

ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Day 10 – Awareness

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Raising awareness about the different forms of gender-based violence is an important element in the prevention of violence against women. Heightened awareness is a first step in changing attitudes and behavior that perpetuate or condone violence against women. This means that measures must be taken to make it known that many forms of violence against women exist - domestic violence (psychological, physical and sexual), stalking, sexual violence (including rape), forced and early marriage, female genital mutilation, forced sterilization, cyber bullying, forced abortion and sexual harassment -- and to suggest what individuals can do to prevent such violence from happening or to assist women and girls at risk. It also means that any taboos around domestic violence must be lifted. It must be stressed that gender-based violence is not a private matter and that domestic violence affects families across all social strata.

What can you do? Raise awareness of gender-based violence via social media, chalk art, yard signs, billboards or any other public display. Talk to organizations about the signs of gender-based violence, where to report and how to best provide support and assistance to survivors. Use your voice.

