

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE November 25 - December 10, 2008

**Human Rights for Women \longleftrightarrow Human Rights for All:
UDHR60**



The 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a historic moment, recognizing the past six decades of work to secure the conventions and treaties that make up the human rights framework. The principles of the declaration also gave legitimacy to activists around the world who were calling for the realization of universal human rights.

On December 10, 2007, a civil society campaign was launched to celebrate the upcoming 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This project is pioneered by a group of notable activists known as "The Elders" and seeks to reclaim the principles in the UDHR through the message that *Every Human Has Rights*. The [Center for Women's Global Leadership](#) (CWGL) is proud to be a partner in this [UDHR60 NGO](#) campaign, which comes at a time when the legitimacy of both women's rights and human rights are being challenged in too many settings.

Human rights cannot be universal without human rights for women. The UDHR60 campaign offers an opportunity to advocate for women's rights and the quest to end gender inequality, and to create a world free from violence, discrimination and injustice. These are critical to building a just, peaceful and sustainable world where human rights for all are respected. Over the past 60 years, women have created groundbreaking global and local efforts to challenge gender inequality and feminist approaches to human rights are being developed and used around the world. Women's advocacy has brought about pioneering change in areas such as education, health, law, and political participation – and, in interpretations of the human rights framework itself. The global frameworks for realizing women's rights have been spelled out in the Women's Convention ([CEDAW](#)), and in documents from other UN processes, such as the [Vienna Human Rights Declaration](#), the [Cairo Programme of Action](#), the [Beijing Platform for Action](#), the [Millennium Development Goals](#), and the [World Summit](#). Women have successfully demanded state political will to create meaningful change, but the implementation and resources to fulfill these promises are still lacking.

CWGL's focus in this UDHR60 campaign is not exhaustive, but what we *will* do is build on, celebrate and honor this global momentum, particularly in areas most closely related to our work on women's human rights. In addition, we will dedicate the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign 2008 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the UDHR and to make demands to advance women's human rights. CWGL's primary areas of focus will be:

- Support Women Human Rights Defenders
- End Violence Against Women
- Strengthen Gender Equality Structures in the UN
- Expand Financing for Gender Equality

**The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is coordinated by
the Center for Women's Global Leadership**

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

THEME ANNOUNCEMENT



Recognizing that the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign provides an opportunity to bring global activism around women's rights to the forefront of the celebration of UDHR60 on December 10 2008, we invite all to join in celebrating the anniversary of the Declaration and honoring decades of landmark women's rights advocacy. We encourage groups to focus their plans for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign 2008 on activities that address the many human rights challenges facing women around the globe and to celebrate the leadership of women in defending human rights.

Please see the 2008 Take Action Kit for more details on each of these ideas, including actions tailored especially for the 2008 16 Days Campaign.

The kit will be available online and in print in August – contact the Center for Women's Global Leadership at the address below to request a kit:

Center for Women's Global Leadership
160 Ryders Lane, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555 USA; Phone (1-732) 932-8782; Fax: (1-732) 932-1180; E-mail: 16days@cwgl.rutgers.edu; Or to access the kit online, go to <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/home.html>

Join the 16 Days movement!

Create or join a community, campus, national or international activity for the 16 Days. Request a Take Action kit, join the 16 Days listserv, and use past 16 Days International Calendars of Activities (available online) to spark ideas for your activities or to find information about groups in your area. Submit your planned projects to CWGL for posting to the 2008 International Calendar of Activities and become part of the global 16 Days movement.

Join the 16 Days electronic discussion!

Join the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence email listserv discussion, which lets activists share work against violence, build partnerships with others worldwide, and to develop strategies and themes for the annual 16 Days campaign.

To join the discussion, visit https://email.rutgers.edu/mailman/listinfo/16days_discussion.

Submit your materials! Help us build a 16 Days Archive!

CWGL requests that participants in the 16 Days campaign – past as well as present – send descriptions of your current or past 16 Days events to the contact information below for posting in the electronic **International Calendar of Activities**. CWGL would also be pleased to receive other materials, including posters, fliers, photographs, t-shirts, video footage, poems, songs, statements, and reports for the campaign archives. If you have photographs, documents, or other examples of your work that you can send in an electronic version, please do so and we will post it on the website.

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