

## Violence Against women

# "COOK ME SOME EGGS, WOMAN"

BATTERING BY INTIMATE PARTNERS, FATHERS OR BROTHERS  
SEXUAL ABUSE OF FEMALE CHILDREN AND ADULT WOMEN  
IN THE HOUSEHOLD BY FAMILY MEMBERS  
DOWRY-RELATED VIOLENCE

MARITAL RAPE

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION AND OTHER  
TRADITIONAL PRACTICES HARMFUL TO WOMEN

INVOLUNTARY CONFINEMENT

PHYSICAL INTIMIDITY

MENTAL TORTURE

SLAVERY-LIKE CONDITIONS

SEXUAL ASSAULT

RAPE, SEXUAL ABUSE, SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ASSAULT AT WORK,  
IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ELSEWHERE

TRAFFICKING

FORCED PROSTITUTION

FORCED LABOUR

RAPE AND OTHER ABUSES

ACTS OF VIOLENCE COMMITTED OR COMPLETED BY POLICE, PRISON  
GUARDS, SOLDIERS, BORDER GUARDS, IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS

RAPE BY GOVERNMENT FORCES DURING ARMED CONFLICT

TORTURE IN CUSTODY

VIOLENCE BY OFFICIALS AGAINST REFUGEES

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### Global Youth Work

- Starts from young people's experiences and encourages their personal, social and political development.
- Works on the principles of informal education and offers opportunities that are educative, participative, empowering and designed to promote equality of opportunity.
- Is based on an agenda that has been negotiated with young people.
- Engages young people in critical analyses of local and global influences on their lives and their communities.
- Raises awareness of globalisation within an historical context, and encourages an understanding and appreciation of diversity locally and globally.
- Encourages an insight into the relationships and links between the personal, the local and the global and ensures that these links are based on equity and justice.
- Insists that the peoples and organisations of the north and south are seen as equal partners for change in an interdependent world.
- Encourages active citizenship by giving young people the opportunity to participate in actions, and build alliances, that seek to bring about change locally and globally.

**Global Bits** is printed three times a year providing youth workers and educators with information and ideas for exploring global issues and how they impact on youth and their communities. It includes perspectives and suggestions from practising youth workers throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

### Global Bits is free to all youth workers and educators.

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## About the theme of this issue

*Every two seconds somewhere in the world, a woman is subjected to violence.*

Violence against women is the greatest human rights issue in the world today. No country is spared from its reach, and no woman safe from its potentially fatal grasp.

This special bumper issue of *Global Bits* – written in partnership with *Amnesty International* – will highlight some of the many horrifying human rights abuses inflicted on women around the globe, debunk the myths that allow such abuses to continue, and point towards the kind of action we can all take to halt the violence.

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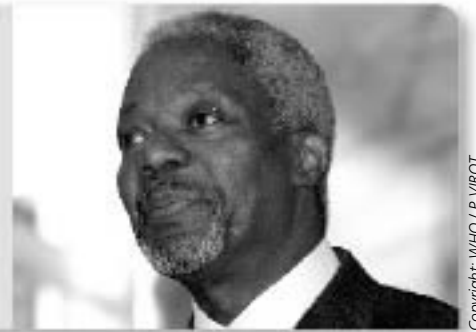
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“Violence against women is perhaps the most shameful human rights violation. And it is perhaps the most pervasive. It knows no boundaries of geography, culture or wealth. As long as it continues, we cannot claim to be making real progress towards equality, development and peace.”

Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations, 2003



Copyright: WHO / P. VIROT

Let's not pretend otherwise ... violence against women is not only the greatest human rights scandal of our times, it is also of paramount importance to at least half the human population of this planet – namely women.

This is not just a case of feeling a little sorry for 'those poor girls and women over there' – violence against women rears its ugly head everywhere and, at any moment of any day, you or someone you love could fall victim to it.

The **UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women** defines violence against women as: *“any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.”* Gender-based violence against women means violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman, or violence that affects women to a disproportionate degree.

From birth to death, in times of peace as well as war, women face discrimination and violence at the hands of the state, the community and the family.

- At least **one out of every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex, or abused** in her lifetime. This figure comes from a study based on 50 surveys from around the world.
- **More than 60 million women are “missing” from the world** today as a result of sex-selective abortions and female infanticide.
- **Every year, millions of women are raped;** by partners, relatives, friends and strangers, by employers and colleagues, soldiers and members of armed groups.
- **Violence in the family is endemic all over the world;** the overwhelming majority of victims are women and girls. In the USA, for example, women account for around 85 per cent of the victims of domestic violence.
- The World Health Organization has reported that up to **70 per cent of female murder victims are killed by their male partners.**
- Small arms and light weapons are the main tools of almost every conflict. **Women and children account for nearly 80% of the casualties,** according to the UN Secretary-General.

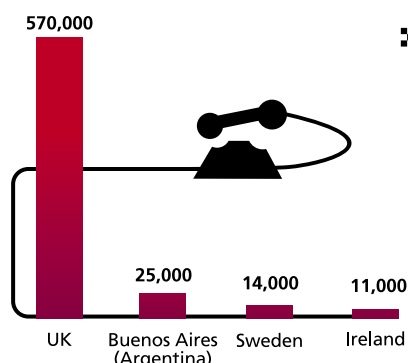
(Source: Amnesty International)



## Shameful Statistics

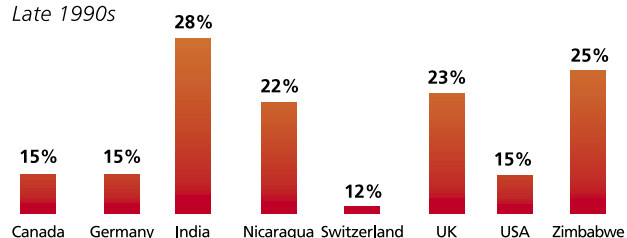
### CALLS TO HOTLINES

Number of phone calls made by women each year to hotlines run by police or crisis centres latest available data selected countries



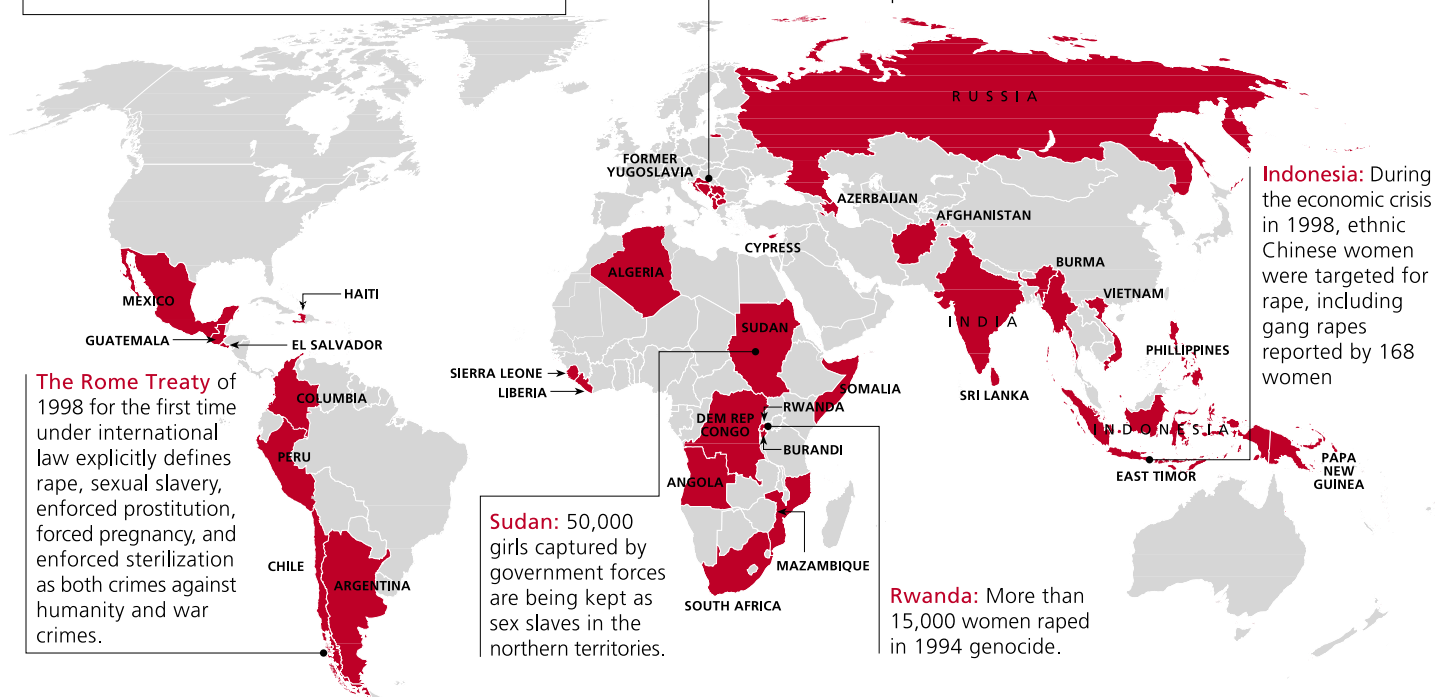
### THE RAPIST AT HOME

Women who disclose they have been subjected to sexual assault or attempted sexual assault by an intimate male partner  
Late 1990s



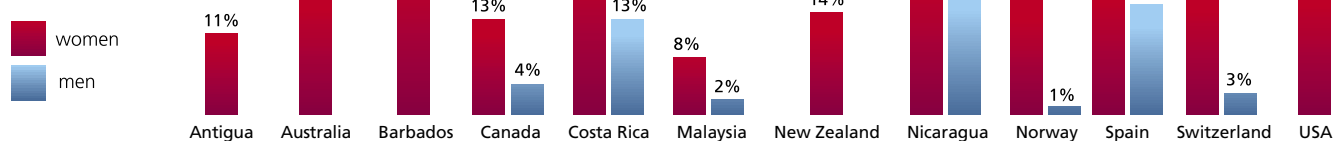
### RAPE IN WAR ZONE

Systematic or widespread rape of women by soldiers/paramilitaries as part of armed conflict 1980s-2002 where known



### CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Percentage of adults who report having been sexually abused as a child  
1990s where known



Source: *The Atlas of Women in the World*, Third Edition, J. Seager, Earthscan, London

# ➤ “Cook Me Some Eggs, Woman...”

## KEY CONCEPTS:

Close to Home  
Power and Control  
Equality in Relationships

When Alan Duff's *Once Were Warriors* hit the bookshops, and was later turned into a haunting film, everyone talked about the truthfulness of the story – of how it exposed the ‘violent underbelly’ of Aotearoa New Zealand society. We were shocked, and outraged... and yet, in 2005, when the NZPPD<sup>1</sup> held an *Open Hearing into the Prevention of Violence Against Women and Children*, they were surprised to find that there was no coordinated, organised collection of data on violence against women and children in NZ.

What the NZPPD report eventually uncovered, however, made for sober reading:

*Each year Police deal with more than 45,000 calls relating to family violence, involving more than 200,000 people. There are significant numbers of repeat calls.*

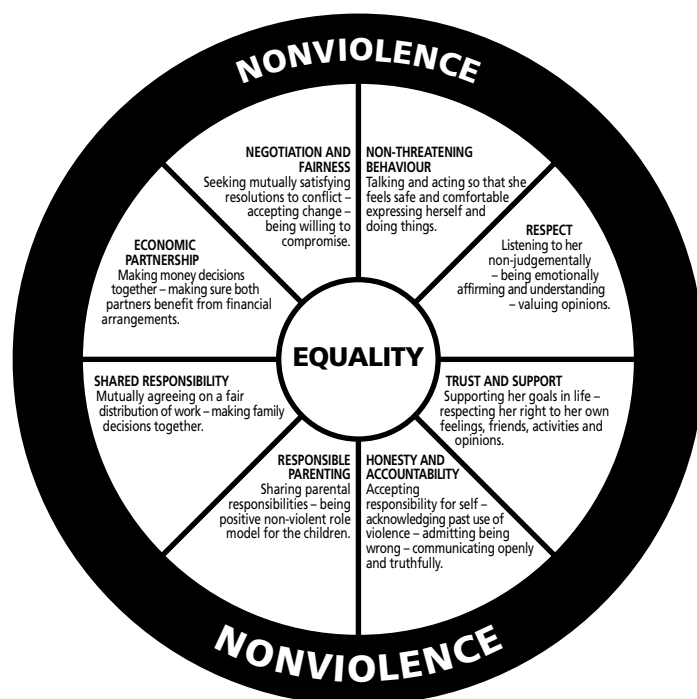
*In 2002/3 Police attended 46,682 incidents of family violence – about 55,000 children were present at these. Police statistics point to approx. 12,000 family violence assaults each year and 4,500*

*breaches of Protection Orders. Police estimate that they record less than 5% of all family violence.*

*In 2001, 85% of reported family violence cases involved women as the victims and this included 53 murders; 54% of these murders were related to family violence<sup>2</sup>... 75% of occurrences of violence disclosed were by people well known to the victim – for women the offender is most likely to be a current or former partner, boyfriend, child, relative or friend...<sup>3</sup>*

The NZPPD report also uncovered other worrying statistics, including:

- Men who batter women are more likely to batter children
- Men regularly exposed to violence in the military are more likely to beat their partners
- Men who behave aggressively on the sports field are more likely to beat their partners
- Men who exhibit sexism and misogyny are more likely to behave violently towards women and children.



The **Power and Control Wheel** was developed to represent the role physical violence plays in gaining and holding onto power and control. It also pinpoints many of the kinds of abuse used to maintain power and control over an abuse victim.

The **Equality Wheel** offers a more positive, alternative model of behavior within human relationships.

**Source:** Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, Duluth, Minnesota, 55802 USA.

<sup>1</sup> New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development

<sup>2</sup> Police submission from NZPPD publication *Creating a Culture of Non-Violence*

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Justice submission from NZPPD publication *Creating a Culture of Non-Violence*

## ➤ A War on Women

**“Civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements.”**

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

So we all know the horrors of war, right? Soldiers sent into the battlefields to fight for God, or country, or oil, or whatever else their great military commanders' demand... we've seen it in the movies a thousand times – the heroic acts of bravery, the mud-smeared GI Joe who bursts through the flaming wreckage to save the newborn baby from the evil hordes...

But, the trouble is, in most of today's wars, civilian casualties far outnumber those of armed combatants. And, although unarmed men also suffer appalling human rights violations in times of war, women often face extra trauma by virtue of their sex alone.

### Rape as a tool of terror in times of war

Rape is often used in conflicts to intimidate, conquer and control women and their communities. An unspeakable terror for women everywhere, rape is used as a form of torture to extract information, as a means to punish, intimidate, humiliate and demoralise its victims and their communities.

Although not exclusively suffered by women, they are by far the most commonly abused. And it's not just soldiers who rape – other members of

armed groups and government personnel, and even some of those authorised to protect civilians (such as government officials, aid workers and UN peacekeepers) have sexually abused women in their care.

For example, in Rwanda, there are estimates of between 250,000 and 500,000 rapes committed during 100 days of genocidal violence in 1994. And in the Dafur region of Western Sudan, hundreds of

women have been raped and sexually abused, with up to 16 women being raped each day in Mornei (Western Darfur) as they went to collect water for their families.

During the 30-year conflict in Guatemala, soldiers admitted destroying fetuses and mutilating women's sexual organs in order to “eliminate guerrilla spawn.”

### ‘My life means nothing’

Seventeen-year-old Tatiana Ume from the Democratic Republic of the Congo was eight-and-a-half months pregnant when her husband and two-year-old son were hacked to death by irregular militia in May 2003.

When she, her mother and two younger sisters heard that the same militia intended to raid the district of Bunia where they lived, they fled. Six days later they reached a militia checkpoint, but her mother could not pay the US\$100 demanded. The militia cut her throat, killing her. When Tatiana's 14-year-old sister began to cry, she was shot in the head. Her other sister, aged 12, was taken to a nearby clearing and gang-raped. Tatiana was told to leave at once or suffer the same fate.

After six days walking she went into labour and gave birth to a girl. Although she had lost a lot of blood, she had to take to the road again the following day. The baby later died, two days before Tatiana was interviewed by Amnesty International.

*“Today my life means nothing,” she sobbed. “My sisters were raped and killed. I have no more relations. I have no children. I have no parents. I have nothing. I only ask God to take away my life so I can find peace.”*

**From:** *Causalities of War – women's bodies, women's lives.* Amnesty International



The parents of 18-year-old Kheda Kungaeva hold up photographs of their daughter who was abducted and killed by a Russian army colonel in Chechnya in March 2000.

**Source:** *Causalities of War – women's bodies, women's lives.* Amnesty International © PAULA ALLEN

**There are many implications for those who have been raped or sexually abused. What do you think are some of the psychological and physical injuries suffered by a woman as the result of such an abuse?**



Kabul, Afghanistan

Source: *Casualties of War – women's bodies, women's lives.*

Amnesty International © STEVE DUPONT

### Torture of women

Torture of women in times of war has a long and shameful history – a history littered with stories of brutality, terror and vengeance. Commonly singled out, women are often viciously tortured (sexually, physically *and* mentally) as prelude to murder. Beatings, burnings, stonings, mutilations, sexual slavery... these acts of violence are not an incidental accident of war but, rather, a weapon used to destabilise societies and break down their resistance.

### Women as targets

Chemical, biological and radiological weapons have led to an enormous number of civilian deaths, with women in the target zones often paying the long-term price through serious damage to their reproductive health. Other weapons, such as unexploded bombs and landmines, pose a particular threat to women and children as they attempt to go about their daily business – turning the collection of water, food, shelter and other necessities into a daily dice with death.

### The impact on women's health

With an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 new landmine casualties each year, injured women and girls are less likely to receive treatment than men and boys. They also have less access to artificial limbs and rehabilitation. Added to injuries caused by weapons and violence, many rape victims contract sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. In Liberia, for instance, where about 40% of civilians suffered some form of sexual abuse during the conflict

**'They put a wet sponge under my neck and laid me on an electric stall. They repeatedly exposed me to electric shocks over several hours... Afterwards they put me on another table... And they brought a truncheon... Suddenly, they pushed me and forced me to sit on the truncheon. I started to bleed... one of them came, climbed on me and raped me.'**

(From: *Broken Bodies, Shattered Minds* Amnesty International)

there, clinics reported that 100% of female patients tested positive for at least one sexually transmitted infection, while in post-conflict Rwanda, around 70% of rape survivors live with HIV.<sup>4</sup> Add to this the mental torture inflicted on women affected by violence, loss and dislocation, and it is clear that the impacts on women's health are enormous.

### The plight of women refugees

40 million people in the world today are displaced from their homes as a result of armed conflict and, according to some estimates, up to 80% of these refugees are women and children. Apart from the terrible anguish of being torn from their homes and, for many, the loss of loved ones, women often find themselves isolated and unprotected in a hostile and dangerous world. Government officials, smugglers, pirates, members of armed groups and male refugees have all been known to abuse refugee women in transit. For instance, 36%

of displaced women in Columbia have been forced to have sexual relations with men, according to government sources in 2003.

### Women who are forced to fight

Many women and children have also found themselves unwilling soldiers in conflicts – where those who are supposedly on 'their side' submit them to additional sexual, physical and mental abuse. Many women have been abducted at gunpoint by armed groups and forced to fight as soldiers, become 'sexual slaves' for others, or used as cooks, porters or messengers.

<sup>4</sup> *Casualties of War – women's bodies, women's lives* – Amnesty International.

## ► It's a Cruel, Cruel World

All over the world, women's roles and positions within their societies are set, and usually ruled, by men. And, for many, the rules are not just administered unfairly, but are enforced through a culture of intimidation, fear and sometimes extreme violence.

The underlying cause of this is **gender discrimination** – the denial of women's right to equality in all areas of life. It is often embedded in terms designed to sound as if they have the women's best interests at heart – promoting chastity, purity and honour as virtues – while really wielding these lofty principles as a means of power and control.

### The United Nations leads the way...

In December 1993, the UN adopted the *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women*, which highlights violence against women as a human rights violation. As well as their more generic *Declaration of Human Rights*, the UN have also developed the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*, which requires governments who bind themselves to the Convention to “take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organisation or enterprise.”

The problem is, even in countries that have laws criminalising violence against women, tolerance of violence can still be found at all levels of society.

### Lousy laws

Some countries actually legislate *against* women, with laws that not only treat them differently from men, but also give them fewer and less extensive rights. This includes such measures as

women needing a male relative's permission to use contraception, pass citizenship on to their children, obtain a passport, buy property. Many religious/cultural beliefs inflict further requirements, such as dress codes and restriction of movement outside their homes. Such laws may make a woman's ability to escape from violent situations, or seek justice, more difficult (or impossible), and can leave women denied equal protection under the law.

Even when laws are in place, women still often find themselves judged differently from their male counterparts – often held responsible for the violence or sexual assault made against them, and forced to endure invasive and humiliating cross-examination of their past behaviour. There are also times when, despite laws being in place, these laws are blatantly ignored (such as early marriage<sup>5</sup>, which is explicitly prohibited under the *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child*.)

Bad laws may limit women's power to defend themselves – for instance, domestic violence may be against the law, but rape within marriage is often excluded from the definition. Incredibly, some

countries suspend rape sentences if the perpetrator marries the victim!

*'Fifteen schoolgirls were burned to death and dozens of others injured in a fire at their school in Mecca, Saudi Arabia (on 11.03.02) ... Religious police prevented the girls from leaving the building because they were not wearing headscarves and had no male relatives to receive them. They also reportedly prevented rescuers who were men from entering the premises.'*

Amnesty International

### 'Honour' crimes

Even more appalling are laws that permit so-called 'honour' crimes, or allow a defence of 'honour', in order for men to escape harsh punishment. Women can find themselves accused of bringing shame on their families and communities for 'crimes' as insignificant as chatting with a male neighbour or being *suspected* of improper or immoral behaviour, to being charged with 'shaming' the family as the result of being the innocent victim of rape.



Ceremony of burning a Hindu widow with the body of her late husband.

**Source:** Robert Sears (Editor): *Pictorial History of China and India; Comprising a Description of those Countries and their Inhabitants*, New York, Published by Robert Sears, 1851.

<sup>5</sup> A 'child' is defined as those under the age of 18 years.



The victims of honour crimes are not treated as human beings, but as *property* – and a woman can become the victim of violence, torture, or death merely for being deemed ‘guilty’ by the man who ‘owns’ her.

The practice of *sati* (or *suttee*), in which a widow is expected to throw herself on her husband’s funeral pyre, was originally supposed to be voluntary (although why anyone would volunteer is beyond comprehension). But, in practice, many widows have been physically forced to their deaths. In India, between the period 1831 to 1928, there was an average of 600 deaths a year as a result of *sati*. Although outlawed now, this practice still arises from time to time, with about 40 cases occurring in India since 1947.<sup>6</sup>

### Gender-selected Abortions

In several countries, including China, India, South Korea, Bangladesh and Pakistan, girls are widely considered of lesser economic value than boys – a view strengthened by marriage, dowry (money or property brought by a bride to her husband at marriage) and inheritance practices. This skewed preference for bearing sons takes several forms, from abortion to female infanticide and, although once thought of as a practice of the poor, evidence in fact suggests the opposite. The neglect of baby girls, including feeding them less and withholding medical treatment, is also chronic in many countries. The resulting shortage of women feeds back into other forms of violence against women, through increased rape, trafficking, kidnapping and enslavement.<sup>7</sup>

### Genital Mutilation

An estimated 135 million women and girls have undergone female genital mutilation (sometimes less accurately called female circumcision), with 2 million more added to this number every year.

Every day, around 6,000 girls are at risk, with the potential for torturous and sometimes fatal consequences. These include excessive bleeding, infection, trauma, pain and potential difficulties with intercourse and childbirth. Extensively practiced in Africa, and common in the Middle East, it also occurs in parts of Asia, Australia, Latin and North America and Europe. Aotearoa New Zealand is not exempt, with many immigrants also affected. Most commonly carried out without anaesthetic, there appears to be no justifiable foundation for such a brutal practice (beyond the argument that it is necessary as a ‘rite of passage’.)

### Trafficking/Prostitution

Trafficking in human beings is the third largest source of profit for international organised crime, after drugs and arms, with a yearly turnover of billions of dollars. A US Department of State report in 2000 estimated that between 45,000 to 50,000 women and children were trafficked into the US each year, while a crackdown in China led to the rescue of more than 10,000 women and children in the first month. The trafficking, either for sexual exploitation (prostitution, sex tourism, forced marriage etc.) or forced labour, sees women subjected to physical and mental violence as a means to break their will to escape, and they’re often deprived of the documentation necessary to leave. Many women find themselves virtual hostages, after being duped into believing they are travelling to another country for better work and living conditions.

### HIV

In many countries there is a high incidence of non-consensual sex, particularly affecting young women. The links between violence against women and HIV/AIDS are many, including: injuries from rape increasing the risk of infection; the threat

of violence increasing women’s fear of insisting on safe-sex (i.e. use of condoms); the myth that sleeping with a virgin will ‘cure’ HIV/AIDS; and childhood sexual abuse victims being more likely to engage in HIV-related risk behaviours. The fear of violence often prevents women from gaining access to HIV/AIDS information and testing, from disclosing their status, and from accessing prevention services, treatment, care and support.<sup>8</sup>

*.... Foeticide and infanticide seem to have taken a toll. Actually nobody knows how many girl children are killed every year in India because they are girls. Most of the time the girl children are killed immediately after their birth using crude methods and done by their own mothers. We cannot calculate the emotional cost for a mother of killing her own child. Female foeticide is the most extreme form of discrimination against girls. In India one in four girls will not live to see her 15th birthday... Bride burning because of dowry issues is another prevalent form of violence against women in India. Every year more than 6000 women are killed because they cannot give enough dowry to their husbands for their wedding, these killings are usually registered as fire accidents in the kitchen. The dying women usually do not incriminate their husbands.*

**From:** *The Cost of Violence in India* by Renuka Kumaravel<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> From: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suttee>

<sup>7</sup> Source: *The Atlas of Women in the World* – Joni Seager 2003. Earthscan 2005.

<sup>8</sup> From: *Violence against Women and HIV/AIDS Information Sheet* World Health Organisation and The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS.

<sup>9</sup> Renuka Kumaravel is Director of the Centre for Women’s Development and Research, Chennai, India.

"Without exception, women's greatest risk of violence comes not from 'stranger danger' but from the men they know, often male family members or husbands... What is striking is how similar the problem is around the world."<sup>10</sup>

## The real low down on domestic violence...

Amnesty International's Aotearoa New Zealand website quotes the following statistics<sup>11</sup>:

- One woman is killed by her partner or ex-partner every five weeks.
- There were 3,312 recorded cases of sexual offences in 2002/2003, 57.2% of which were resolved.
- 11 women a year die and about 400 women are hospitalised due to assault; 15-21% of women reported having experienced physical or sexual abuse; and 44-53% of women reported having experienced psychological abuse in the previous 12 months.
- 50% of all homicides of Aotearoa New Zealand women are committed by the woman's partner or ex-partner.
- 3% of women reported being afraid that their partners might kill them.
- 15% of residents in women's refuges had a permanent disability as the result of battering.
- In 1996, 33% of women reported physical or sexual abuse from their male partner.
- In 1995 it was reported that 35% of men physically assaulted their partners.
- Women's violence against a male partner was recorded at 3-6% in a project covering the period between 1991-1994.
- In a 1994 Hamilton study, 10% of the incidents of family violence were committed against pregnant women.
- Costs and availability of information are among the reasons why Māori and Pacific victims of domestic violence do not apply for protection orders under the Domestic Violence Act, 1995.
- Abused women are five times more likely to need mental health services, and three times more likely to need other health services.
- 1999 statistics point to the over-representation of Māori women and children among those using women's refuges. In that year, 3,085 Māori women and 4,851 Māori children, compared with 3,899 non-Māori women and 4,636 non-Māori children, used NCIVR refuge services.
- Women's Refuge provided services to 13,837 women and 8,686 children during 2004.<sup>12</sup>
- A 1994 study estimated that domestic violence cost Aotearoa New Zealand between 1.187 billion and 5.302 billion dollars per year.
- Police attended 46,682 family violence incidents in 2002/3, and around 55,000 children were present at those incidents.<sup>13</sup>
- Studies show that almost all children can describe detailed accounts of violent behaviour that their mother or father never realised they had witnessed.
- There are 8 grievous assaults, 10 sexual offences and 55 sexual attacks in Aotearoa New Zealand each day, according to Victim Support.<sup>14</sup>

This 1955 article from *Housekeeping Monthly* was titled **The Good Wife's Guide** and includes such 'highlights' as:

- Prepare yourself. Take 15 minutes to rest so you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your makeup, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh-looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people.
- Be a little gay and a little more interesting for him. His boring day may need a lift and one of your duties is to provide it.
- Catering for his comfort will provide you with immense personal satisfaction.
- Greet him with a warm smile and show sincerity in your desire to please him.
- Let him talk first – remember, his topics of conversation are more important than yours.
- Don't complain if he is late for dinner or even if he stays out all night. Count on this as minor compared to what he might have gone through that day.



- Have a cool or warm drink ready for him... Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes.
- Remember, he is the master of the house and as such will always exercise his will with fairness and truthfulness. You have no right to question him.
- A good wife always knows her place.



**How does this make you feel?**

**Do you think these expectations are still true today?**

<sup>10</sup> 'Ending violence against women' Johns Hopkins University Population Information Programme, 2000.

<sup>11</sup> Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand (<http://www.amnesty.org.nz/>) Note: Please be aware these statistics are up to ten years old.

<sup>12</sup> National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges Inc. 2005

<sup>13</sup> Police submission *Creating a Culture of Non-Violence* NZPDD 2005

<sup>14</sup> [www.victimsupport.org.nz/statistics.htm](http://www.victimsupport.org.nz/statistics.htm)

## ➤ Date Rape – When *No* Means *No*

### KEY CONCEPTS:

Male Attitudes  
Betrayal of Trust  
Impact on Victims

“It is also critical to understand that violence against women exists as part of the mechanisms of a male-dominated society that uses power relations, competition and violence to establish gender hierarchies. It is not men inherently, but the ways we have learned to be men that breeds violence.”

Michael Kaufman, founder of the White Ribbon Campaign, Toronto, Canada.

**According to an Australian survey** of teenage boys, 1 in 3 boys thought it was permissible to force a girl to have sex if they thought she had led him on.

27% of boys thought it was okay to force a girl to have sex if *‘she had got him sexually excited’* and 18% were unsure. It was also discovered that there was a common belief that they could tell when *‘no’* meant *‘yes’* by the tone of the voice and body language.

In another study of male American college students, 30% said they would rape if they were guaranteed to get away with it. When the survey language was changed, over 50% said they would

*‘force a woman to have sex against her will’* if they were guaranteed of getting away with it.

### What on earth is going on?

Not all these young men can have come from violent or abusive homes, so where are these attitudes coming from?

Many commentators believe it is tied to social perceptions about what it *means to be a man* – the denial of discussion about emotions and

the resulting lack of information about how to deal with strong emotions when they *do* arise.

### What are they thinking?

According to information distributed during the 1996 Rape Awareness Week<sup>15</sup>:

- Teenagers often confuse control and jealousy with love
- Many men only ask a woman out after they’ve decided that they’d like to have sex with her
- Some (young and mature) men see forced sex as ‘masterful’
- Many men confuse ‘scoring’ with being a successful lover
- Most date rapists do not see their actions as rape
- Most date rapists see the mingling of aggression and sexuality as normal
- Most date rapists have used alcohol or drugs beforehand
- Most date rapists have some feelings of pride after the assault

## Date Rape – *the awful truth:*

- Consenting to a kiss does not mean consent to sexual intercourse
- **Young women aged 14-24 are the most rape endangered**
- Over 50% of female teenage rape victims are raped by a date
- The average time between sexual assault and visiting a Rape Crisis centre is over 14 years (for incidents that occurred more than 12 months before)
- Because of the myths about rape, many people don’t consider date rape as *real* rape.
- Women are 4 times more likely to be raped by an acquaintance than a stranger
- Police are often reluctant to lay charges of rape against a date acquaintance
- Juries are unwilling to convict a date rapist
- Date rape is a betrayal of trust
- Over 91% of Rape Crisis clients from 1993 to 1995 knew their attacker
- Women who have been raped may feel some of the following: *guilt (for example, if only I hadn’t...); blame themselves for not fighting back; dirty; sick; afraid; want to push it away and not think about it; ashamed; unsafe; scared to go certain places; scared to see certain people; alone; numb; that no-one understands; angry; depressed; withdrawn; self-destructive; unable to sleep or concentrate...*

**From:** the National Collective of Rape Crisis and Related Groups of Aotearoa

**“Women do not cause date rape; date rapists do.”**

<sup>15</sup> From the National Collective of Rape Crisis and Related Groups of Aotearoa

Let's look at some of the myths and realities about violence against women:

**People make a big deal about domestic violence, but it's not that common.**

One in three women in Aotearoa New Zealand experience physical and/or sexual abuse throughout their lifetime at the hands of a partner. Women and children are more at risk of violence in their homes than in the street.

**She asked for it /she probably deserved it.**

No-one has the right to abuse another person. Drunk or sober, provocative or agreeable, everyone has the right to be safe from violence. By focusing on provocation, we excuse the person actually

committing the violence. Violence against women is a criminal act. Violence against any person is a criminal act.

**Why doesn't she leave? She must really like the violence or she wouldn't stay.**

Most victims who stay in a violent relationship recognise that if they take steps to leave, they risk the violence escalating. If your partner had threatened to kill you and your children, you would think very carefully before you put yourself or your family at greater risk. Most victims do not have enough support from outside the relationship to

safely leave – and have suffered a serious loss of confidence and optimism about the future. Most women in seriously violent relationships eventually do leave, but may take between five and eight years to get out, leaving and returning several times. We need to understand leaving as a process rather than a one-off event.

**It will get better.**

The longer the violence continues, the more serious the violence becomes. The relationship will only get better once the man stops violent and controlling behaviour.

**Middle-class women are not the victims of violence as much as working-class women.**

Violence occurs across all classes and socio-economic groups. Wealthy abusers have more economic resources to control their family. Violence is reported less often amongst higher socio-economic groups, who have more to lose from a criminal record. The loss of 'face' or reputation, and possible economic deprivation, are issues for many.

**Women in violent relationships are uneducated.**

The formal education of women in relationships with violent men ranges from no qualification to doctorate.

**Women in violent relationships are crazy.**

Research shows that abusers and victims are no more crazy than people in non-violent relationships. "Crazy" behaviour adopted by some women may be their best attempt to survive in a very difficult situation. In fact, research\* has shown that many women are incorrectly diagnosed with mental illness, when they are really just displaying the understandable symptoms created by fear and stress associated with their abuse.

**Children need fathers (no matter what).**

Children need safety and security, not abuse. Children who grow up in families where there is violence are emotionally scarred and often repeat similar patterns in their own families. Fathers can choose to be non-violent with their women partners and children.

### MYTH CYCLE

#### Belief in Myths



Source: Community Action Kit Author: Family Violence Unit of Social Policy Agency, Department of Social Welfare Publisher: Crime Prevention Unit of Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (Revised by National Collective of Women's Refuges, 2005)

\* Source: Hager D.M. (2001) 'He drove me mad: An investigation into the relationship between domestic violence and mental illness'. Unpublished thesis; Master of Public Health; School of Population Health, Auckland University. Available [www.nzfvc.org.nz](http://www.nzfvc.org.nz)



### **Drinking causes violence.**

Alcohol and other drug abuse doesn't cause violence, but may act as a "trigger" and increase the severity of the abuse. It is often used as an excuse for violence. Many violent offenders do not abuse alcohol or drugs, or may not be violent when intoxicated. Violent offenders who abuse alcohol or drugs need to address both problems. Continuing alcohol or drug abuse will reduce the effectiveness of stopping violence programmes.

### **Religious men are not violent.**

Men who have religious beliefs are just as likely as other men to be violent. Religious beliefs often stress male superiority in the household. This thinking underlies violence, as men may then believe they are justified to punish women and children for not being obedient.

### **Violent men are unsuccessful and without resources to cope with the world.**

Many violent men have educational, professional and work related resources and skills which they use well outside the home (e.g. doctors, lawyers, politicians, etc.).

### **Violent men are not loving partners.**

Many violent men are at times loving, sensitive and playful. It may be this side of his personality which attracted the woman to him initially and induces her to stay. Remorse can be passionately expressed and his partner may really want to believe that it really is the last time.

### **Violent men cannot control their violence.**

Men often believe this, which enables them to avoid taking responsibility for their own behaviour. Violence is a tactic of choice – men choose who, when and where they abuse. Most men who are violent to their partners appear reasonable and "respectable" outside the family.

### **Domestic violence is a heterosexual thing and is rare in lesbian and gay relationships.**

There is the same incidence of domestic violence in lesbian and gay relationships as in heterosexual relationships. The abuser may be the larger or the smaller partner, and there can be different tactics of control used, eg one partner may threaten to out the other partner to her family or employer.<sup>16</sup>

### **There are just as many women who beat up on men.**

There's no denying violence against men by women occurs, but in nowhere near the same numbers, frequency, overall seriousness or global scale. In Aotearoa New Zealand national crime statistics show men as the main perpetrators and women as victims of domestic violence. Also studies show that women have a significantly increased risk of injury from domestic disputes compared to men.<sup>17</sup>

## **More Unacceptable Myths:**

*"She asked for it; wearing those clothes meant she wanted sex; she liked it; getting in a car means yes; accepting dinner means yes; people know how to say no and will do so; she gave me the 'come on'; she was drunk and therefore easy game; kissing means yes to sex; if you're a male who has been raped, you're probably gay; only prostitutes and massage parlour workers get raped."*

Source: Auckland Sexual Abuse HELP



**What other unacceptable myths about violence against women have you heard?**

**How would you respond to each of them? How could you help change society's attitudes towards violence against women? What can you do?**

<sup>16</sup> This and the preceding FAQ's are from *Preventing Violence in the Home* – Te Kakano Tumanako – [www.preventingviolence.org.nz](http://www.preventingviolence.org.nz)

<sup>17</sup> Text of a flier handed out at the 2001 Father & Child Trust Social Policy Forum by members of the Coalition for Safe Families and Rape Crisis.

There is no doubt that the statistics and reports about violence against women make for thoroughly depressing reading. But the news is not all bad –all around the world ordinary people are starting to turn their communities around through education and positive action...



### Amokura – Home Grown Innovation

The Amokura Project is designed to change community attitudes towards family violence in Taitokerau (the northern area of Aotearoa New Zealand), with a consortium of Chief Executives from seven iwi authorities. The project draws on traditional concepts, practices and values to help the whole community 'enjoy safety in their own homes and communities across the region'. They support events that promote whānau well-being, respectful relationships and gender equality, and have harnessed the wisdom of their kaumatua and kuia to dispel the myth that violence is acceptable or culturally valid, and to help remove the opportunities for violence to flourish.



Amokura has also initiated the 'Step Back' campaign – a violence prevention message communicated through radio jingles and community

concerts. It has embraced Aotearoa New Zealand's unique indigenous music flavours (including hip hop, reggae and rhythm and blues) to spread powerful messages to young people, with words such as:

*Step Back!! You claim that you're not violent/  
Smack only if it's required/ Raising your hand don't  
make you a man/ You ain't a man if you smack  
your love/ You ain't a man if you crack your sons/  
You ain't a mom if you smack your girls/ Make  
them wake up if that's your world*

(From: 'Step Back' – by EZ)

## 1000 Women Speak for Millions

In January 2005, 1000 women from more than 150 countries were nominated together for the Nobel Peace Prize.

These women have committed themselves to working for more humane security and justice, often rebuilding what has been destroyed, mediating in conflicts between enemies, and fighting poverty. They have spoken up for access to land and clean water, defended human rights and denounced every sort of child abuse. They have created alternative sources of income, cared for HIV patients and their children, organised vigils, and documented the many atrocities of war.

And, although the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize eventually went to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its Director General, Mohamed El Baradei, the Project '1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005' made visible women's efforts to counter injustice, discrimination, oppression, and violence.

The following women are a small sample of the many thousands and thousands of dedicated women all around the world who toil for better women's rights, and to prevent violence against women:

### Kathleen Kapei – Solomon Islands

**"If women and children can be recognised as equals of men and allowed to exercise their rights as human beings, then men and women, families, communities and the society at large will benefit."**

Christian faith and love for local communities triggered Sister Kathleen's work for the welfare of women and children, human rights, social justice, and peace in Solomon Islands.

### Kavita Srivastava – India

**Kavita Srivastava believes that village women, coming together, can articulate their problems and find solutions. More than a million village women have proven her belief to be true.** For two decades Kavita Srivastava has been promoting, collectively with other social groups, nonviolent ways of ensuring justice to survivors of atrocities committed due to gender, class, caste, religious group or nationality. Her accomplishments include work with the women's movement in Rajasthan, which has initiated laws against widow burning and national guidelines against violence against women. She also succeeded in taking the "Right to Food" issue to the Supreme Court in 2001. She is the national secretary of the Union for Civil Liberties.

### Rhoda Chepkobus Rotino – Kenya

**"Alternatives to FGM should not break traditions. If somebody came and said that the tradition needs to be stopped, it would not work. Our goal is to continue the tradition without mutilation."** For years Rhoda has campaigned against female genital mutilation (FGM) and early marriage of girls. She insists on the rights of girls to go to school. Based on her own experience,

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.1000peacewomen.org/eng/html/nominierte/index.php>

she has helped introduce an alternative right of passage to adulthood for girls. She works tirelessly on training and awareness creation against FGM among the Pokot community.

#### **Seyran Ates – Germany**

**"I am on a long narrow path I walk day and night I do not know in what state I'm in I walk day and night. . ."** Seyran Ates works as a lawyer opposed to forced marriages and so-called "honour killings." In 1984, working as a law student in a counselling center for Turkish women, she was shot by an assailant. Another woman died on the spot. Despite this painful experience, Seyran Ates did not give up her public support for women's rights. When Berlin was struck by a series of "honour killings" during the winter of 2004/2005, she asked the government to strengthen certain criminal laws. In reaction, a popular Turkish newspaper started a campaign against the "crazy lawyer."

#### **Rose Marie Muraro – Brazil**

**"One, who loves, does not compete. Peace depends on the end of the social debt that the developed world has to human beings."** One of the pioneers in Brazil's feminist movement, all of her work is connected to the defence of human rights and women's rights. Altogether, Muraro published 26 books, always with the purpose of "giving women the power of speech." She asserts that "without equality between men and women, there will be no peace".

#### **Marjana Senjak – Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**"Love and kindness will prove to be the successful tools of peace building. Every day thousands of ordinary people all over the world work diligently for the world to be a better place."** Marjana Senjak established the Centre for Psychological Help in Zenica. She initiated cooperation among her professional colleagues and began working at collective refugee centres. She and her colleagues established a SOS hotline for people with war traumas, also for soldiers. In 1993, Marjana co-founded the Medica Zenica Centre for treatment of women survivors of rape and people suffering from war trauma. Over the last few years, the centre has been expanded to include survivors of domestic violence and incest..

#### **Freda Talao – Papua New Guinea**

**"Tears are words that heal deeper than we know."** Lawyer Freda Talao is senior programme officer for AusAID working mainly in the Law and Justice sector. She is also chair-person of ICRAF, a human rights NGO in Papua New Guinea. She was executive director of the Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee. Over the years, she has worked extensively through government and the NGO sector on human rights, the environment, violence against women, and legislative reform issues such as family law reform and juvenile justice protocols. She was involved in peace building processes after Bougainville's civil war.



### **Ngongotaha – NZ's first 'Smack Free' Zone**

The tiny Bay of Plenty town of Ngongotaha has a grand plan – its local retailers and the five marae aim to make the 4,000 strong community the *'best place in the universe for children to live'*. As a result, parents are learning new ways to behave – with the emphasis on wiping out all forms of violence within the family. Give them a big round of applause!

### **Section 59, Crimes Act 1961**

*Reads: "Every parent or person in place of a parent of a child is justified in using force by way of correction towards a child if that force is reasonable in the circumstances."*

Among the many groups backing a repeal of Section 59 is The Families Commission, which is concerned by the level of violence within NZ families. At the 6th Child and Family Policy Conference in Dunedin (7.7.05), Families Commission Chief Commissioner Dr Rajen Prasad said *"Repealing this section would take away a legal excuse that is being used in court in cases of serious assault against children. This defence sometimes means that adults are not convicted when a child has been assaulted."*

Removing this section of the Act would mean that the current laws surrounding assault would be the same whether the victim was a child or an adult. And many believe it help would signal an intolerance towards family violence in all sections of society.



### November 25th is White Ribbon Day!

November 25th celebrates the United Nations *International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women* (IDEVAW).

The white ribbon is a symbol of hope for a world where women and girls can live free from the experience and fear of violence.

Wearing the ribbon is about challenging the acceptability of violence – by getting men involved, helping women break the silence, and encouraging them together to build a better world for all.

Organised in NZ by UNIFEM NZ, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, it has been endorsed by the Human Rights Commission and is marked all around the world.

[www.whiteribbon.ca](http://www.whiteribbon.ca)

<http://pacific.unifem.org/index.php?m=200602>

### Thursdays in Black

'Thursdays in Black' is a campaign run at tertiary institutions around Aotearoa New Zealand by women in local Student's Associations that aims to raise awareness of rape and violence. The campaign, was developed from "Women in Black" – an international anti-war human rights initiative.

The campaign encourages both men and women to wear the black campaign tee-shirt or other black clothing and a campaign badge every Thursday as a sign of their support.

By wearing black on Thursdays, along with a campaign badge or tee-shirt, you are demonstrating your support of the promise of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* to provide equality, freedom from discrimination, violence and fear – a promise made to all human beings. You are saying ***I support the human right of women to live in a world without violence, rape and fear.***

Badges are sold through Amnesty International for \$2.00.

**The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence** is an international campaign originating from the Centre 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 emphasise that such violence is a violation of human rights. This 16-day period also highlights other significant dates – such as **December 1**, which is World AIDS Day.

The 16 Days Campaign has been used as an organising 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
- establishing a clear link between local and international work to end violence against women
- providing a forum in which organisers can develop and share new and effective strategies
- demonstrating the solidarity of women around the world organising against violence against women
- creating tools to pressure governments to implement promises made to eliminate violence against women

The Centre posts all information about the Campaign at: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/home.html> and provides free copies of its **Take Action Kit**, which includes:

- a campaign profile and a description of dates
- a list of participating organisations and countries
- a bibliography and resource list
- a list of suggested activities
- a current campaign announcement
- supplemental information relevant to this year's theme

**Since 1991, approximately 1,700 organizations in 130 countries have participated!**



## ► Stop Violence Against Women



"Violence against women is a global outrage. The experience or threat of violence affects the lives of women everywhere, cutting across boundaries of wealth, race and culture. In the home and in the community, in times of war and peace, women are beaten, raped, mutilated and killed with impunity."

Irene Khan



### First Female Head of Amnesty International Inspires Campaign

Irene Zubaida Khan joined Amnesty International as the organisation's seventh Secretary General in August 2001. Taking the helm as the first woman, the first Asian and the first Muslim to guide the world's largest human rights organisation, Irene brought a new perspective to Amnesty International. Deeply concerned about violence against women, she initiated a process of consultations with women activists to design the global campaign to Stop Violence Against Women.

"Violence against women is a cancer eating away the core of every society, in every country of the world. It is a human rights atrocity," said Irene at the campaign's global launch in March 2004. "Human Rights embody a promise that, in equality, we are all entitled to the same rights. Violence against women is the

cavernous rift between that promise and the will of governments, local authorities, religious, business and community leaders to fulfil it".

In its global "Stop Violence Against Women" campaign, Amnesty International is joining with the many women's rights movements around the world who are already working to expose and redress forms of violence against women. It is focusing on violence against women "from the battlefield to the bedroom", recognising that it is a problem in both conflict and domestic situations, and is encouraging everyone to act to stop it because as Irene Khan said "until all of us, men

as well as women, say 'No, I will not let this happen', it will not stop".

**"From the Battlefield to the Bedroom, Women are at Risk"**

Irene Khan



Irene Khan holds the Stop Violence Against Women report 'Its In Our Hands' at the campaign Launch in March 2004



Amnesty International Nepal's campaign launch.



Launching the Global Campaign in London.



Schoolgirls participating in Amnesty International Benin's campaign launch.

Amnesty International's "Stop Violence Against Women" campaign will include measures to:

- Seek the abolition of laws that discriminate against women and the enactment and effective implementation of laws and other measures to protect women from violence
- Hold states accountable under international and domestic laws to prevent and punish acts of violence against women
- Secure effective action to stop violence against women at the community level

To find out more, go to: [www.amnesty.org.nz](http://www.amnesty.org.nz)

## Relationship warning signs



If you answer yes to any of the questions below, you could be in an abusive relationship, or your relationship could become abusive.

- do you feel nervous around your boyfriend, girlfriend, or partner?
- do you have to be careful to control your behaviour to avoid their anger?
- do you feel pressured by them when it comes to sex?
- are you scared of disagreeing with them?
- do they criticise you, or humiliate you in front of other people?
- are they always checking up or questioning you about what you do without them?
- do they repeatedly and wrongly accuse you of seeing or flirting with other people?
- do they tell you that if you changed they wouldn't abuse you?
- does their jealousy stop you from seeing friends or family?
- do they make you feel like you are wrong, stupid, crazy, or inadequate?
- have they ever scared you with violence or threatening behaviour?
- do you often do things to please them, rather than to please yourself?
- do they prevent you from going out or doing things you want to do?
- do you feel that, with them, nothing you do is ever good enough?
- do they say that they will kill or hurt themselves if you break up with them?
- do they make excuses for their behaviour, for example, by saying it's because of alcohol or drugs, or because they can't control their temper, or that they were 'just joking'?

You might have answered 'yes' to some of these questions, but still think 'it's not that bad'. However, feeling scared, humiliated, pressured or controlled is not the way you should feel in a relationship. You should feel loved, respected, and free to be yourself. Your feelings and safety are important.

**It's not your fault if you are being abused. You deserve to be treated with respect.**

© The Domestic Violence and Incest Resource Centre (DVIRC) 1998, 2001

## Man to Man

Attitudes which support violence are often revealed in remarks men make to each other or stories or jokes they tell when they're together. They might sound amusing and harmless and many of these men would not see themselves as approving of family violence or showing disrespect towards women.

Stories and jokes alone are not dangerous – the attitudes they support are. Attitudes can shape the behaviours that cause violence against women and in families.

### An Attitude Check

#### How do you react when other men talk about:

- teaching her a lesson
- putting her in her place
- showing her who's boss
- keeping her under control?

#### How do you react when men talk about women:

- asking for it
- by calling them names e.g. sluts, slags, bitches
- by making sexist comments such as *she's only good for one thing?*

#### How do you react when other men make 'jokes' or coarse comments about:

- rape
- violence towards women
- violence towards other men
- violence towards gays and lesbians
- violence towards children?

#### How do you react when men wear clothing, badges, or have car stickers which degrade or demean women. Do you:

- not even notice it
- notice but ignore it
- notice it and laugh along with it
- notice it and feel uneasy but say nothing
- say something to show your disapproval and disagreement?

From: Family Violence Unit of Social Policy Agency, Department of Social Welfare Community Action Kit: 2005; 1997

## WOMEN, YOU CAN REDUCE THE RISKS OF DATE RAPE:

- **Know you have the right to set sexual limits and to communicate these**
- **Be assertive**, state what you really want, and what you really feel
- **Stay sober** – your judgement is impaired and warning instincts blurred when you're drunk or high on drugs
- **Be aware of drink spiking** – don't leave your drink unattended
- **Find out about a new date** – perhaps double-date with friends a few times to learn about the guy in a safe way. Beware of internet dating and chat rooms.
- **Remain in control** – pay your own way, take your own car, meet the guy at your destination
- **Take care of yourself** – take a self-defence course *before* you need it
- **Take care of your friends** – if you are worried they are putting themselves in danger, tell them or stay with them
- **Trust your feelings**
- **Take special precautions**, for instance if you're a first year student unfamiliar with campus layout, student initiatives etc.

## Useful Resources and Websites

These resources and more are held in our GEC library (part of the Development Resource Centre Library.)

Membership is free. To register, or search the catalogue, visit the library section of our website: [www.globaled.org.nz/library.html](http://www.globaled.org.nz/library.html)

Please contact us if you would like to receive a comprehensive listing of our youth worker and other resources.

### DVDs:

**Women are.....leading change.** World Young Women's Christian Association UNAIDS Mondofragilis (2003). The women featured in this film, describe their hardships but they also provide direction and show us the value of correct information and community support. They introduce people and organisations that are making a difference. And, they humbly show us how their own commitment has helped change and save other women's lives.

**Balancing acts : Life IV** Television Trust for the Environment (TVE) 2004. Life visits four of the 179 leaders at the International Conference on Population and Development, to explore what has, and hasn't, changed.

**Now we are fearless : a real life story of Southern India.** Friends of the Mudurai Women's Development Centre (2005). This film documents stories from "untouchable" women who break down caste barriers through community development.

**The Fourth world war : A Big Noise film.** Michael Franti, (Narrator). Big Noise Films (2004). The Fourth World War weaves together the images and voices of the war on the ground – from the front line struggles in Mexico, Argentina, South Africa, Palestine, Korea, to Genova and the "War on terror" in New York and Iraq.

**Dreamworlds 2: Desire, Sex and Power in Music Video.** *Sut Jhally* (1995.) Addresses the impact of pop culture on how young men and women see themselves (and each other) in terms of sexuality and gender. This is very graphic, and should be viewed with this caution in mind.

### Websites:

<http://www.amnesty.org.nz/>

Across the world, Amnesty International members are united to work towards making women's human rights a reality. Also try: <http://web.amnesty.org/actforwomen/index-eng>

<http://www.1000peacewomen.org/eng/html/index.html>

The official site of the '1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005' project. The life stories, the visions, methods, strategies and networks of these 1000 women are publicised on both the website and now in book form.

[www.whiteribbon.ca](http://www.whiteribbon.ca)

The White Ribbon Day site in Canada, where this campaign to eliminate violence against women began. Also see: <http://pacific.unifem.org/index.php?m=200602>

[www.womensrefuge.org.nz](http://www.womensrefuge.org.nz)

National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges

[www.preventingviolence.org.nz](http://www.preventingviolence.org.nz)

Preventing Violence in the Home

[www.womenaid.org/wrcmain3.html](http://www.womenaid.org/wrcmain3.html)

Information for men on how to help eliminate family violence

<http://www.burstingthebubble.com/index.shtml>

If there's something happening at home that makes you feel confused or worried, or that's being kept a secret, then you're not alone. And there are things you can do about it. This website can help!

<http://www.expect-respect.org.nz>

Established by North Shore Women's Refuge for young women. Includes information about recognising abuses of power and control, as well as what healthy respectful relationships look like.

<http://www.nzfvc.org.nz/>

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse is a national centre for collating and disseminating information about domestic and family violence in Aotearoa New Zealand.

<http://www.nnsvs.org.nz/>

The National Network of Stopping Violence Services (NZ) Inc works to enable all people in Aotearoa New Zealand to live free of all forms of violence, abuse and oppression.

### Publications:

**Amnesty International's** offices have a wide range of publications about violence against women. Contact them for such titles as: *'It's in our hands – Stop violence against women'*; *'We are the victims and the witnesses: Women of Aceh'*; *'Why are we still waiting? The struggle for women's human rights'*; *'Female Genital Mutilation'*; *'Broken bodies, shattered minds – torture and ill-treatment of women'*; *Status of Women – Aotearoa New Zealand Non-Governmental Organisations Non-Māori Report – 2002'*. See website for contact details.

**Te Piritahi – Teaching Young People about Relationships** – a NZ Family Planning Assoc.

resource for teaching 10-18 year olds about relationships – including current research, a huge range of interactive activities, and covering topics including relationship violence, relationship abuse, bullying, consent issues, gender roles and orientation.

**Girls and Young Women in the 21st Century:**

**A call to action.** YWCA (2002) Bilingual (French/English) understandable research on the status of girls and women worldwide (rights, societal changes/effects/ empowerment, youth policies, non formal and formal education, employment), black and white publication, useful for teachers, upper secondary Social Studies

**Creative force : arts-based exercises for work with young people around issues of violence,**

Marian Pocock. UK Youth Save the Children (2001). Creative force includes 26 session plans, using drama, creative writing, poetry and photography, activities as tools to explore issues of violence and conflict. This book is particularly useful for youth workers.

**Whose perspective? A guide to gender-sensitive analysis of the media : training manual**

Women's Media Watch, Jamaica (1998). This manual provides excellent activities for groups in a workshop or classroom setting with backup information, discussion, questions, case studies; examples and workshop framework. Helps participants critically analyse the media. Looks at gender roles, especially those of women.

**Domestic Violence and Harassment Law**

A new legal training resource developed by the National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges and Wellington Community Law Centre. Aimed at community workers to assist them with training their own staff and other community members. It can also be used to run information sessions for people who have been affected by domestic violence or harassment. Available from the National Collective of Independent Women's Refuges, email: [training@refuge.org.nz](mailto:training@refuge.org.nz)

## About the Global Education Centre



Global Bits is produced by the community youth arm of the Global Education Centre (GEC), a programme of the Development Resource Centre (DRC) – a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation governed by a charitable trust. We are core funded by NZAID Nga Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti (The New Zealand Agency for International Development). The DRC's vision statement is *change for a just world and its mission is informing and educating to empower people to take action to create a just world.*

The Global Education Centre (GEC) provides services to the formal and informal education sectors, and the youth and community sectors on global education through its Schools and Community Youth programmes. GEC provides training and resources to teachers, teacher trainees, students, youth workers and community groups. Services include workshops, youth advocacy, Global Issues magazine, teaching resources, a website including fact sheets and links, and a free lending library.

GEC's sister programme at the Development Resource Centre is Dev-Zone, a resource centre focused on international development and global issues. They operate a free library, manage a comprehensive website, and publish a magazine Just Change. Services include answering quick enquiries, email updates, information projects, and literature searches on a variety of development topics. Dev-Zone works with the development and human rights sector, as well as students and the general public.



The Global Education Centre is core funded by NZAID – Nga Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti

## JUST FOCUS

**Just Focus** is a project for young people, by young people, focusing on issues that affect us in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific, and globally. The goals of the project are responsible global citizenship and change for a just world.

The **Just Focus website** supports an online community of young people as a way to:

- Connect with others around NZ, the Pacific and globally
- Gain information about issues
- Express themselves through the forum, articles or art.

For more information, email: [info@justfocus.org.nz](mailto:info@justfocus.org.nz) or visit the website at: [www.justfocus.org.nz](http://www.justfocus.org.nz)

