

16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Daily Posts

<https://jedo.perthcatholic.org.au/>

<https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/>

DAY

Monday 25th November 2024 – Wear Orange

1:



Another future without violence against women is possible with education, essential services across policing, justice, health, and social sectors, and sufficient financing dedicated to women's rights.

| PHOTO: UN Women

Today is the United Nations (UN) International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/ending-violence-against-women-day>

It is also the Start of the 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence (GBV) of women and girls. This is a global solidarity movement that is everyone's business. So, we invite you to start the conversation today to break the cycle of gendered violence and abuse:

[16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence 2024](#)

<https://1800respect.org.au/promoting-1800respect/16-days-of-activism>

DAY

Tuesday 26th Nov. www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2022/08/02/sjs2022-23/

2:



RESPECT – Confronting Violence & Abuse – Learn how Church Communities can Confront Violence & Abuse from the 2022/23 Social Justice (SJ) Statement from the national bishops (through the ACBC: Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference). Learn what some of the drivers and enablers for disrespectful behaviour toward women and girls are and understand about the more vulnerable groups for such gendered crimes

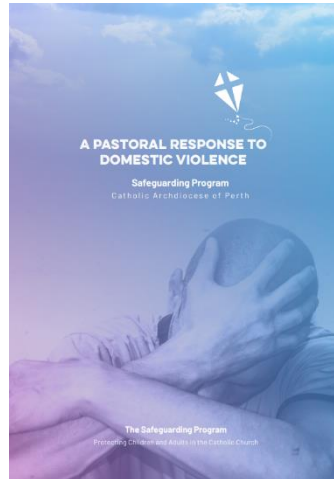
<https://1800respect.org.au/>

<https://www.respect.gov.au/>

DAY

Wednesday 27th Nov. www.safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au

3:



Read and promote the Safeguarding Program Office resource, ***The Pastoral Response to Domestic Violence*** to understand the forms of domestic, family and sexual violence; and the **learned behaviour** of the **cycle of violence**, including perpetrator tactics of **power and control**

DAY

Thursday 28th Nov. www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2022/08/02/sjs2022-23/

4:



Stand With Survivors: Listen, support & believe them & inform them of culturally safe services. That is, ask “Are you ok?” and “How can I help or support you best?”. Let them know: “You’re not alone”. Refer to the back page of the SJ Statement – for Getting Help (link above)

<https://1800respect.org.au/help-and-support/supporting-someone>


<https://www.health.gov.au/topics/family-domestic-and-sexual-violence/support>

DAY

Friday 29th Nov. **Coercive Control WA**

5:



	<p><u>Coercive control is family and domestic violence</u> and causes serious harm.</p> <p>Coercive control is when someone uses a pattern of abusive behaviours to make someone feel afraid and take away their freedom and independence. People who use coercive control use many different abusive behaviours to maintain power and control.</p> <p>Many abusers don't use physical violence to hurt their partner. Using coercive control to scare, intimidate or isolate someone can seriously affect someone's mental and physical health, employment, relationships, financial security and sense of autonomy. It makes them feel trapped, powerless and alone.</p> <p>Anyone can experience coercive control, but it is mostly used by men against women.</p> <p><u>Recognise the signs</u> People who use coercive control can be good at hiding it from others. Their abuse can be subtle and hard to spot.</p>
<p><u>DAY</u> <u>6:</u></p>	<p>Saturday 30th Nov.</p>  <p>Start a Conversation about <u>Respectful Relationships</u>; & build capacity to challenge & confront sexist/misogynistic & threatening language & behaviour. <u>Don't make excuses</u> for disrespectful and poor behaviour such as "<i>he hit you because he likes you</i>" and "<i>boys will be boys</i>":</p> <p>https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departments-of-communities/respectful-relationships-teaching-support-program</p> <p>https://www.starick.org.au/services/wa-respectful-relationships-teaching-support-program/</p> <p>https://1800respect.org.au/warning-signs-unhealthy-relationship</p>
<p><u>DAY</u> <u>7:</u></p>	<p>Sunday 1st December.</p> <p><u>Don't be a Bystander – Be Upstanding and Speak Up:</u> Don't allow silence to be interpreted as compliance to a culture of violence. Speak up and name the abuse, such as harassment, bullying (including on-line/cyber-bullying) and varying acts of violence. <u>Challenge myths</u> that diffuse responsibility such as "<i>it's their business</i>" or "<i>it's not my problem</i>".</p>

Change the discourse from diffused or individual responsibility to collective responsibility or action. You could ask instead, “*how did we let this happen?*” and “*how can we change this situation and support you?*”. Don’t turn a blind eye, be passive or indifferent to acts of violence and abuse. Step up or step in by recognising and naming power imbalances, privilege and entitlement. Always be aware of safety concerns but help break the silence.

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/16-days-of-activism-against-gender-based-violence>

<https://1800respect.org.au/promoting-1800respect/16-days-of-activism>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/unite>

DAY

Monday 2nd Dec.

8:



Today is the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. It marks the adoption date for the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Traffick in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (Resolution 317 [iv], 2nd Dec. 1949.

Modern Slavery includes (but is not restricted to) sexual servitude, Forced Marriage (including ‘child brides’), forced labour, including debt bondage and child labour. Refer to ACRATH - Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans for other information:

<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/16-days/>

DAY

Tuesday 3rd Dec.

9:



Today is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The 2024 theme is 'Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future': <https://www.idpwd.com.au/>

Recognise the increased vulnerability of women and girls with disabilities/varying abilities: [People with disability in Australia, Violence against people with disability - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)

DAY

Wednesday 4th Dec.

10:



Understand Consent: Consent needs to be freely given, reversible and informed. It includes freely approving of or giving permission to another person(s) in relation to touching, kissing and/or sexual activity.

Silence or lack of resistance is *not* consent. Being drunk or unconscious is *not* consent. Consent in intimate relationships and marriage should also be free from pressure, coercion and other forms of manipulation:

[Consent | 1800RESPECT](#)

DAY Thursday 5th Dec.

11:



End Victim/Survivor Blaming. Use words wisely and without judgement to support rather than condemn survivors of GBV.

Some examples of Victim-blaming include: *“What were you wearing?”*; *“You must have sent mixed messages”*; *“You shouldn’t have been drinking”*; *“Why didn’t you lock your door?”*; *“Why were you walking alone at night?”*; *“How hard did you try to stop it?”* and sadly, so many more.

[Shatter victim-blaming | This #16Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, shatter and put an end to victim-blaming. #orangetheworld | By UN Women | Facebook](#)

DAY Friday 6th Dec.

12:



RUTGERS
Center for Women's
Global Leadership

Canadian Femicide Observatory for Justice and Accountability
Observatoire canadien des féminicides pour la justice et la responsabilité



Today we acknowledge the **National Day of Mourning & Action in Canada** following the 1989 violent misogynistic murder of 14 young women in Montreal. Learn about **Femicide**, such as ‘the Montreal Massacre’ which is the intentional killing of women and girls by a man/men.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/articles/explainer/five-essential-facts-to-know-about-femicide>

Respectful men & boys have opportunities & influence to actively participate in awareness-raising activities for the prevention of femicide:

<https://www.unhcr.org/ng/news/stories/men-allies-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls>

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/articles/explainer/five-essential-facts-to-know-about-femicide>

DAY
13:

Saturday 7th Dec. [Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia: continuing the national story 2019, Summary - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)



Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia: continuing the national story

2019



Learn the Facts of Gender-Based Violence, including domestic, family and sexual violence. Understand that during times of crisis and displacement, (such as humanitarian/war, climate-related and the COVID-19 pandemic), women and girls are disproportionately impacted by Gender-Based Violence within the public and private spheres. This can be physical, financial, spiritual, emotional or mental abuse, which includes threats of violence and abuse to women and girls as well as to their loved ones or pets. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/family-domestic-and-sexual-violence/types-of-violence/key-findings>

Understand other forms of GBV such as non-consensual on-line sexting of pornography, stalking, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and so called ‘honour killings’: [Gender-based Violence | UNHCR Australia](#)

DAY

Sunday 8th Dec.

14:



Promote & Support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - Goals for Equality, Dignity & Respect. The SDGs are a global partnership by the United Nations (UN) with various countries for gender equality to empower all women and girls, including through education for autonomy/independence:

<https://www.globalgoals.org/goals/5-gender-equality/>

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>

DAY

Monday 9th Dec. www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2022/08/02/sjs2022-23/

15:



Our faith affirms the God-given (inherent) right to dignity in us ALL:

With this in mind, we are called by God to *'relationships marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control'* (SJ Statement, p 13). While perpetrators need to account and take responsibility for their own abusive and violent behaviour; as a community, we all need to be aware of cultural and structural violence that can reinforce or minimise gender-based violence. We invite you to prayerfully reflect on what is right and just, our moral compass, acknowledging that *'Jesus rejects the use of religious traditions to justify violence'*. Refer to SJ Statement (p 8) - Respect, Dignity, Justice, Transformation & Hope.

In March 2024, Pope Francis approved the Declaration 'Dignitas Infinita' on Human Dignity from the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith. It states:

"Violence against women is a global scandal that is gaining increasing recognition. While the equal dignity of women may be recognised in words, the inequalities between women and men in some countries remain very serious" (# 44).

DAY Tuesday 10th Dec.

16:



Another future without violence against women is possible with education, essential services across policing, justice, health, and social sectors, and sufficient financing dedicated to women's rights.
| PHOTO: UN Women

Human Rights Day: The 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence includes Human Rights Day which acknowledges that *'Women's Rights are Human Rights'*. That means justice and hope for survivors; & accountability/ responsibility for perpetrator behaviour change:

<https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/education/womens-rights>

Women and girls have the right to live with freedom from fear of violence and abuse. In 2008, the UN Secretary General launched UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence Against Women Campaign. For ongoing actions, refer to the UN Women UNiTE Campaign:

<https://unwomen.org.au/our-work/focus-area/ending-violence/unite-to-end-violence-against-women/>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/about-us/human-rights-day>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/get-involved/campaign/hrd2024>

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" - Philippians 4: 13