on implementation of the PFA, with the participation of civil society. To date 113 Member States, 1 Observer and 5 Interregional, regional and subregional groups have submitted plans to DAW. These plans can be accessed on-line at <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/followup/national/natplans.htm>>.

NGOs should find out what their governments are doing to respond to the questionnaires, press to be involved in any plans for reporting and consider doing alternative reports. Some NGOs at the CSW developed recommendations for NGO "alternative" reports at the national as well as regional and global level. The basis for these "alternative" reports would be the questionnaire to governments, but would extend beyond the questionnaire to include relevant information about advances and retreats in the status of women, in line with the strategic objectives in the 12 critical areas of concern of the PFA.

The resolution also encourages all the UN regional commissions to carry out activities in support of the Special Session, and regional meetings are being planned for late 1999 and early 2000. NGOs need to get involved in the regional meetings as they can influence the global process as well as provide sites for planning and accountability regionally. Contact your women's and/or foreign affairs ministries about their plans and ensure that the meetings provide for substantial NGO involvement.

FORMAT AND RULES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION

Governments agreed that the Special Session will have a Plenary and an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole. This parallel session format provides the potential for greater NGO participation in the debates, particularly in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole, in which the rules of procedure are set by the Chair. However, the "modalities" (whether we can speak and how) for NGO participation were deferred until the next PrepCom in March, 2000.

Regarding NGO access to the Session, it was decided that "NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and NGOs accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW) may participate in the Special Session." NGOs sought to get "NGOs applying for ECOSOC status" included as a third category that provided for newer groups that have been formed since the FWCW. This issue can be re-opened at the PrepCom in March 2000. If you have questions about whether your organization can be accredited to the PrepCom or the Special Session, contact Koh Miyaoi, Division for the Advancement of Women, fax (1-212)963-3463, e-mail: <daw@un.org>.

SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT/STRUCTURE OF THE REVIEW

The provisional agenda for the Special Session includes: review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the 12 critical areas of concern in the PfA; and other actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to implementation of the PfA. *The resolution reaffirms the PfA and notes that there will be no renegotiation of the existing agreements.* The Special Session will also consider recommendations for accelerated implementation of the PfA taking into consideration the Secretary-General's report of further actions contained in PC/2. The Secretary-General has been asked to prepare comprehensive reports in time for the PrepCom in March 2000 on the implementation of the *Platform for Action* nationally, regionally and internationally, based on the governmental reports mentioned above and taking into account all relevant information and inputs available to the UN system.

NGOs monitoring the framework for the review emphasized the importance of maintaining a clear link to the 12 critical areas of concern, a focus on accelerated implementation and a clear discussion of accountability. NGOs proposed that the document that comes out of the review should be structured around actions to accelerate implementation and address obstacles. Further, many NGOs emphasized that the structure and content of the review should be discussed widely in broad consultation, based in particular on the regional meetings. The themes of action, concrete benchmarks for progress, and accountability need to be continuously emphasized throughout this process.

PARALLEL NGO ACTIVITIES AND NGO COORDINATION

A range of discussions took place during the PrepCom about NGO coordination and activities that might take place immediately prior to, or during, the PrepCom and the Special Session. It was emphasized that while there should be some NGO parallel events, the focus of NGO activity should be aimed directly at affecting the Inter-governmental session. *There will not be an NGO Forum similar to those at World Conferences as this is not a World Conference.* CONGO (the body comprised of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC) will help coordinate these activities, in collaboration with issue-based caucuses, global networks and regional groupings, among others. NGOS at the CSW agreed that a Coordinating Committee should be formed to facilitate communication and coordination of parallel activities, and of key points for NGO advocacy around the Special Session. These plans are in an early stage of development, under the leadership of CONGO.

Another group met during the PrepCom to discuss the use of electronic networking and proposed that a global web site be constructed as a resource for the review process that would incorporate existing regional and thematic websites, along with other existing resources, such as the Womenwatch website (<<http://www.un.org/womenwatch>>) produced by the UN Division for the Advancement of Women, UNIFEM and INSTRAW. For more information about the NGO website, contact WomenAction 2000 at <wimnet@gn.apc.org>.

The Center for Women's Global Leadership will continue monitoring discussions among governments and NGOs regarding the Beijing Plus 5 review. We will be working with other groups concerned with women's human rights to discuss how these issues will be reviewed throughout the process - nationally, regionally and globally. We will send out periodic updates and provide more information on our activities as they develop. A summary of our plans can be viewed on the Center's website, <<http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>>.

The Center for Women's Global Leadership will also monitor a series of global discussions held on-line that will focus on a feminist rights-based approach to the Beijing review and beyond. These discussions will begin with the Claim Women's Human Rights discussion on Womenwatch, <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch>>, (8 November 1999 - 17 December 1999) and will continue on WhrNet, <<http://www.whrnet.org>>, throughout the review process.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

November 25 - December 10

Suggested Actions for 1999

The Center for Women's Global Leadership has compiled the following list of actions to help spark ideas about how to get involved in the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**. This year, as we prepare for the five-year review of the implementation of the *Beijing Platform for Action* we particularly want to highlight actions which can be taken to follow-up on governments commitments at the **IV World Conference on Women**. (For more information about the review, please see enclosed article entitled "Women Prepare for the Beijing +5 Review.") We also encourage individuals and organizations to initiate efforts in their local and national communities to call for the official recognition of **November 25 as International Day Against Violence Against Women**.

Most of the suggestions in this packet can be organized by individuals or small groups, while some may involve collaboration with an organization or larger coalition. You can be creative when using these suggested actions and combine them in various ways. Use those venues which are most accessible to you, including schools, universities, community centers and village or town squares.

Think of ways to involve others in your plans - media, organizations in your community, parent groups in schools, students, etc. For example, when looking at the suggestions listed under media involvement, be aware that this can include school newspapers or organizational newsletters. Wherever possible, we have also provided information on how to obtain various resource materials or contact information of organizations which can provide some guidelines from their past experiences organizing similar activities.

For more information about organizing activities during the 16 Days of Activism, please visit the Center's website at: <http://www.cwql.rutgers.edu>. If you have any specific questions about these suggestions or would like us to include an example of an activity which you have organized, please e-mail the Center at cwql@igc.org. For more information about the 16 Days of Activism in Spanish, please visit the website created by El Area de Mujeres de ALAI. The address is <http://www.ecuanex.apc.org/alai/16dias>.



Join worldwide organizing efforts toward the five-year review of implementation of the *Beijing Platform for Action* from the IV World Conference on Women.

- ◆ Learn about your governments commitments at the **IV World Conference on Women** and what they have done to both implement and enforce these commitments. For copies of the *Platform for Action* and National Action Plans submitted by governments, go to the WomenWatch website at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch>.
- ◆ Prepare reports based on evaluation and analysis of the *Platform* and work you have done to combat gender-based violence and send copies to your government.

- ◆ Participate in regional preparatory meetings being planned by governments prior to the meeting of the Special Assembly in June 2000. To see a calendar of planned regional meetings, please visit the WomenWatch website, see address above.
- ◆ Encourage students in your class to play a part in the Beijing +5 Review. Choose a section of the *Platform for Action* and distribute copies of this section along with the corresponding section of your government's National Action Plan (can be accessed on WomenWatch website, see address above.). Hold a discussion in which students critique what has been and what they feel still needs to be done. Have a drafting group write up the classes recommendations and send them to your government.
- ◆ Join the Beijing +5 Global Forum, a series of Internet Working Groups to provide input into the UN review. The Working Groups invite government representatives, activists, academics, private sector representatives and others interested to share experiences and ideas for achieving women's equality. The Working Groups will discuss: policies, legislation, strategies and partnerships that have been successful in furthering women's equality; case studies, best practices and other examples of successful government and civil society efforts; obstacles that remain and how they can be overcome; and, what still needs to be done.
 - Working Group topics include: End Violence Against Women; End Women's Economic Inequality; Strengthen Women's Role in Environmental Protection; Promote Women in Power and Decision-Making; Secure and Promote Women's Health; End Women's Poverty; Women and Armed Conflict; Achieve Educational Equality; Women and the Media; Empower the Girl Child; and Claim Women's Human Rights. To see the schedule for these working groups and information on how to join them, please visit the WomenWatch website, see address above.



Act NOW to have November 25, 2000 officially recognized as the International Day Against Violence Against Women called for by the UN Inter-Agency Video Conference on Violence Against Women on March 8, 1999.

- ◆ Initiate a letter writing campaign in your community group. Set aside some time where all members can draft letters to local and national government representatives asking for government recognition of this day.
- ◆ Include this as one of your demands during the Beijing +5 review.
- ◆ Create a postcard addressed to government representatives which highlights this action. Set-up a booth in your school or community where individuals can stop and sign the postcard as well as get some general information on violence against women.
- ◆ Circulate an action alert on-line! To assist you in designing an alert, access the article, "Designing Effective Action Alerts for the Internet," posted on < <http://dlis.gseis.ucla.edu/pagre/>>.



Hold public events which commemorate the women who have lost their lives to violence.

- ◆ Compile statistical data which reflects the number of women in your community who lost their lives to violence during the past year. Display this information in a public space using creative methods i.e. artwork displayed in a local museum or store, a song which could be played on the local radio, etc.
- ◆ Raise awareness in your community by holding marches and demonstrations which call for public commitment to end violence against women. Create posters, banners, etc. which contain clear messages and demands and have those participating in the activity carry them.
- ◆ Invite members of your community to write and submit poems which reflect how violence against

women has affected their lives as well as the lives of close friends and relatives. Ask your local newspaper to publish some of these poems and/or ask a local bookstore to hold a poetry reading which features these poems and their authors. Hold a silent candle light vigil at the end of the readings in memory of all women who have lost their lives to violence.



Celebrate the positive steps your community has taken towards the eradication of violence against women.

- ◆ Organize an exhibit of photos, paintings, sculptures, etc. with local artists using this year's Campaign theme.
- ◆ Sponsor an essay contest which focuses on the positive steps that governments have taken to ensure women's human rights. Include recommendations for how your city, state or national government can further promote and protect the human rights of all.
- ◆ Hold a festival with other groups or women business owners in your town to celebrate women! Include music, dance and theater performances as well as information booths to create awareness of the rights of women. You can also include some booths which display crafts by women in your community.
- ◆ Hold a festival - online! Create a web page which does all of the above. Use pictures and paintings instead of live performances and include links to other sites where women can get information about their rights. Make it as interactive as possible, with an option that will allow women to submit their work to be added to the festival!



Use the media as an agent for education and social change. Alert them to the issues which will be highlighted throughout the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence (see current announcement) and see if they will focus some attention on these issues.

- ◆ Write a "letter to the editor" during the **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**, highlighting services in your community for women who are victims of violence or discuss a particularly prevalent violation of women's human rights in your country.
- ◆ Contact your local radio or television station and see if they would be willing to donate a few minutes of time for a public service announcement on an issue which deals with women's human rights.
 - ▶ For more information about how to plan a radio campaign, please contact the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, AMARC, a non-governmental organization for cooperation, exchange and promotion of community radios. AMARC, based in Ecaudaor, can be contacted by e-mail at: <tachi@amarc.org.ec>.
- ◆ Make a list of all the human rights organizations in your area. Contact them and request that they include a piece in their newsletters addressing violence against women as a violation of women's human rights.
- ◆ Ask your school or community libraries and bookstores to use the **16 Days** as a time to feature (for example, set aside a table near the entrance) books by women authors, books written about violence against women, or books which focus on key women figures in history, politics and literature. Encourage them to buy more of these books; see the Bibliography and Resource list in the **Take Action Kit** for more ideas.



Create a "Violence Free Space" in the Community.

- ◆ Contact stores, libraries, city government buildings, local radio stations, etc. in your area and see if they would be willing to host a "violence free space." Activities for this "space" might include,

- ▶ Giving women an opportunity to ask a specialist in women's health questions which they might not normally have the opportunity to do.
- ▶ Have a local battered women's shelter send representatives to spend the day in the space to provide counseling, information on violence against women and options available to women victims of violence.
- ◆ Ride the buses, subways, etc. for a day and distribute information to women which outlines their rights and provides numbers of organizations that provide services, empowerment or educational opportunities and tools to women in the area. If there is a lot of hostility toward women or sexual harassment on public transportation systems in your area, take precautions to ensure your safety (such as going with a group) and document the harassment which you observe and make recommendations for how to better protect women.



Honor Grassroots Women Activists as Human Rights Defenders. Use the various dates throughout the campaign to pay special attention to those in the community who have done significant work in advancing women's human rights at the local level.

- ◆ Plan an event during which you can honor grassroots women activists as human rights defenders with recognition from the community. Celebrate the unique contributions and dedication of these individuals or organizations.
- ◆ Plan a photo exhibit or music festival with local artists which would highlight the work of grassroots activists working for women's human rights.
- ◆ Coordinate a city-wide essay contest for middle and high school students with a special focus on the work of grassroots feminist activists in the area.
- ◆ Work with the local or state media to acquire some programming space where women grassroots activists can be highlighted.
- ◆ Work with organizations that are not women-specific to highlight the work of women activists in the area. For example, on International Labor Day work with unions or worker's centers to celebrate the work which women have done for labor rights.
- ◆ Lobby university officials, editorial houses, women's national machineries, ministries, etc. to give awards to grassroots women activists dedicated to promoting and protecting the human rights of women.
- ◆ Contact local human rights organizations and ask them to feature a "grassroots woman activist as a human rights defender" in their newsletters.
- ◆ Honor a grassroots woman activist who works around issues of violence against women at a "Take Back the Night March" in your school or community.



Pressure your governments to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), remove reservations and/or implement its principles in daily practice. December 19, 1999 marks the twentieth anniversary of CEDAW. To date, over 160 countries have ratified the Convention. Look for your country on this list which can be accessed through the Women Watch website: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch> or contact your foreign ministry or a local women's organization to find out your governments status and reservations.

- ◆ If your country has not ratified the convention or has ratified it with limiting reservations, initiate a letter writing or petition campaign demanding that they ratify the Convention and remove reservations which they have made.

- ▶ Take action to ratify CEDAW in the US! Join the Amnesty International-USA Campaign to urge Senators to pledge a vote for CEDAW. Sign-up online, <<http://amnestyusa.org/commit>> or contact,

Amnesty International - USA
 Women's Human Rights Program
 322 8th Avenue
 New York, NY 10001 USA
 Ph: (1-212)633-4200

- ◆ If your country has ratified the Convention, find out how committed it has been to implementing its principles and pressure your government to bring national laws and policies into compliance with CEDAW.

- ▶ Join the CEDAW-in-Action Virtual Working Group! This Working Group, co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP) - Asia Pacific, creates a space to share experiences and knowledge on implementing CEDAW. To obtain information on how to join the working group, visit UNIFEM's website: <<http://www.undp.org/unifem>>.
- ▶ Prepare shadow reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women which hears country reports on the progress toward implementation during each of its sessions. The term "shadow report" refers to a report created by non-governmental organizations that parallels and critiques reports created by national governments to fulfill their reporting obligations under the human rights treaties that they have ratified. Preparing shadow reports contributes to the ability of NGOs to effectively participate in the international treaty monitoring process, provides a concrete tool to assess and describe a government's accountability in fulfilling its obligations to promote and protect rights, to monitor governmental action following the commitments made at world and regional conferences; and to build political pressure through public education (From International Human Rights Law Group's Report "Guidelines for Preparing Shadow Reports under the Women's Convention").
- ▶ To receive more information on how to prepare a shadow report, please contact the following organizations:

International Human Rights Law Group
 Women's Rights Advocacy Project
 1200 18th Street, NW Suite 602
 Washington, DC 20036 USA
 Fax: (1-202)822-4600
 E-mail: <ihrlg@aol.com>

International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific
 2nd Floor, Block F
 Anjung Felda
 Jalan Maktab
 54000 Kuala Lumpur
 MALAYSIA
 Fax: (60-3)2984203
 E-mail: <iwraw@po.jaring.my>

International Women's Rights Action Watch
 Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs
 301-19th Avenue South
 Minneapolis, MN 55455 USA
 fax: (1-612)624-0068
 E-mail: <iwraw@hhh.umn.edu>

- ▶ To find out when your country will be reporting before the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, contact:

Division for the Advancement of Women

CEDAW Secretariat

2 UN Plaza, DC-2-1204

New York, NY 10017 USA

Fax: (1-212)963-3463

E-mail: [<daw@un.org>](mailto:daw@un.org)

- ◆ Make a report card for the government, using the Women's Convention as the framework. See how well your local and national government is doing in implementing the principles outlined in the Convention. Send the card to your government with a set of suggestions on how the government can improve its "grade".
- ◆ Push your governments to adopt the **Optional Protocol** to the Women's Convention. The text of the Optional Protocol and the resolution accompanying it can be found at [<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/protocol/adopted.htm>](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/protocol/adopted.htm). For information on advocacy strategies you can use to pressure your government, contact the International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (see contact information above).



Organize a tribunal or hearing which makes public violations of women's human rights in your community, state or region. You can use "The Vienna Tribunal: Women's Rights are Human Rights" video as a guide. A hearing is an effective method of building awareness of violations of women's human rights and demanding accountability from perpetrators of these violations. It also can call for implementation from governments of effective mechanisms to promote and protect the human rights of women. For more information on how to organize a tribunal or hearing contact, the Center for Women's Global Leadership, contact information enclosed.

For information in Spanish, contact Roxana Arroyo and Rodrigo Jimenez

ILANUD

Women, Gender and Justice Program

ADDRESS

San Jose, Costa Rica

Ph: (506)2575826

Fax: (506)2337175

E-mail: [<MUJER-GENERO@micron.ilanud.or.cr>](mailto:MUJER-GENERO@micron.ilanud.or.cr)



Use Audio-Visual materials to educate the community!

- ◆ "The Vienna Tribunal: Women's Rights are Human Rights"(48 minutes) is a video that highlights the moving personal accounts from women around the world who testified before a panel of eminent judges at the Global Tribunal on Violations of Women's Human Rights at the NGO Forum of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna 1993. This video is an excellent educational tool that can be used to raise the issue of women's human rights violations in your community.
 - ▶ Encourage teachers to show the video in classrooms and discuss its connection with the *Beijing Platform for Action* and/or the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.
 - ▶ Ask your local access television station to show the video.
 - ▶ Ask your local video store to carry the Vienna Tribunal and other documentaries on women which can be ordered through Women Make Movies (contact information below).

- ▶ Organize film festivals -- show the Vienna Tribunal and other movies about women's rights -- publicize the event, come up with a catchy phrase, charge a minimal admission which can then be pooled and donated to a local women's organization.
- To order "The Vienna Tribunal: Women's Rights are Human Rights" in the U.S. and to get a catalog, contact:
Women Make Movies
462 Broadway, 5th Floor
NY, NY 10013 USA
Tel: 1-212-925-0606; Fax: 1-212-925-2052
- To order outside the U.S., contact:
Augusta Productions
54 Mullock Street
St. John's Nfld
Canada A1C2R8
Tel: 1-709-753-1861; Fax: 1-709-579-8090
- To order the video in Spanish, contact:
SERPAJ-Mexico
Ignacio Mariscal 132, Colonia Tabacalera
Mexico D.F. 06030
Tel: 52-5-705-0646; Fax: 52-5-705-0771

- ◆ The NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court and the WITNESS program of the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights have collaborated in producing a short video which can be used as a public service announcement during the ratification campaign for the International Criminal Court. To order a copy of this announcement or to receive more information on the International Criminal Court, contact,

The NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court
c/o WFM-IGP
777 UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017 USA
Tel: (1-212)687-2176
Fax: (1-212)599-1332
E-mail: ciccl@igc.org
Website: <http://www.iccnw.org>



Devote December 10 (Human Rights Day) to the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)*. For example, in schools plan a curriculum to educate students about the background, context and principles of the *UDHR* and the importance of building a culture of respect for women's human rights. As a follow-up, sponsor an essay contest where students analyze the document and how it affects their everyday lives and/or the lives of women throughout the world.

- ◆ To get a copy of the *UDHR*, access the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights website at <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu6/1/univdecl.htm>, or contact any UN publications center (see list below). The document is available in over 200 language versions including English, Spanish, French, Arabic, German, Russian, Swahili and Chinese.
- ◆ The United Nations Centre for Human Rights also has a publication available entitled, "ABC Teaching Human Rights: Practical Activities for Primary and Secondary Schools." This publication, available in English, Spanish and French, provides detailed examples of how teachers can incorporate the language of human rights into the curriculum and also offers a

"plain language" version of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. To order a copy of this pamphlet, contact:

For North America, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific Islands:

United Nations Publications
Sales Section, 2 United Nations Plaza
Room DC2-853, Dept. 1001
New York, NY 10017 USA
Ph: (1-212)963-8302; (1-800)253-9646
Fax: (1-212)963-3489
E-mail: <PUBLICATIONS@UN.ORG>

For Europe, Africa, Middle East:

United Nations Publications
Sales Office and Bookshop,
CH-1211 Geneva 10
SWITZERLAND
Ph: (41-22)9172613; 9172614
Fax: (41-22)9170027

- ◆ Use the media, radio, television, newspapers, organizational and school newsletters, to educate people about their human rights. For example, have your school radio station devote an hour broadcast to an educational program aiming to educate women working in the home about their human rights.
- ◆ Hold an interactive workshop on women's human rights using the manual, "**Local Action, Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls**," published by the Center for Women's Global Leadership and the United Nations Development Fund for Women. Activities featured in the manual include interactive methodologies such as discussion, role-play, story telling, and creative expression in art and music to relate human rights principles to women's personal experience. To obtain excerpts from this publication, visit the Center for Women's Global Leadership's website, <<http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>>. To order a copy of this publication, contact,

Women, Ink.

777 UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017 USA
Ph: (1-212)687-8633
Fax: (1-212)661-2704
E-mail: wink@womenink.org
Website: <http://www.womenink.org>



Start a local solidarity committee with individuals from the community to respond to appeals/alerts which focus on violations of women's human rights occurring throughout the world. Lend your voice to the international community to demand action to prevent these gross human rights violations and accountability from those actors responsible for perpetrating these violations.

- ◆ For instructions on how to respond to appeals/alerts, access a "letter writing guide" through the Amnesty International website: <<http://www.amnesty.org/actnow/www/letguide.htm>>.
- ◆ To receive international appeals/alerts on a regular basis which pertain to human rights issues contact the following organizations to be included on a list of individuals/organizations to receive these appeals/alerts:

Amnesty International (contact the AI office in your country or write to the following address)
International Secretariat
1 Easton Street

London WC1X 8DJ
UNITED KINGDOM
website: (see above)

Equality Now

226 West 58th Street, #4
New York, NY 10019 USA
Fax: (1-212)586-1611
E-mail: <equalitynow@igc.apc.org>

International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC)

1360 Mission Street, Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94103 USA
Fax: (1-415)255-8662
E-mail: <majordomo@iglhrc.org> with the following message:
For English version: "subscribe ern-en <your first name><your last name>"
For Spanish version: "subscribe ern-es <your first name><your last name>"
For French version: "subscribe ern-fr <your first name><your last name>"

Women Living Under Muslim Laws

International Solidarity Network
Boite Postale 23
34790 Grabels
FRANCE
Fax: (33-67)109167
E-mail: <wluml@mnet.fr>

The World Organization against Torture

Case Postale 119, 37-39 Rue de Vermont
CH 1211 Geneva 20 CIC
SWITZERLAND
Fax: (41-22)7331051
E-mail: <omct@iprolink.ch>
Website: <http://www.omct.org>



Start a petition campaign in your area and gather signatures. Use information from already existing alerts or create your own petition to bring attention to women's human rights issues which you feel need to be addressed by the community. You can also utilize the following ideas.

- ◆ Create a petition which calls on local and/or national governments to officially recognize November 25 as the International Day Against Violence Against Women. After gathering signatures, send it to the appropriate officials.
- ◆ Afghanistan Petition: In order to bring international pressure on Taliban authorities to stop human rights violations, circulate the following petition in your area and send a copy to your national government and Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, The United Nations, New York, NY 10017 USA. This petition is also available on the Feminist Majority Foundation's website at:
<<http://www.feminist.org/afghan/petition.html>>

We, the undersigned, deplore the gender apartheid in Afghanistan as a result of the Taliban militia group takeover of the country. The Taliban controls most of Afghanistan and has banned women and girls from working, going to school, or leaving their homes without a close male relative. In public, women must be covered from head to toe in a "burqa," with only a mesh opening to see through. Women have been shot for leaving their homes to seek medical care. In the state orphanage in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, the girls have not been allowed to go outside since September of 1996. Many women are the sole support of their families and have become destitute by the ban on women working.

We ask that you do everything in your power to restore women's human rights to work, education, health care, and freedom of movement in Afghanistan. Already, international oil companies such as the California-based Unocal have been prevented from doing business with the Taliban after feminist groups denounced the corporation's support of a regime that so brutally terrorizes its women and girls. The Taliban should not be recognized as the legitimate government of Afghanistan, countries which are supporting the Taliban (such as Saudi Arabia and Pakistan) should be pressured to stop such support; and no corporation should be allowed to do business with the Taliban until women's human rights are restored.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE/PROVINCE	ZIP/POSTAL CODE	COUNTRY



Document observations of violations of women's human rights using the violence against women form (on the last two pages of this activities section) which has been prepared by the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Radhika Coomaraswamy, to assist women in reporting violations of human rights at the local, state and international levels. Circulate the form throughout your community and use it as a method of alerting the international community to violations which may be occurring in your region.

- ◆ You can also get this form from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights website at the following address : <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/7/b/women/womform.htm>
- ◆ To get more information about the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, contact her at the above address at the Centre for Human Rights. To look at some of the past reports of the Special Rapporteur to the Commission on Human Rights, look for the following UN document numbers Doc. E/CN.4/1995/42 (1995); Doc. E/CN.4/1996/53 (1996); Doc. E/CN.4/1997/47 (1997); Doc. E/CN.4/1998/54 (1998); and, Doc. E/CN.4/1999/68. You can access these reports via the UNHCHR website under documents from the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) at the following address: < <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/otherdoc.htm> >
- ◆ *Women's Human Rights Step by Step: A Practical Guide to Using International Human Rights Law and Mechanisms to Defend Women's Human Rights*, by Women, Law and Development International and Human Rights Watch: Women's Rights Project, can be used to: provide information on how to use the human rights system at national, regional and international levels; help advocates appreciate the relevance and importance of human rights law and mechanisms in the promotion and defense of women's rights; explain in some detail the importance and methods of documenting and reporting violations of women's human rights; outline key advocacy strategies that can be used to promote women's human rights; and, demonstrate how women's human rights advocates are already using the human rights system to enforce their rights. For more information or to order this publication, contact:

Women, Law and Development International
 1350 Connecticut Avenue, NW
 Suite 407
 Washington, DC 20036-1701 USA
 Ph: (1-202)463-7477

Fax: (1-202)463-7480
E-mail: <wld@wld.org>
Website: <<http://www.wld.org>>

- ♦ *Rights of Women*, by the International Women's Tribune Centre is geared to anyone interested in women's human rights and international law. It includes a comprehensive review of women's human rights as defined by the most important United Nations human rights treaties. The rights are described in simple, lay language and there is a chapter devoted to understanding UN convention terms and processes. Also included are activities for working with the international treaties - hosting a tribunal, creating a country guide to the international treaties and using the Internet to build a human rights community. There are regional ratification charts indicating which country has signed which treaties, and the full text of some of the key international treaties. For more information or to order a copy of this publication, please contact:

Women, Ink.
777 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017 USA
Ph: (1-212)687-8633
Fax: (1-212)661-2704
Website: <www.womenink.org>



Other actions taking place during 1999 include the following:

- ♦ Catholics for a Free Choice has initiated a campaign to change the status of the Roman Catholic Church at the United Nations. The "See Change" campaign calls on the Secretary-General to review the Holy See's current status as a Non-member State Permanent Observer. The campaign believes that the Holy See, the government of the Roman Catholic church, should participate in the UN in the same way as the world's other religions do - as a non-governmental organization. Please see the enclosed postcard for more information about the Campaign or contact,

Catholics for a Free Choice
1436 U Street, NW
Suite 301
Washington, DC 20009 USA
Ph: (1-202)986-6093
Fax: (1-202)332-7995
E-mail: cffc@igc.apc.org
Website: <http://www.cath4choice.org>

- ♦ Isis International has issued a call for A DAY OF PEACE on January 1, 2000. Isis International encourages organizations and individuals to call for a day without any violence in the community or on television throughout the day - for at least 24 hours. To receive more information about the call or suggestions on how you can become involved, please contact,

Isis International
PO Box 1837,
Quezon City Main,
Quezon City 1100,
PHILIPPINES
Tel: (632) 96-72-97
Fax: (632) 92-41-065
E-Mail: Isis@Phil.qn.apc.org

- ♦ The United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) will launch the 1999 World AIDS Campaign on December 1 - World AIDS Day. This year's campaign theme is "Listen, Learn, Live!" and will focus on communication with Children and Young People. The objectives of the Campaign will be to: 1) raise awareness about the need to listen to children and young people

in order for AIDS prevention and care efforts to be effective and, 2) strengthen AIDS programmes with children and young people. To find out more about the Campaign and get ideas for action, please contact,

UNAIDS

20 avenue Appia

1211 Geneva 27

SWITZERLAND

Ph: (41-22)7914651

Fax: (41-22)7914165

E-mail: unaid@unaid.org

Website: <http://www.unaid.org>

- ◆ The White Ribbon Campaign is an annual event which began in 1991 to commemorate the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. Currently, it is the largest effort in the world of men working to end men's violence against women. Wearing a white ribbon is a personal pledge never to commit, condone nor remain silent about violence against women. The Campaign has developed an Education and Action kit which could be used as an outreach tool to high schools using workshops, lesson plans and worksheets. For more information about this year's White Ribbon Campaign or to order an Education and Action kit, please contact,

White Ribbon Campaign

365 Bloor Street East, Suite 1600

Toronto, ON

CANADA M4W 3L4

Ph: (1-416)920-6684 or (1-8090)328-2228

E-mail: whiterib@idirect.com

Website: <http://www.whiteribbon.ca>

- ◆ Fédération des femmes du Québec is organizing a World March of Women 2000. The march aims to stimulate a vast movement of women's groups so that the march becomes a gesture of affirmation by the women of the world; to promote equality between men and women; to highlight the common demands and initiatives issuing from the global women's movement relating to the issues of poverty and violence against women; to force governments, decision-makers and individuals the world over to institute the changes necessary for improving the status of women and women's quality of life; and, to enter the new millennium by demonstrating women's ongoing determination to change the world. The World March will culminate in New York on October 17, 2000 with a rally outside the United Nations building. At this time, the March will make a presentation of signatures, collected between March 8 and October 17, 2000, by individuals who support the world demands of the March. For more information about the World March of Women 2000 and the signature campaign, please contact,

World March of Women

Fédération des femmes du Québec

110 rue Ste-Thérèse, #307

Montréal, Québec

CANADA H2Y 1E6

Tel: (1-514)395-1196

Fax: (1-514)395-1224

E-mail: marche2000@ffq.qc.ca

Website: <http://www.ffq.qc.ca/marche2000>

**CONFIDENTIAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
INFORMATION FORM**

INFORMER:

Name of person/organization: _____

Address: _____

Fax/Tel/e-mail: _____

VICTIM(S):

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Nationality: _____

Sex: female

Occupation: _____

Ethnic background (if relevant): _____

Marital Status: _____

THE INCIDENT

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location/country: _____

Number of assailants: _____

Are the assailant(s) known to the victim? _____

Description of the assailant(s) (include any identifiable features): _____

CONFIDENTIAL

Description of the incident: _____

Does the victim believe she was specifically targeted because of gender? _____

If yes, why? _____

Has the incident been reported to the relevant State authorities? _____

If so, which authorities and when? _____

Actions taken by the authorities after the incident: _____

WITNESSES:

Were there any witnesses? _____

Name/age/relationship/contact address: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, CENTRE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, UNITED NATIONS, 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND. FAX (41-22)
9170212

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

Questionnaire

Please complete and return after your 16 Days Activity. Your response will help improve and strengthen next year's Campaign. Thank you for your collaboration in this effort.

Name:

Organization:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Website:

◆ Did you participate in the 16 Days of Activism in 1999?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

◆ Have you participated in the 16 Days Campaign in previous years?

- ☐ Yes _____ (Please indicate years of participation.)
☐ No

▶ If you answered "No" to the above questions, please indicate why below.

▶ If you answered "Yes," what kind of activities did you and/or your organization coordinate/ participate in? (Please check all that apply or attach a separate sheet with a listing of activities):

- ☐ Organized public forum (please describe):
-

- ☐ Mounted a media event or campaign (please describe):

- ☐ Formulated position papers for lobbying/public information purposes. If so, on what topic?

- ☐ Lobbied government officials (please indicate if local, national, regional or international officials). If so, on what issues?

- ☐ Engaged in popular human rights education projects (please describe):

- ☐ Conducted an essay/ poster/ art/ photo/ or other contest (please describe):

- ☐ Other activities (please describe):

◆ Who were your activism efforts aimed at reaching?

- ☐ Women
- ☐ General Population
- ☐ Policy Makers
- ☐ Criminal Justice System (police, judges, lawyers)
- ☐ Other:

◆ What group(s) joined in your efforts?

- ☐ Myself only
- ☐ My organization only
- ☐ Other women's organizations
- ☐ Human Rights Groups
- ☐ Lesbian/Gay organizations
- ☐ Other social justice groups
- ☐ Government officials or other policy makers
- ☐ Other:

◆ What was the response to your activity?

◆ Was the media responsive to your efforts?

◆ Were there particular activities and strategies which worked well?

▸ In what ways do you feel they had an impact? Please be as specific as possible.

◆ How has organizing around the 16 Days helped your ongoing work? Please give specific examples.

◆ In what ways has using a human rights framework strengthened your efforts?

- ◆ What might be done by the Global Center to make the 16 Days of Activism more effective?

- ◆ Did you find the materials in the 1999 Take Action Kit useful?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ▶ If "Yes," which materials?

 - ▶ Is there information which you would suggest be added to the kit?

- ◆ Other comments (please use additional pages and attach any reports/position papers you have written and used regarding the 16 Days or the Global Campaign for Women's Human Rights)



Please return the completed form to:
16 Days Campaign Coordinator
Center for Women's Global Leadership
160 Ryders Lane
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555 USA
fax: (1-732) 932-1180
e-mail: cwgl@igc.org
website: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>

Act Now!

Join The "See Change" Campaign

Hundreds of organizations and thousands of people worldwide have initiated a campaign to change the status of the Roman Catholic church at the United Nations. Concerned that the church has flown in under UN radar by calling itself the Holy See, we have called on the Secretary-General to review the church's current status as a Non-member State Permanent Observer. We believe that the Holy See, the government of the Roman Catholic church, should participate in the UN in the same way as the world's other religions do—as a non-governmental organization.

Why is this campaign important?

There are so many big problems in the world, it may seem trivial to worry about the UN status of the Roman Catholic church. Does it really matter that the UN has given it, alone among all religions, the status of a Non-member State Permanent Observer? What damage has been done by honoring this important religious institution with this special status?

Damage is done when religions are allowed to masquerade as states

Religious freedom is endangered

Every other religion with representation at the UN, like the World Council of Churches, is rightly restricted to an affiliation based on that of other non-governmental organizations. In a time when religious fundamentalism threatens pluralism, tolerance, and women's human rights, the UN must maintain a clear separation between religious beliefs and international public policy.

Successfully challenging the Holy See's status will ensure that only countries decide policy.

Each year, 600,000 women die needlessly during pregnancy and childbirth

The UN increasingly makes the decisions that will prevent these deaths. The Holy See, as a recognized country in the UN, has a powerful voice in these decisions. It uses this voice to limit access to family planning, safe abortion—even in countries where abortion is legal, and emergency contraception—even for women who have been raped as an act of war.

Successfully challenging the Holy See's status will save women's lives.

Each year, 5.8 million become HIV positive and 2.5 million die from AIDS

Within the UN, the Roman Catholic church attempts to block international policy decisions that would make condom education and use a major tool in the prevention of HIV/AIDS.

Successfully challenging the Holy See's status will assist in reversing the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

**Join The "See Change" Campaign —
All it takes is a few minutes and a stamp!**

Act Now! Complete the postcard below and rush it back to us. If you would like more postcards for your friends, family, co-workers, classmates, or anybody else you think will support this campaign, just contact us by mail, email, phone, or fax. A visit to our website will give you further details of the activities of the Vatican and *The "See Change" Campaign*. Or request a free Campaign Pack, containing 100 postcards and materials to help get you started!

Catholics for a Free Choice

**1436 U Street, NW, Suite 301
Washington, DC 20009, USA**

Tel: +1 (202) 994-7793 • **Fax:** +1 (202) 332-7995

Email: info@seechange.org

Website: www.seechange.org

Dear Secretary-General Annan,

As a UN Non-member State Permanent Observer, the Holy See enjoys unique status, often as a voting partner with countries at UN conferences. Granting governmental privileges to what is in reality a religious body is questionable statecraft. While the Holy See—the government of the Roman Catholic church—has made positive contributions through the United Nations to peace and justice, this should not be used to justify granting the status of a state to a religious institution.

Governmental participation in the UN should be reserved for actual states. The world's religions have been well represented through non-governmental organization status. With NGO status, the Roman Catholic church would be able to continue its participation in the UN—like the World Council of Churches—without ambiguity or privilege. We call on you to open an official review of the Holy See's status at the UN.

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip/Postal Code	
Country			
Phone	Fax	Email	

It's Time
For
A Change –
“**See Change**”

Call it the Holy See,
the Vatican,
or the Roman Catholic Church,
it's still a **religion** —
not a country.



Join **The “See Change” Campaign**
Change the Holy See's status at the UN

Catholics for a Free Choice
1436 U Street, NW
Suite 301
Washington, DC 20009
USA

www.seechange.org

Place
Stamp
Here

The “See Change” Campaign
1436 U Street, NW, Suite 301
Washington, DC 20009
USA

Please Deliver To
Secretary-General Kofi Annan

For more information about the **16 Days of Activism
Against Gender Violence**, please contact:



Linda Posluszny, 16 Days Campaign Coordinator
Center for Women's Global Leadership
Rutgers, the State University of NJ
160 Ryders Lane
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555 USA
ph: (1-732)932-8782
fax: (1-732)932-1180
e-mail: cwql@igc.org
website: <http://www.cwql.rutgers.edu>

COPY
REPRODUCTION

Demand Human Rights in the Home and in the World
Derechos Humanos en el Mundo y en la Casa
Exigeons les Droits Humains à la Maison et dans le Monde
Human Rights Depend on Women's Rights

Una Cultura de Derechos Humanos Depende de los Derechos de las Mujeres

Une Culture des Droits Humains Dépend des Droits des Femmes

There Are No Human Rights Without Women's Rights

Sin los Derechos de las Mujeres No Hay Derechos Humanos

Pas de Droits Humains Sans Droits des Femmes

Imagine a World Where All Women Enjoy Their Human Rights

Imaginemos un Mundo en el que Todas las Mujeres

Gocen Plenamente de sus Derechos Humanos

Imaginons un Monde où toutes les Femmes

Jouissent Pleinement de Leurs Droits Humains

Women's Rights are Human Rights

Center for Women's Global Leadership

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e-mail: cwgl@igc.org
website: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>

COOPY
PRESERVATION