



OUR STREETS TOO

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence 2018

@waggs_world

www.stoptheviolencecampaign.com

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#OurStreetsToo



16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is a global event, aiming to end violence towards women and girls.

The annual event begins on 25 November, which is International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. It runs until Human Rights Day on 10 December.

Violence against women and girls is a violation of human rights. 16 Days of Activism calls for actions to end this, along with protection and promotion of women and girls' rights.

Our Streets Too

16 Days of Activism is an important time in the year to highlight the experiences of women and girls.

Last year we asked girls to show and tell us where they felt the most unsafe in their communities. Through a U-Report Poll 70 per cent of 7000 respondents said the streets in their communities were the most unsafe. Girls sent in 400 drawings, with many showing the streets as the most dangerous.

This year we are asking girls to take action and call for change. These are our streets too.

We will be asking groups to explore what needs to happen in their communities to make the streets safe for girls and young women. Next, we want to take these requests to decision makers and advocate for action.

Street harassment is part and parcel of daily life of girls and women in any part of the world. This reality reduces girls' and young women's freedom of movement, their ability to attend school, participate in recreational activities, sports and public life. While gender-based violence broadly is now widely recognised as a pervasive problem and is high on the global agenda, street harassment remains a largely neglected issue, with only a few countries that have adopted legislation or policies to prevent and punish it. Public safety for women and girls is also often treated as an infrastructure problem. This ignores gender inequality and harmful social norms. Without tackling these, violence against girls and women will continue.





Goal

Decision makers in our communities are responsible for making the streets safe. This year we want your help. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) wants to tell the leaders about the action they need to take to keep every girl and woman safe.

A decision maker is a person that has the power and/ or authority to make important decisions about the issue you want to change.

Length of activity: Approx. one hour

Activity structure and supplies:

There are three different activities you can run with your group. Each comes with a list of supplies.

Child safety disclaimer

This session may cause some participants discomfort. Discussions and activities surrounding child safety may be triggering for some children. It is crucial that you prepare appropriately before beginning this session. Become familiar with your organisation's child safety policies including the correct procedures to follow if a child discloses an incident of abuse during the session. If you are not part of an organisation you can find referrals to local support services in your country using this link www.gbvhelpmap.crowdmap.com.

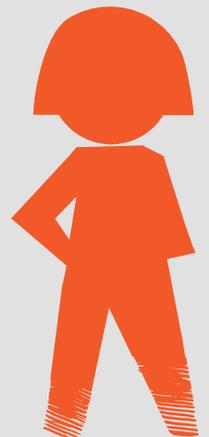
Remind participants that they always have the right to say NO to anything which makes them feel uncomfortable, including any aspect of the following session. Remind the group that anything discussed during this session will be kept confidential, but do explain the limits of confidentiality.

Setting a safe space

It is important that you create a space for children and young people to feel supported and comfortable. This will enable them to talk about their experiences, rights, gender equality and violence against girls and young women. Create an agreed code of conduct which is supportive, sensitive and understanding of diversity and difference.

Here are some guidelines on how to create safe and supportive, equal and ethical spaces.

1. If you have one, follow your Child Protection Policy
2. Do not accept or tolerate abusive language or behaviour
3. Use appropriate language. Speak clearly and in an age-appropriate manner to ensure that everyone understands you. Check in with the group in case they need extra explanation. Use gender neutral language, be careful not to reinforce any gender stereotypes or use any discriminatory language.
4. Be inclusive of all types of gender identities and sexualities.
5. Respect cultural and religious beliefs, but challenge harmful attitudes which support violence against girls and young women. Be aware that changing attitudes takes time. It must be done sensitively and in partnership with the community.





Activity 1

Preparation:

Chalk or pieces of string

Explain the following to your participants:

“ This session is being run as part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) campaign for 16 Days of Activism 2018. WAGGGS is the world’s largest movement in the world for any girl and every girl working with 10 million girls in 150 countries. ”

PART 1

Split the group into small teams of max 6 people. In teams discuss what you do every day, from the moment you wake up until you go to bed in the evening. For example, you wake up, get dressed, eat breakfast and go to school. Create a small skit and without talking, show the rest of the group how you day evolves.

PART 2

Now ask the teams to stand very close together, forming a tight circle. Use the chalk or the piece of rope and make a circle around them. Explain that this is their private space.

Ask the group: What is their private space?

(their answers may vary: their room, their home or another family home, etc)

Now draw a bigger circle around the first circle leaving some space in between the first and the second circle. Explain to the teams that this second circle represents the public space.

Ask the participants “Who knows what a public space is?”

Definition of public spaces: A public space is a place that is generally open and accessible to people.

Roads (including the pavement), public squares, parks and beaches are typically considered public space.

Everyone now can leave their circles and return to a bigger circle as a whole group.

Ask the group to think about and discuss the public spaces they are in during the day (Answers may vary: walking in the street, a bus stop, a park etc)

Create a small skit and show the rest of the group some of the people you come across when you are in the street.

Activity 2

Supplies needed:

Paper, colour pens, download of WAGGGS street map which is available on the WAGGGS website at www.stoptheviolencecampaign.com

As a group discuss the different reasons girls and young women may feel unsafe when they are in the streets. Some of these reasons may be that the streets have no light and so they are scared to travel in the dark, people may say things to upset them when in the streets or shout words at them.

In their groups, ask participants to draw onto the WAGGGS street map the things that make girls and young women feel unsafe in the streets.





Activity 3

Supplies needed:

Paper, colour pens, download of WAGGGS placard which is available on the WAGGGS website at www.stoptheviolencecampaign.com

Now it's time to think about solutions. Ask the groups to discuss what can be done to make the streets safer for girls. Using the WAGGGS placard or a piece of paper ask the participants to each write what they think girls need to feel safer in the streets. Examples may be street lights, a neighbourhood watch, public security, involvement in urban and rural planning, respectful relationships, legislation on street harassment. Encourage participants to be creative with their solutions.

Ask participants to write and complete the follow sentence with what they think girls need to stay safe:

Girls need..... these are #OurStreetsToo

Take pictures of the participants holding up their signs. Explain to participants these pictures will be shared with WAGGGS, on social media and with your Member Organisation so we can show decision makers and leaders around the world what girls and young women need to feel safe. You can email images and videos to us for use on social media. Emails should be sent to stoptheviolence@waggs.org. More information is provided below on other ways to share your pictures with us. Make sure girls are not taking pictures of each other and sharing them on social media or other channels without permission.

Finally, we want to tell decision makers what girls and young women have said they need to feel safe in the streets. You can do this by sending a petition to decision makers explaining the problem and telling them the action that needs to be taken. You can also share this information to your Member Organisation.

Draft petition Available at www.stoptheviolencecampaign.com

Ask each participant to sign the petition. You can share the petition with your Member Organisation and send it to WAGGGS via email, social media or post to STV Petition, World Bureau, 12C Lyndhurst Road, London NW3 3PP

Sharing of images

Make sure you have obtained consent before taking and sharing any images of participants. You can read about WAGGGS' photography principles here: <https://www.waggs.org/en/how-use-our-brand/photography/>

Once 16 Days kicks off on the 25 November we will be sharing the images online via WAGGGS social media platforms.

You can email images in advance to be shared so we can share them at the start of the campaign:

 [facebook.com/waggs](https://www.facebook.com/waggs)

 [@waggs_world](https://twitter.com/waggs_world)

 [@waggs_world](https://www.instagram.com/waggs_world)

For more information on the 16 Days of Activism campaign, please visit:

www.waggs.org/16-days

If you have any questions please contact Jean-Ann Ndow, Advocacy Manager at World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts via email: jean-ann.ndow@waggs.org

