



A WILPF Toolkit on

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FOR 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GBV



© 2023 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Permission is granted for non-commercial reproduction, copying, distribution, and transmission of this publication or parts thereof so long as full credit is given to the publishing organisation; the text is not altered, transformed, or built upon; and for any reuse or distribution, these terms are made clear to others.

A WILPF Toolkit on: Gender-Based Violence for 16 Days of Activism Against GBV

November 2023

First Edition

40 pp.

Author: Lycelle Bajar & Adélaïde Barat-Magan

Design: Nadia Joubert

www.wilpf.org

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Toolkit on Gender-Based Violence for the 16 Days of Activism.

This toolkit is more than just a resource; it's your guideline to comprehend the problem of gender-based violence (GBV) from a theoretical perspective. Designed to ignite awareness and inspire action, it aims to equip individuals and communities to make a stand against the pervasive issue of GBV.

**Together, we can be the change
we wish to see in the world.**



Why this Toolkit?

This toolkit provides you with a comprehensive understanding of GBV, its impact, the root causes, legal frameworks, and strategies to prevent it. It also highlights WILPF's commitment to ending GBV and offers resources to support survivors.

The movement against GBV is not an individual endeavour; it requires collective action. By using this toolkit, you can join the global movement to end gender-based violence, fostering a more peaceful and equal world for all.

About WILPF

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) is a global movement with a rich history of advocating for peace, justice, and gender equality. Established in 1915, WILPF has been at the forefront of the movement to end armed conflict and promote women's rights. We believe that peace and gender equality are intrinsically linked, and as such, we are deeply committed to addressing the pervasive issue of gender-based violence (GBV).

Our vision is a world free from violence, where every individual enjoys their full rights and equality, irrespective of gender.

WILPF tirelessly works to create change by empowering individuals, fostering awareness, and advocating for policy reform. This toolkit is an extension of our dedication to these principles, providing you with the knowledge and resources to join us in our mission to end GBV and build a more peaceful and equal world for all.

Overview of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign

The "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence" is a global campaign initiated by activists and organisations worldwide to raise awareness about and take action against one of the most pervasive and deeply rooted human rights violations: gender-based violence.

Since 1991, the campaign has served as a critical reminder that gender-based violence is not just a women's issue but a global issue, and its eradication is essential for achieving gender equality, peace, and justice. Spanning from November 25th, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to December 10th, Human Rights Day, the campaign unites individuals, communities, and organisations to call for an end to gender-based violence in all its forms.

It unites millions of people worldwide in a wide range of activities, including rallies, educational workshops, art exhibitions, social media campaigns, and more, to raise awareness about GBV and advocate for change.



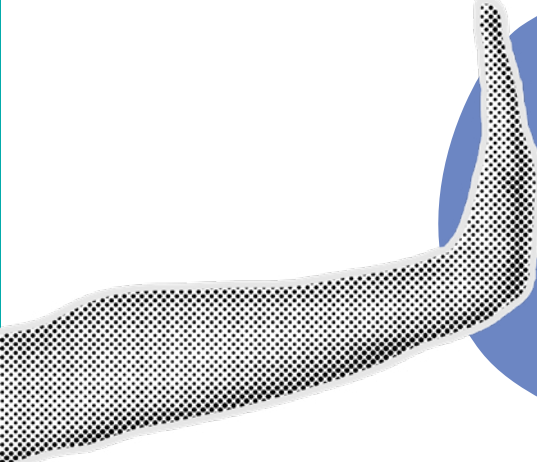
UNDERSTANDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



DEFINING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Gender-Based Violence, shortened as GBV, is a pervasive global dilemma transcending borders and boundaries. It represents a complex web of physical and structural violence rooted in deeply ingrained gender disparities and discrimination. This spectrum encompasses acts that inflict physical, sexual, emotional, or psychological harm, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, human trafficking, and any other violent acts, disproportionately impacting women and marginalised genders.

At its core, GBV is not a series of isolated incidents but a structural issue, intricately linked to systemic inequalities. It's anchored in the patriarchal framework, where entrenched male dominance perpetuates control, giving rise to violence against those perceived as inferior or those who dare to challenge or deviate from traditional gender norms. It demands a radical re-evaluation of societal foundations, pushing for an end to this systemic injustice.



The movement against GBV is not just a women's issue; it's a clarion call for justice, demanding equity and dignity for all.

TYPES OF GBV

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is not confined to a single, easily defined category. It exists on a broad and complex spectrum, where manifestations of violence can take numerous forms, each with its unique characteristics and consequences. The following examples of GBV are just a snapshot of this extensive spectrum.

Cyberbullying and Online GBV

Cyberbullying and Online GBV involve using digital communication tools to harass, threaten, or intimidate someone. It can include:

- ➔ **Cyberstalking:** using online communications to harass or intimidate someone.
- ➔ **Revenge porn:** distribution of images and/or videos without someone's consent and usually to inflict harm.
- ➔ **Online abuse:** harassing or intimidating someone online.

Key Points:

Anonymity's Impact: The anonymity of the internet can exacerbate the impact of cyberbullying, leading to emotional distress and harm.

Real-World Consequences: Victims of online harassment may experience real-world consequences, including threats to their physical safety from abusers or their families. It also has an impact on livelihoods, relationships and is linked to psychological issues such as depression.



Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence, also known as intimate partner violence or domestic abuse, refers to a pattern of abusive behavior within intimate relationships, families, or households. It encompasses physical, emotional, or/and economic abuse.

Key Points:

- ➔ **Physical Abuse:** This includes acts of physical harm, such as hitting, slapping, or restraining the victim, inflicting bodily harm.
- ➔ **Emotional Abuse:** Emotional abuse involves manipulation, humiliation, threats, and controlling behavior.
- ➔ **Economic Abuse:** Economic abuse restricts a victim's financial resources, making them financially dependent on the abuser.

Forced and Early Marriage

Forced and Early Marriage involves the coercion or imposition of marriage on individuals who do not give free and informed consent. It often targets girls and young women.

Key Points:

- ➔ **Early Marriage Impact:** Early marriage deprives young individuals, particularly girls, of their childhood, education, and autonomy.
- ➔ **Human Rights Violation:** Forced marriage is a violation of human rights and can lead to various forms of GBV, including sexual and physical abuse.



Forced Sterilisation

Forced sterilisation is the non-consensual surgical procedure to permanently prevent an individual from reproducing.

Key Points:

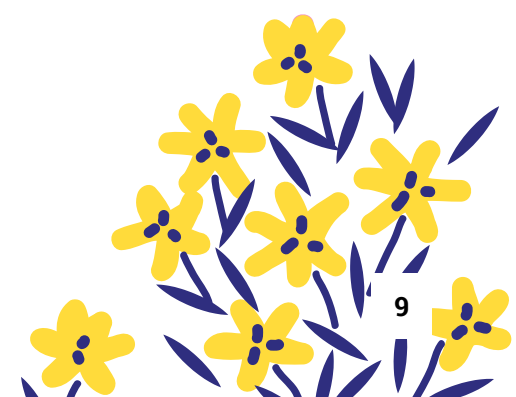
- ➔ **Tool of Control:** It is often used as a tool of control and eugenics, disproportionately targeting marginalised groups.
- ➔ **Reproductive Rights Violation:** Forced sterilisation violates an individual's reproductive rights and autonomy.

Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking is the illegal trade and exploitation of individuals, often involving forced labor, sexual exploitation, or involuntary servitude.

Key Points:

- ➔ **Forced Labor:** Victims of forced labor are coerced into working against their will, often in deplorable conditions and for little or no pay.
- ➔ **Sex Trafficking:** This involves the recruitment, harboring, or transportation of individuals for the purpose of sexual exploitation.
- ➔ **Child Trafficking:** Child trafficking targets minors, subjecting them to various forms of exploitation, including child labor and sexual abuse.



Reproductive Coercion

Reproductive coercion involves controlling or pressuring a person's reproductive choices, such as birth control, pregnancy, or abortion decisions, often in intimate relationships.

Key Points:

- ➔ **Coercive Tactics:** It can include sabotaging contraception methods or pressuring a partner into becoming pregnant.
- ➔ **Autonomy Violation:** Reproductive coercion is a violation of autonomy and bodily integrity, often leading to unintended pregnancies and potential health risks.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment involves unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that create a hostile environment for the victim.

Key Points:

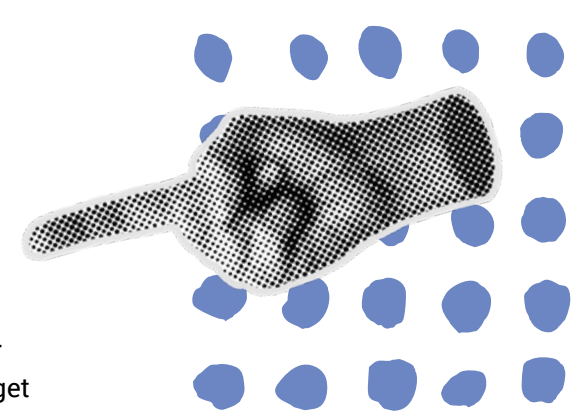
- ➔ **Power Dynamics:** Sexual harassment often involves a significant power imbalance, with the harasser using their position of authority or influence to intimidate or manipulate the victim. Recognising these power dynamics is crucial in addressing and preventing sexual harassment.
- ➔ **Hostile Environment:** A hostile work or social environment results from pervasive sexual advances, comments, or behavior that creates discomfort and intimidation, and could lead to loss of income.

Street Harassment

Street harassment encompasses unwelcome actions, comments, or gestures in public spaces that target individuals based on their gender.

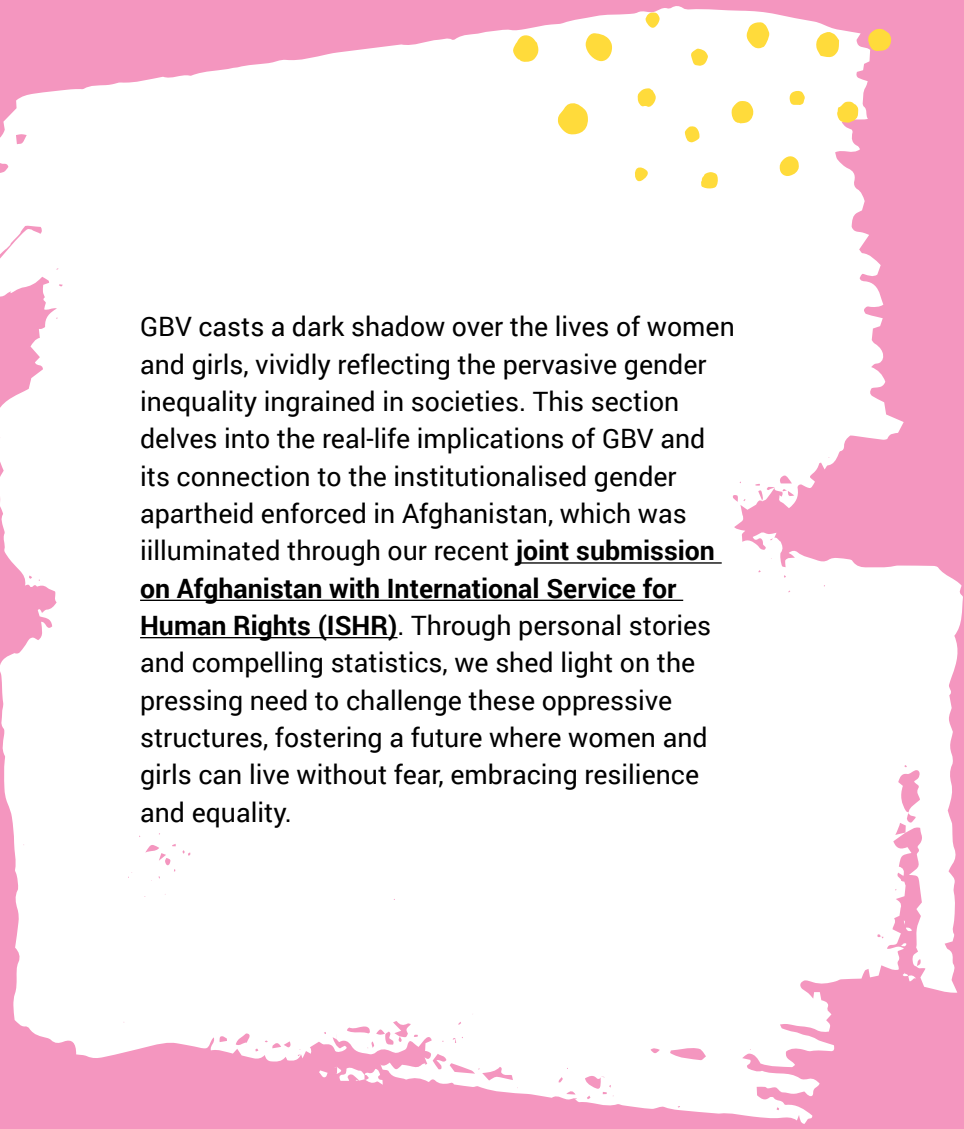
Key Points:

- ➔ **Fear and Insecurity:** Street harassment can create an atmosphere of fear and insecurity, limiting an individual's freedom of movement.
- ➔ **Normalisation of Harassment:** It perpetuates gender-based inequalities and cultural norms that normalise such behavior.





THE **IMPACT** OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND **GENDER** **APARTHEID**

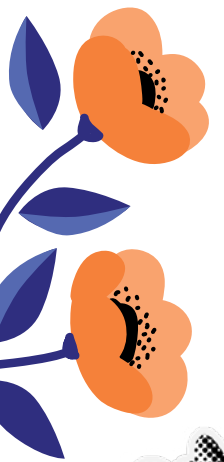


GBV casts a dark shadow over the lives of women and girls, vividly reflecting the pervasive gender inequality ingrained in societies. This section delves into the real-life implications of GBV and its connection to the institutionalised gender apartheid enforced in Afghanistan, which was illuminated through our recent **joint submission on Afghanistan with International Service for Human Rights (ISHR)**. Through personal stories and compelling statistics, we shed light on the pressing need to challenge these oppressive structures, fostering a future where women and girls can live without fear, embracing resilience and equality.


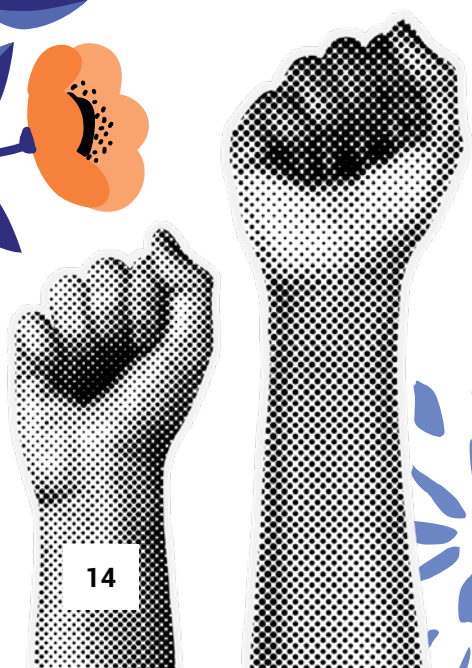


Personal Stories: Voices of Resilience Amidst Adversity

Meet **Zahra**, a young woman full of dreams and aspirations from Kabul. Her passion for education was abruptly shattered when the Taliban banned women from attending university. Overnight, her dreams turned into despair, leaving her emotionally shattered and mentally distressed. Zahra's story serves as a reminder of the harsh realities imposed by gender apartheid, denying women the opportunity to pursue their passions and achieve their goals.



In addition, there is **Fawzia Anwari**, an Afghan widow, who used to earn enough from her job at a foreign NGO in Kabul to support her five children. However, the family lost their sole livelihood when the Taliban banned women from working. Fawzia's story highlights another devastating impact of gender apartheid, leaving women and their families without means to sustain themselves, emphasising the urgent need for change.




The Human Cost: Physical, Emotional, and Psychological Consequences

GBV in Afghanistan, perpetuated through the framework of gender apartheid, inflicts severe physical, emotional, and psychological trauma on survivors. Statistics reveal that a staggering **87% of Afghan women have experienced GBV**, emphasising the urgency of addressing this issue. Survivors endure enduring physical injuries, emotional distress, and psychological scars, hindering their ability to lead fulfilling lives.

Living in an environment where basic rights and freedoms are denied takes an immense toll on mental health. Nearly **70% of Afghan women reported** worsening feelings of anxiety, isolation, and depression due to the stifling atmosphere of oppression. This extreme discrimination and violence cannot be tolerated anywhere. It is not just an attack on individual lives; it is an affront to the principles of equality and human rights.

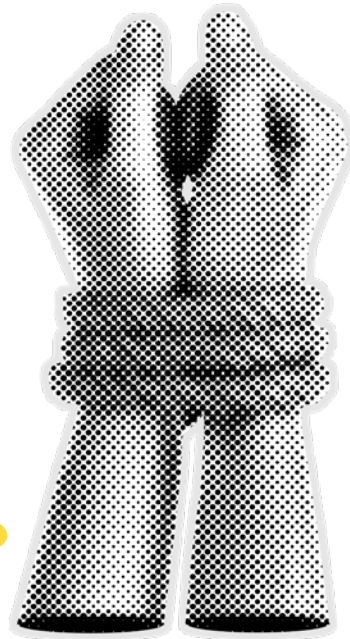
Europe faces its own challenge of femicide, notably in Italy, **where 91% of homicides committed by family members, partners, or former partners target women**. In 2020, 745 domestic homicides were recorded in 15 European states, underscoring the severity of the issue. Victims of GBV endure not only physical harm but also profound emotional and psychological trauma. Addressing GBV in Europe requires a multifaceted approach, including legal recognition and harmonisation of definitions across countries. The urgency of addressing this pervasive issue is evident, posing a broader threat to the principles of justice and equality.



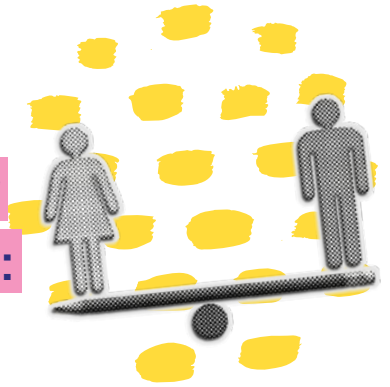
Economic and Social Consequences: A Cycle of Poverty and Vulnerability

The bans on women's access to education and work have profound economic and social consequences, leaving women economically dependent and financially vulnerable. **Female employment levels have plummeted**, leading to an **immediate economic loss of up to US\$1 billion** – a devastating blow to the country's economy. This exclusion perpetuates vicious cycles of poverty and inequality, forcing women to sell property and resort to begging for survival, contributing to rising homelessness and poverty among Afghan women.

Moreover, the denial of freedom of movement hampers women's participation in social and economic activities, hindering community development. The bans on visiting public places further compromise women's health, leading to more **prevalent health issues**. Business owners also suffer, losing clients and threatening their livelihoods, shrinking the country's economy even further.



The Reinforcement of Gender Inequality and Discrimination: A Call to Action



Institutionalised discrimination under gender apartheid intensifies harmful gender norms and deep-seated inequalities. By systematically denying women access to education, employment, and public spaces, traditional gender roles are preserved and reinforced. These restrictions curtail women's agency, limiting their ability to participate fully in society and contribute to various sectors of life.

This deliberate assault on women's autonomy, freedom, and dignity perpetuates a cycle of oppression, leaving women vulnerable to domestic violence, forced marriages, and the annulment of divorces. These discriminatory practices have pushed women's mental health to the brink, resulting in severe anxiety, isolation, and depression.

The narratives of Zahra and Fawzia emphasise the pressing need to dismantle oppressive structures like gender apartheid and combat GBV globally. It's essential to recognise that GBV is a pervasive issue not confined to specific regions but exists worldwide, even in developing countries. International awareness and collective action are imperative to guarantee that every woman and girl can lead a life free from fear, violence, and discrimination. By acknowledging the universal impact and human cost of GBV, we can stand united in a global movement for equality and human rights. This movement champions resilience and empowerment for women and girls, transcending geographical boundaries and fostering a commitment to justice and dignity for all.



ROOT CAUSES AND FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Social & Cultural Norms and Stereotypes

Social and cultural norms, as well as stereotypes, play a significant role in perpetuating GBV. These deeply ingrained beliefs and expectations about gender roles can normalise violent behaviour and create a climate where abuse is tolerated, and sometimes even encouraged. For instance, in some cultures, traditional gender norms may dictate that women should be submissive, making them more vulnerable to abusive partners.

- ➔ Initiatives like India's **Bell Bajao** campaign empower bystanders to challenge domestic violence, disrupting cultural norms condoning violence.
- ➔ In **Afghanistan**, men advocating for women's rights challenges stereotypes, showcases diverse leadership and fosters inclusivity.



Power Dynamics and Gender Inequality

Power dynamics and gender inequality are fundamental factors contributing to gender-based violence. In many societies, patriarchal structures grant men more power and control over resources, which can lead to violence against women who challenge these norms.

- ➔ For example, in countries with deeply entrenched patriarchal systems, **many women are victims of economic violence** and are prevented from accessing education or employment by social and cultural norms, making them financially dependent on their male partners.
- ➔ The **microfinance programs in countries like Bangladesh** promote women's economic empowerment and show how economic independence can help women escape abusive situations.

Economic Disparities

Scarcity of economic resources heightens vulnerability, **trapping women and LGBTQI+ individuals** in cycles of violence and poverty. Economic hardship sometimes drives men to assert masculinity through violent actions.

- For instance, in **sub-Saharan Africa**, where many women work in low-paying informal jobs, economic vulnerability is a key factor in intimate partner violence. Economic empowerment programs, including vocational training and accessible microloans, offer opportunities to break free from abusive situations.
- Also in many countries, **financial institutions make it difficult for women to open bank accounts** or purchase and register land, making their disenfranchisement a vicious cycle.

Institutional Factors and Systems

The **underrepresentation of women and LGBTQI+ individuals in power** limits their influence in policy discussions and changes. The topic of GBV is in some cases deemed not to be important, with domestic violence also being given insufficient resources and attention. Women's and LGBTQI+ movements have raised questions and increased public awareness around traditional gender norms, highlighting aspects of inequality and oppression.

- Movements like **#MeToo** spotlight systemic issues, exposing persistent sexual harassment. Reforms in legislation and company policies are pivotal, creating safer environments and supporting survivors.
- Acknowledging these challenges and taking proactive measures is essential in dismantling deeply rooted structures that perpetuate GBV.

WILPF'S APPROACH TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

WILPF envisions a world where violence has no place, and every individual enjoys their rights and equality, regardless of gender. GBV poses a significant threat to global peace, affecting **35% of women worldwide**. WILPF remains steadfast in advocating for gender equality and GBV prevention, considering them fundamental to achieving lasting peace.

WILPF's Disarmament Programme, Reaching Critical Will (RCW)

RCW tackles GBV through arms control advocacy. They work tirelessly to address how **arms proliferation exacerbates GBV**, both in conflict zones and domestic settings. RCW mobilises marginalised communities, advocating for arms control and peaceful conflict resolution. By prioritising arms control, they create a world where women and girls are less vulnerable to violence, both in conflict and non-conflict situations.



WILPF Colombia (LIMPAL) A Gender-Sensitive Peace Process

LIMPAL played a pivotal role in advocating for a gender perspective in the peace agreement between the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). This groundbreaking achievement ensures the peace process addresses GBV and incorporates mechanisms for accountability. Such initiatives underscore the importance of gender-sensitive peace processes and strong international partnerships.

WILPF Ghana Education and Cultural Transformation

In Ghana, despite being named **one of the safest nations in Africa** concerning political stability, women still face high rates of physical and sexual violence. WILPF Ghana focuses on education and cultural change to combat GBV. Through their "End Gender Violence Campaign," they educate communities about harmful cultural norms, addressing issues like female genital mutilation, early or forced marriages, and stigma surrounding menstruation. Their efforts also tackle school-based violence against girls, promoting violence-free learning environments and improving girls' access to education.



WCLAC Palestine On-the-Ground Support for Survivors

In Palestine, the **Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC)** provides crucial support for GBV survivors. Living under a military occupation, Palestinian women face increased GBV rates, **amplified during COVID-19**. WCLAC offers 24/7 free legal and social aid services, advocating for the passage of the **Family Protection Bill** to ensure comprehensive protection for women victims of GBV.



WILPF Sri Lanka Disarmament for Sustainable Peace

WILPF Sri Lanka addresses the role of weapons in perpetuating GBV, focusing on reducing the flow of illicit arms. They educate youth and civil society activists about the connection between weapons and GBV, aiming to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 16.3 by eliminating weapons and ensuring human security.



WILPF Switzerland Demanding Systemic Change

Despite Switzerland's progressive reputation, GBV remains widespread. WILPF Switzerland actively participates in the 16 Days of Activism against GBV, and in 2019, they mobilised hundreds of women activists and allies to participate in the national women's strike, demanding an end to funding the arms trade. Their efforts united 150,000 women in Zurich and 500,000 throughout Switzerland, highlighting the need for systemic change and justice to combat GBV.



JOIN THE CAMPAIGN





Brief on the 16 Days Campaign

The 16 days of Activism Campaign Against GBV unites millions of people worldwide in a diverse array of activities, ranging from impactful rallies and educational workshops to inspiring art exhibitions and compelling social media campaigns. It's a global initiative that aims to raise widespread awareness about GBV while advocating for transformative change.

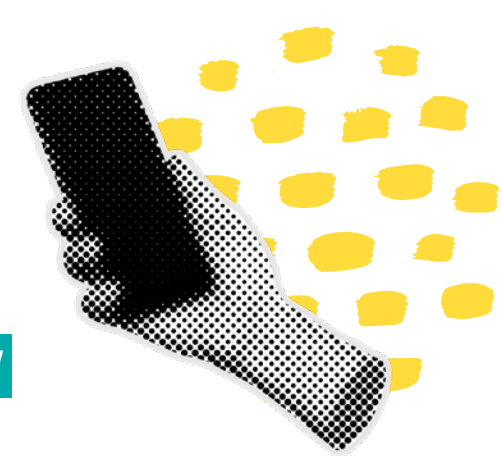
Through this toolkit, we are sharing valuable resources and knowledge drawn from our extensive work in the areas of GBV and equality for all. By providing these resources, we empower individuals to initiate meaningful conversations, challenge discriminatory practices, amplify the voices of countless GBV victims, and educate others about the urgency of addressing this issue now.

Together, we are building a global movement dedicated to eradicating GBV, fostering understanding, and advocating for a world where everyone can live free from fear and violence. Join us in this crucial endeavor to create lasting change and promote a more just and equal society.

Samples of Social Media

Text and Visuals for

Awareness-Raising on GBV



Introducing the Toolkit

To mark the #16Days of Activism Against #GBV, @WILPF is launching a dedicated #GBVToolkit. Your essential learning and awareness-raising guide, designed to empower change and advocate for a safer world. Read now: <https://shorturl.at/aCR14>



Dive into @WILPF's toolkit on Gender-Based Violence! It's filled with valuable knowledge and practical strategies, serving as your comprehensive resource for understanding and countering #GBV. Let's make a difference together. Explore now: <https://shorturl.at/aCR14>

Educational Posts

Understanding #GBV is the first step towards ending it. Did you know that 35% of women across the globe have experienced various forms of physical or sexual violence? Knowledge empowers us to make a difference. Learn more during the 16 Days of Activism Against GBV with the @WILPF Toolkit. #16Days #EndGBV

Economic disparities heighten vulnerability to #GBV. Poverty and violence create a devastating cycle. Learn how economic empowerment can break this cycle. Find insights in the @WILPF Toolkit. #16Days #EndGBV

#GBV isn't limited to physical spaces. Online harassment is rampant too. Discover how cyberbullying and online GBV impact lives of women and gender minorities. Delve into @WILPF's Toolkit for eye-opening insights. #16Days #EndGBV

#GenderApartheid in #Afghanistan enforces oppressive restrictions, denying women basic rights and opportunities. Explore @WILPF's Toolkit to understand the systemic barriers faced by Afghan women and learn how we can dismantle this unjust system together. #16Days #EndGBV

#GBV comes in many forms, each equally damaging and insidious. Educate yourself and others about the different types of GBV to recognise the signs and stand against this pervasive issue. Explore @WILPF's Toolkit to learn more. #16Days #EndGBV



WILPF Initiatives

From Colombia to Ghana, WILPF members have initiated transformative countering #GBV projects worldwide. Our impact echoes globally, breaking barriers and offering support where it's needed most. Explore @WILPF's Toolkit to learn about our initiatives. #16Days #EndGBV

Call to Action

Raise your voice against #GBV! Join us in the fight to end gender-based violence during the 16 Days of Activism. Share this post, spread awareness, and be the change you want to see. Together, we can make a difference. #TakeAction #16Days #EndGBV

Everyone's voices matter! Spread awareness about #GBV and its impact on communities. Share the knowledge from the WILPF Toolkit, start conversations, and challenge the norms. Let's break the silence together. #TakeAction #16Days #EndGBV

Educate your friends, family, and colleagues about #GBV. Share the resources from @WILPF's Toolkit, organise workshops, and challenge misconceptions. Knowledge is power. Let's spread it far and wide. #TakeAction #16Days #EndGBV

If you or someone you know is affected by #GBV, know that help is always available. Reach out to local support groups, helplines, or shelters – more info is available in our toolkit. #YouAreNotAlone #16Days #EndGBV

[DOWNLOAD TEMPLATES](#)





How Can You Participate?

Members: Your active engagement is at the heart of our GBV campaign. Utilise the toolkit to:

Organise inspiring events: Host impactful awareness events, educational workshops, and engaging panel discussions in your community.

Educate locally: Reach out to schools and communities, fostering respect, tolerance, and empathy while dismantling GBV's roots.

Ignite change: Your initiatives are more than events; they're catalysts for transforming society.

Individuals: You can actively participate by:

Attending local events: Join events organised by WILPF Sections/ Groups or other supporting affiliations in your area, contributing to the movement against GBV.

Sparking conversations: Use social media and campaign materials to initiate crucial discussions about GBV, raising awareness within your circles.

Taking direct action: Volunteer with local organisations, support survivors, and contribute to the cause on the ground.

Organisations: Partner with us by:

Organising fundraisers: Utilise the toolkit's resources for fundraising events, generating crucial support for survivors and awareness initiatives.

Conducting workshops: Collaborate with local partners and use this toolkit as a knowledge material to educate various communities.

Supporting shelters and helplines: Follow our guidelines to assist shelters and helplines, ensuring survivors have access to essential resources and assistance.



Additional Resources

A Comprehensive List of Relevant Books, Articles, Websites

Books

- **Some Men: Feminist Allies in the Movement to End Violence Against Women** by Michael Messner
- **All of Me: Stories of Love, Anger, and the Female Body** edited by Dani Burlison
- **Assume Nothing: A Story of Intimate Violence** by Selvaratnam, Tanya
- **Highway of Tears: A True Story of Racism, Indifference and the Pursuit of Justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls** by McDiarmid, Jessica
- **Nobody's Victim: Fighting Psychos, Stalkers, Pervs and Trolls** by Carrie Goldberg

Articles/Publications

- **Safer Now Report** by Every Woman Treaty
- **They came together not to be silenced—gender-based violence in conflict & the role of women's rights organisations** by the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

Websites

- **Everday Feminism**
- **Prevention Collaborative**



Contact Information for Organisations and Support Services

Women's Aid Federation of England

🌐 womensaid.org.uk
✉ helpline@womensaid.org.uk

UNICEF - End Violence Against Children

🌐 end-violence.org
✉ endviolence@unicef.org

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

🌐 ippf.org
✉ info@ippf.org

Human Rights Watch - Women's Rights Division

🌐 hrw.org
✉ womensrights@hrw.org

European Women's Lobby

🌐 womenlobby.org
✉ info@womenlobby.org

Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)

🌐 awid.org
✉ awid@awid.org

Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)

🌐 wgnrr.org
✉ info@wgnrr.org

Women on Web: Abortion Pill Access by Mail

🌐 womenonweb.org
✉ info@womenonweb.org

Coalition Against Trafficking in Women

🌐 catwinternational.org
✉ info@catwinternational.org

Global Network of Women's Shelters

🌐 gnws.org

Glossary of Key Terms Related to Gender-Based Violence

Advocacy Organisations: Non-profit groups dedicated to raising awareness, offering support, and advocating for policy changes to combat GBV.

Bystander Intervention: Actions taken by individuals who witness or are aware of potentially harmful situations to prevent or reduce harm, such as intervening in a GBV incident.

Coercion: The use of force, threats, or manipulation to control or intimidate someone into doing something against their will, often seen in cases of intimate partner violence.

Consent: Willing, informed, and voluntary agreement to engage in any sexual activity, a vital concept in preventing sexual violence.

Consent Education: Educational programs aimed at teaching individuals about consent, boundaries, and respect in relationships.

Cyberbullying: The use of digital communication tools to harass, threaten, or intimidate someone, which can include cyberstalking and online harassment.

Cycle of Violence: A pattern that often characterises abusive relationships, including phases of tension building, an acute incident, and a honeymoon phase, which may keep survivors trapped in the relationship.

Domestic Violence: A pattern of abusive behavior within intimate relationships, families, or households, encompassing physical, emotional, or economic abuse.

Economic Abuse: A form of domestic violence where the abuser controls a victim's financial resources, making them financially dependent and limiting their ability to escape the relationship.



Economic Empowerment: a process to influence long-term living situations of someone through access to better education, training of jobs.

Femicide: The intentional killing of females or women due to their gender, often rooted in misogyny or gender-based discrimination.

Gaslighting: A form of emotional abuse where an abuser manipulates a victim into doubting their own experiences, perceptions, or reality.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Any harmful act, whether physical, sexual, emotional, or psychological, perpetrated against an individual based on their gender, often affecting women and marginalised genders disproportionately.

Gender Identity: An individual's internal sense of their own gender, which may or may not align with the sex assigned to them at birth.

Helplines: Emergency contact numbers where survivors can seek support, advice, and information about available resources.

Human Trafficking: The illegal trade and exploitation of individuals, often involving forced labor, sexual exploitation, or involuntary servitude.

Intersectionality: The interconnected nature of social identities, such as race, class, and sexual orientation, which can magnify experiences of discrimination, including GBV.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV): Physical, sexual, or psychological harm or the threat of harm within an intimate relationship, including coercive tactics to maintain control.

Legal Rights: The rights and protections afforded to survivors of GBV under the law, including restraining orders, legal remedies, and access to support services.

Male Allyship: The active support and advocacy of men in addressing GBV and promoting gender equality, often challenging traditional gender norms and behaviours.

Patriarchy: A social system where cis-gender men hold primary power and control, perpetuating gender inequalities and contributing to GBV.

Perpetrator Accountability: The obligation to hold those who commit acts of GBV responsible for their actions through legal and social measures.

Power Dynamics: the balance of power between one or two people that end up impacting personal and professional lives.

Rape Culture: A society where sexual violence is normalised and excused, often perpetuating victim-blaming and minimalising the impact of rape and sexual assault.

Sexism: Systemic discrimination based on one's gender, often manifesting as unequal treatment and opportunities between men and women.

Sexual Harassment: Unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that create a hostile environment.

Stereotypes: a widely held but not necessarily true belief of a person or a thing.

Structural Violence: Systemic forms of violence embedded in societal institutions, policies, and norms that perpetuate gender inequality, enabling GBV.

Survivor: An individual who has experienced GBV and is working to heal and overcome its effects.



Survivor-Centered Advocacy: A holistic approach to supporting survivors, considering their individual needs, choices, and autonomy in the healing process.

Trauma-Informed Care: An approach to service delivery that recognises the widespread impact of trauma and seeks to create a safe and supportive environment for survivors.

Victim-Blaming: The tendency to blame survivors for the violence they've experienced, rather than holding perpetrators accountable.

Victim-Centered Approach: A holistic method of addressing GBV that prioritises the needs, safety, and well-being of survivors, allowing them to guide the course of their recovery and justice.

Weaponised Technology: The use of technology, such as smartphones or social media, as a tool for stalking, harassment, or intimidation in the context of GBV.



CONCLUSION

As we wrap up our WILPF GBV toolkit, we want to emphasise that the path to ending gender-based violence (GBV) requires action and unity. Armed with the knowledge and tools provided in this toolkit, we urge you to step forward and make a difference.

Take Action

Use the resources in this toolkit to spark conversations, challenge harmful norms, and promote respect and empathy in your communities, schools, and organisations. Be a positive force for change, lighting the way to a world free from fear and violence.

Collective Efforts

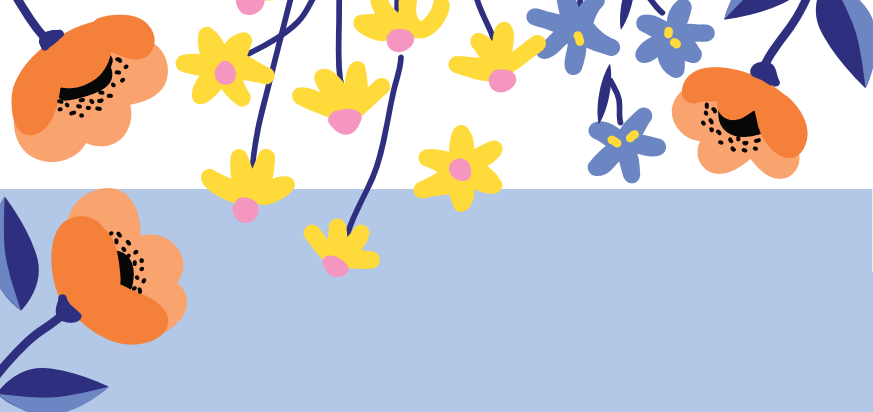
Remember, we are all responsible for ending GBV. By working together and supporting survivors, we can dismantle oppressive systems and create a world where everyone can thrive without the burden of gender-based violence.

Support the 16 Days of Activism Campaign

Join the global movement by actively participating in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. Use the toolkit resources to spread the word on social media, organise events, share knowledge, and inspire others to join this vital campaign.

Thank you for your dedication to this cause. Let's continue this journey towards a safer and more inclusive world for all. Together, we can overcome GBV and build a brighter future.





WILPF International Secretariat

Rue de Varembe 1,
Case Postale 28
1211 Geneva 20, Suisse
p. +41 (0)22 919 70 80
e. info@wilpf.org

WILPF UNO Office

777 UN Plaza, New York
NY 10017, Etats-Unis
p. +1 212 682 1265

wilpf.org

