

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN

November 25 – December 10, 2009

2009 THEME CONSULTATION



April 3, 2009

Dear Friends,

Each year, the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL) consults with women's human rights activists and organizations worldwide to develop a new theme for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign. Therefore, we are seeking your suggestions and input for a theme for the upcoming 2009 Campaign, possibly tied to the following thinking points:

- **Beijing +15:** With the 15th anniversary of the Beijing World Conference on Women and Platform for Action coming up in 2010, the 2009 16 Days Campaign could galvanize support for issues related to accountability and implementation. In the Platform for Action, Part D of the Strategic Objectives and Actions section specifically addresses Violence Against Women and lists actions to be taken.
- **UN Secretary-General's Campaign:** The United Nations Secretary-General's "UNite to End Violence Against Women" Campaign has recently taken steps toward engaging more actively with civil society organizations. The SG's Campaign is unique in that it can call upon governments at the highest level of moral accountability. For more information about this multi-year campaign and to view its Framework for Action (including 5 key goals/outcomes), visit <http://endviolence.un.org/>.
- **The Power of Women's Organizing:** Another upcoming, significant landmark is the 10th anniversary of the UN's formal recognition of November 25 as International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – a date that was chosen to commemorate the violent assassination of the Mirabal sisters ("Las Mariposas"). During this year's 16 Days Campaign, CWGL plans to celebrate the role that activists and civil society organizations have played in building momentum for the women's human rights and anti-violence against women movements. CWGL welcomes creative suggestions for how to commemorate the contributions of women's activism to end violence against women.

Reflecting upon these thinking points and your own local work, CWGL asks you to help conceptualize a theme and slogan for this year's 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign. In developing the theme, we invite you to consider how violence affects women in all our diversities.

For your reference, the previous 16 Days Campaign themes have included:

- **2008:** Human Rights for Women ↔ Human Rights for All: Celebrating 60 Years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- **2007:** Demanding Implementation, Challenging Obstacles: End Violence Against Women!

- **2006:** Celebrate 16 years of 16 days: Advance Human Rights ↔ End Violence Against Women
- **2004/2005:** For the Health of Women, For the Health of the World: NO MORE VIOLENCE
- **2003:** Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights: Maintaining the Momentum Ten Years After Vienna (1993-2003)
- **2002:** Creating a Culture That Says 'No' to Violence Against Women
- **2001:** Racism and Sexism: No More Violence
- **2000:** Celebrating the Tenth Anniversary of the Campaign
- **1999:** Fulfilling the Promise of Freedom from Violence
- **1998:** Building a Culture of Respect for Human Rights
- **1997:** Demand Women's Human Rights in the Home and in the World
- **1996:** Bringing Women's Human Rights Home: Realizing Our Visions
- **1995:** Vienna, Cairo, Copenhagen, Beijing: Bringing Women's Human Rights Home
- **1994:** Awareness, Accountability, Action: Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights
- **1993:** Democracy without Women's Human Rights . . . is not Democracy
- **1991/1992:** Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights

We look forward to receiving your feedback by ***Wednesday, April 15th***. Thank you!

Best wishes,

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