

Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter

Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter (VRRWS) offers a 24-hour rape crisis line and transition house for women escaping male violence. Annually, we answer over 1,400 calls from women in crisis and house over 100 women and their children. We provide women with emotional support; peer counselling; a support and action group for women who have experienced male violence; and advocacy & accompaniment to the hospital, police, court.

VRRWS is available to attend your organization to speak on any topic concerning violence against women.

As a volunteer-run organization, VRRWS is always seeking volunteers to assist in operating our transition house and 24-hour crisis line, to fundraise, and to maintain the transition house.

Volunteering begins now, call 604-872-8212 to sign-up.

Yes, I want to support Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____ PC _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please accept my enclosed donation of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____

Ongoing Pledge of \$ _____ (enclose 12 post-dated cheques)

Please send me at tax receipt

I would like more information about making an Ongoing Pledge

I would like to receive the *Friends of Rape Relief Newsletter*

I want to get involved, please have someone contact me

Thank you for sending your donation to:
Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter
c/o PO Box 21562
1424 Commercial Drive
Vancouver, BC V5L 5G2

The Montreal Massacre

1989 – A lone man walked into an engineering class at L'École Polytechnique at the University of Montréal. He separated the men from the women and told the men to leave. After the male students complied, the man declared his hatred of feminists and began to shoot the women with a semi-automatic rifle. While police forces stood outside, Marc Lépine went on a rampage, shooting and stabbing the women at the school. He then shot himself.

He left behind a note that included a list of prominent Canadian feminists whom he planned to kill. It was clear that these women engineering students symbolized the progress of women's equality. Lépine's actions could have pushed back women's demands for increased equality through social change. However, women organized in defiance of his attack.

Women rose up to demonstrate in towns and cities across the country. They connected Lépine's acts of violence to the everyday sexism to which women are subjected. Women dedicated themselves to feminist organizing to bring into reality their expectations of freedom for the present and the future.

The 14 women who were killed as feminists:

Geneviève Bergeron, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Croteau, Barbara Daigneault, Anne-Marie Edward, Maud Haviernick, Barbara Klucznik Widajewicz, Maryse Laganière, Maryse Leclair, Anne-Marie Lemay, Sonia Pelletier, Michèle Richard, Annie St-Arneault, Annie Turcotte.

Among his list of 19 feminists he planned to kill were:

A freelance journalist, the first woman firefighter in Quebec, a television host, the vice-president of the Confederation of National Trade Unions, the Quebec Immigration Minister, the first woman police captain in Quebec, the Canadian champion of the 1988 Chartered Accountant Exams, the former vice-president of Montreal Trust, a radio sports show host, and a transition house worker.



**Remember 14 massacred in Montreal, killed as feminists
Reclaim feminism**

**ReACT to 59 wives murdered in Canada,
69 prostituted women gone from Vancouver,
500 aboriginal women missing in Canada**

Come to the Vancouver Public Library
Learn and listen to feminist dialogue

Saturday, December 1st, 2007

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

**Vancouver Public Library
350 West Georgia Street**

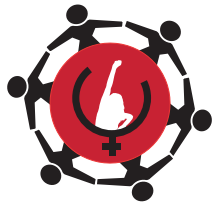
Dialogue Among Feminist Activists
Monologues by Feminist Speakers
Feminist Films Old and New
A Feminist "Walk in Her Shoes"

Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter
www.rapereliefshelter.bc.ca
(604) 872-8212



LEARN, EXCHANGE, ACT: INTERACTIONS AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Roundtables: DIALOGUE AMONG FEMINIST ACTIVISTS



10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Repackaging Male Violence Against Women: The Actors, the Consequences

Join us to hear the expertise of these women and observe community development around key issues on male violence against women. Prominent feminists and organizations from across Canada include: Annabel Webb, Justice for Girls; Christina Panis, Philippine Women's Center; Resist Exploitation, Embrace Dignity (REED); Sharon McIvor; Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA); Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW); Jackie Lynne, researcher & CATW member; Danielle Cormier; Jane Turner; Sunera Thobani, professor, UBC Women & Gender Studies; Indira Prahst, sociology instructor of Race & Ethnic Relations, Langara; Dawn Hodgins, Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton (PAAFE); We Can End Violence Against Women Coalition; Janine Benedet, UBC law professor; Irene Smith, executive director of Avalon Sexual Assault Center; Miriam Palacios, Oxfam Canada; Suzanne Baustad, Grassroots Women; Suzanne Jay, Asian Women Led Coalition Ending Prostitution; Sargie Kaler; Aboriginal Women's Action Network (AWAN); Sisters in Action and Solidarity (SAS); Lee Lakeman, Daisy Kler, Hilla K Solliman, Laura Holland, Van Le, Alice Lee, Laura Johnston, Jacqueline Gullion, and other members of Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter (VRRWS)

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Harm Reduction: Solidarity with Women or Sacrificing Women?

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Girls Sexual Autonomy: Fighting 'pimp and ho' Culture

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Are Family, Community and Culture Replacing Criminal Justice?

Lectures: MONOLOGUES BY FEMINIST SPEAKERS



10:00 AM

The Backlash Against Women: Child custody and access law

Susan Boyd, chair UBC Feminist Legal Studies; Ishama Harris (VRRWS)

11:00 AM

Rape Facilitated by Drug and Alcohol: Punishment for women being out in the city

Wendy Potter, Outreach and Education Coordinator/ Counsellor Sexual Assault Service; Jean Fong (VRRWS)

12:00 PM

Warring in the Name of Women

Sunera Thobani, associate professor womens' studies UBC & past president of National Action Committee on the status of women; Tamar Eylon (VRRWS)

1:00 PM

Violence Against Women Then and Now: No Laughing Matter

Margaret Mitchell, former NDP MP and feminist/ activist; Darlene Rigo (VRRWS)

2:00 PM

A Feminist Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program: Avalon Sexual Assault example

Irene Smith, Executive Director of Avalon Sexual Assault Center; Louisa Russell (VRRWS)

3:00 PM

Cooperative Brothels, Legalizing, Border Security – won't they help?

Dawn Hodgins, PAAFE; Lee Lakeman Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centers

4:00 PM

Feminism vs Pornography

Janine Benedet, UBC law professor; Van Le (VRRWS)

5:00 PM

Vancouver South Asian Women Fight Femicide in 2007

Daisy Kler (VRRWS); TBA

Films: FEMINIST FILMS WITH DISCUSSION



10:00 AM

Not For Sale: Feminists Resist Prostitution and Pornography

(Marie Vermeiren, CATW Discusses prostitution as Violence Against Women and the links between trafficking, prostitution and male demand.

Introduced by Vancouver Genesis Project & Hilla Kerner-Soliman, past director of Assoc. of Rape Crisis Centres Israel, VRRWS

11:00 AM

Taking the Heat: The First Firefighters of New York City

(Bann Roy) Tells the courageous story of a group of women who dared to do a "man's job".

Introducer TBA

12:30 PM

Highway of Tears

(Sharmeen Obaid Shinoy) Demands state accountability for more than 32 missing aboriginal women on highway 16. The police have made no arrests.

Introduced by Gladys Radek

1:30 PM

NO! The Rape Documentary

(Aishah Shahidah Simmons) A profound film about rape and the struggle to stop rape in African-American communities, told through survivor testimonials, dance, poetry and music.

Introduced by Lydia Masemola, Media Consultant, Radio Producer

3:00 PM

The Children We Sacrifice

(Grace Poore) Evocative and visually powerful, this film discusses the many effects of incestuous sexual abuse on girls.

Introduced by Asia Czapska, Justice for Girls

Interactive Activity: A FEMINIST "WALK IN HER SHOES"



10:00 AM – A new walk begins every half-hour

You are Ann. You are a landed immigrant and your husband is your sponsor. He hits you, he pushes you, he strangles you until you pass out. You wake on the kitchen floor. What will you do? ...

You are Rita. Last week, your ex threw a plate of food at you, called you names and slapped you for talking back to him. He threatens to take away your daughter and refuses to pay child support. What will you do? ...

To find out what you could do, take a "Walk In Her Shoes". This interactive activity illustrates which options are available to women, which obstacles stand in their way and what they can expect from the state, their communities and each other. Call Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter at 604-872-8212 to pre-register or sign up at the Vancouver Public Library on December 1st.

Feminist book table and free community information tables available. Call 604-872-8212 to book yours today.