

# ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

## Day 8 – Advocacy

### 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

Advocacy means taking action to create change. Advocates organize themselves to take steps to tackle an issue. They help to give people ways to speak out about things that negatively affect them. Advocacy has been described as "speaking truth to power".

Advocacy includes many different types of activities. It can mean researching new solutions, creating coalitions of like-minded people, public campaigning to raise awareness and much more. Everyone has the power to take action to create change. Everyone can be an advocate.

What will you do to help end gender-based violence? What steps will you take to become more informed and give survivors ways to speak out against gender-based violence? Make an action plan. Be an advocate for change.

#### Sexual harassment is a form of violence

Sexual harassment is not complementary, humorous or unavoidable; it is an abuse of power.

1 in 3 women experience intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence.

When sexual harassment is included, the numbers are much higher.



Sexual harassment brings harm, emotional distress, sleeplessness, anxiety, physical damage.



If sexual engagement is refused consequences include not getting a job or promotion, denied access to public space without trauma.



Sexual harassment in an organizations brings high/increased turnover and absenteeism, lower individual and group productivity, negative impacts on profits.

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#### Child marriage puts girls at risk of violence throughout their lives

Child marriage exposes girls to intimate partner violence, including sexual, physical, psychological and emotional violence.



Girls who marry before the age of 15 are almost 50% more likely to experience physical or sexual violence than girls married after 18.

44% of married girls 15-19 think a husband or partner is justified in hitting or beating his wife or partner.

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