

SEVENTH ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence 1997

DEMAND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE HOME AND IN THE WORLD

The annual *16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence* campaign - from November 25 to December 10* - will launch the **1998 Global Campaign for Women's Human Rights** by focusing worldwide attention on abuses of women's human rights in all aspects of society and celebrating the creativity and perseverance of advocates around the world who work to end violence against women. This year, as in the past, we demand an end to all forms of gender-based violence at home and in the world. On December 10, 1948 governments acknowledged the human rights to "life liberty and the security of person...without distinction of any kind," as they signed the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. More recently, at the **World Conference on Human Rights** in 1993, governments around the world recognized that violence against women is a violation of women's human rights, whether perpetrated in the public or private sphere. In 1995 in Beijing, governments committed themselves to "take urgent action to combat and eliminate all forms of violence against women in public and private life" (para. 224). The **1998 Campaign** will demand that governments and intergovernmental organizations implement the commitments they have made and take action to ensure that those who perpetrate these human rights abuses are held accountable.

Join the *1997 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence* and be part of the international movement towards the **1998 Global Campaign for Women's Human Rights**. Draw upon international support for your local work by organizing activities or dedicating already scheduled events to the campaign. Use the themes Demand Human Rights in the Home and in the World or Imagine a World In Which Women Enjoy Their Human Rights to begin thinking about ways in which you can become involved. We will be happy to include all submissions in a *1997 International Calendar of Campaign Activities*. We will then send you the calendar which can be utilized to highlight your efforts as part of a broader movement for women's human rights. We will also send you the names and fax numbers of other people organizing *16 Days* activities in your region so that participants in the campaign can exchange letters of solidarity and support and where possible work together.

Send a brief description with dates of your planned activities for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence by October 1, 1996 to:
16 Days Coordinator
Center for Women's Global Leadership
27 Clifton Avenue, Douglass College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, USA
fax: (1-732)932-1180; e-mail: cwgl@igc.apc.org

* November 25 - December 10

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is part of the Global Campaign for Women's Human Rights. The initial 16 Days campaign in 1991 was coordinated by the Center for Women's Global Leadership with participants of our first Women's Global Leadership Institute (June 1991). November 25 is International Day Against Violence Against Women, declared by the first Feminist Encuentro for Latin America and the Caribbean in 1981 (Bogota, Colombia). The day commemorates the Mirabal sisters, who were brutally murdered by the Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic in 1960. December 10 celebrates the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed in 1948. The period also includes World AIDS Day (December 1) and the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, when a man gunned down 14 women engineering students for being "feminists" (December 6).