

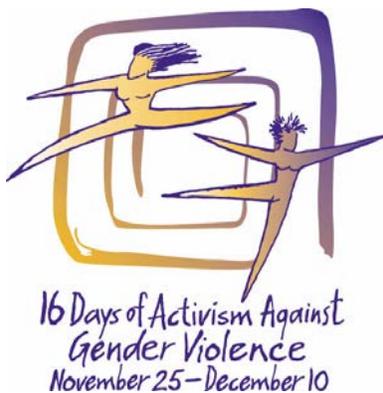
16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

RACISM & SEXISM: NO MORE VIOLENCE

November 25 – December 10, 2001

For the past ten years, individuals and organizations worldwide have been sponsoring activities during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence – November 25 - December 10 – to raise awareness of all forms of violence against women in their communities. The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence has become an annual event in many towns, states and regions. Activists have used this 16-day period to create a solidarity movement that raises awareness around gender-based violence as a human rights abuse, works to ensure better protection for survivors of violence and calls for its elimination.

As we work to build a world where rights, this year's campaign seeks to UN World Conference against Discrimination and Related Durban, South Africa, August- are constantly affected by the whether our racial group is the societies. For many women, the identity - race, language, caste, class, age, health status, status as disabilities - places us in situations have limited or no access to services. different women are more likely to limited access to services, include:



all women enjoy all their human link violence against women to the Racism, Xenophobia, Racial Intolerances (WCAR) held in September 2001. All women's lives convergence of our gender and race subordinate or dominant one in our convergence of various elements of culture, religion, sexual orientation, indigenous peoples, rural/urban and where we are targets of violence and Examples of situations in which become targets of violence or have

- Women seeking support, when they have experienced violence by male members of their own racial, ethnic, religious, and indigenous communities, are often encouraged not to report because of anxiety that their community will be further stigmatized.
- Due to language and cultural barriers, immigrant women often do not have access to services or legal assistance when they have experienced violence.
- Community leaders often justify violence against women by calling the acts traditional or customary practices.
- In times of armed conflict, rape and sexual violence have been used to target women of particular ethnic groups as an instrument of community intimidation or even genocide.
- Women who are refugees or internally displaced see increased incidences of domestic violence and become targets of sexual violence.

The organizing strategies employed by groups during the Campaign vary and are reflective of the region and its current political situation. We encourage activists to use this 16 day period to raise awareness in student, local, national and regional communities by coordinating events such as tribunals, workshops, festivals, etc. (See suggestions for action on reverse of this page.) The International Calendar of Activities from all previous Campaigns can be found on-line at <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu> and is illustrative of the various organizing strategies that groups have used in the past.

The annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign (November 25 to December 10) has been an organizing strategy by individuals and groups from around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of violence against women. Growing out of the Global Center's first Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991, the Campaign links violence against women and human rights, emphasizing that all forms of violence, whether perpetrated in the public or private sphere, are a violation of human rights. The dates that participants chose for the Campaign symbolically make this link: November 25 marks the International Day Against Violence Against Women and December 10 is International Human Rights Day. The 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.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

Submit your materials!

Participants in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign have been instrumental in bringing issues of violence against women to the forefront in local, national, regional and global arenas. The strategies employed by groups and activities organized during the Campaign period continue to be unique and innovative. The Center asks that all participants of the 16 Days Campaign - past as well as present participants - send documentation from their events i.e. posters, pictures, t-shirts, video footage, poems, songs, statements, reports, etc. to the Center (see contact information below).

Suggestions for Action...

- + Learn more about the commitments made by your government at the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances (August 31 – September 7, 2001 in South Africa) and work to have these implemented. Form a discussion group or hold a forum that looks at violence in relation to race and gender.
 - + Learn more about commitments made by your government at the Fourth World Conference on Women and at its recent five-year review in New York City, June 2000 (Beijing +5). Undertake a review of their progress in implementing and enforcing these commitments and coordinate activities and/or community actions to press for increased support of women's human rights.
 - + Contact local and national government officials and ask them to adopt November 25 as the Local/ National Day against Violence against Women as the UN did internationally in 1999. Ask them to commemorate the day and the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence by reporting on progress made by their administrations toward the elimination of violence against women.
 - + Educate youth about violence against women and girls by inviting speakers to address students in local schools; integrate exercises from *Local Action/ Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls* into the curriculum for the 16-day period (sample exercises and ordering information available online or by request); and/or provide gender-sensitivity training for teachers in the school district.
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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 that are interested in your activities to you.

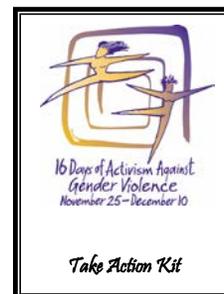
Please send a description of planned activities for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence to:

**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**

Take Action Kit

Contact the Center for Women's Global Leadership to receive a free copy of the Take Action Kit for the 16 Days Campaign. The action kit includes:

- a campaign profile
- a description of dates
- a list of participating organizations and countries
- a bibliography and resource list
- a list of suggested activities
- a current Campaign announcement



Get Involved - On-line!

The Center will post all information about the Campaign online at

<http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>