16 Days of Action 2022

UNITE! Activism to end violence against women and girls.





16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

Annual international campaign

Starts on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until

10 December, Human Rights Day.

Around the world it calls for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.





UNITE! Activism to End Violence against Women & Girls

This year's campaign aims to mobilise all

- UNITE networks,
- civil society and women's rights organizations,
- organizations working with men and boys,
- the UN system,
- the Action Coalition on Gender Based Violence, government partners,
- human rights defenders,
- schools, universities,
- private sector,
- sports clubs and associations and
- individuals

to become activists for the prevention of violence against women, to stand in solidarity with women's rights activists and to support feminist movements around the world to resist the rollback on women's rights and calling for a world free from VAWG.



SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN

45% of women reported that they or a woman they know has experienced a form of VAWG.

7 in 10 women said they think that verbal or physical abuse by a partner has become more common.

6 in 10 felt that sexual harassment in public spaces has worsened.



In support of this campaign

Soroptimist International of Cockermouth and District

have chosen to highlight statues and arts of work

around the world that have become symbols of the

campaign to end gender-based violence





Fetiyhe, Turkey

This statue was created to give a voice to unlived lives and their soundless screams

A victim of violence is portrayed as the legendary phoenix that rises up from the ashes and reaches freedom



Costanza Buonarelli Uffizi Gallery, Florence





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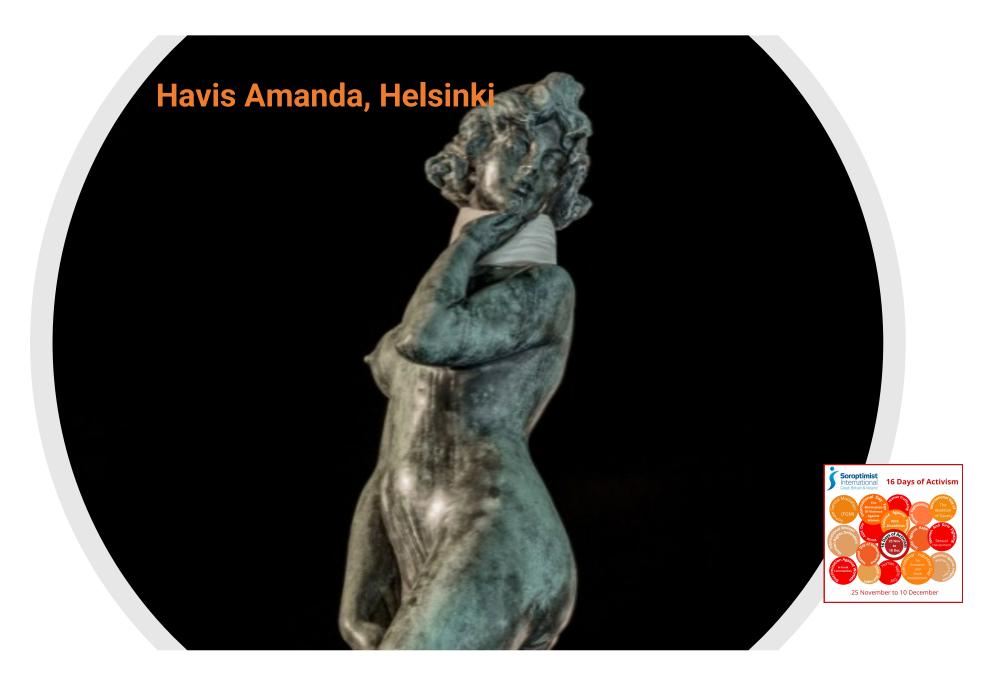
To celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Italy's Uffizi Galleries told the story of abused women through sculptures and pictures

Gian Lorenzo Bernini's marble bust of Costanza Buonarelli, an intense beauty with vivid energy

What the immaculate stone surface does not reveal is the violence inflicted on Buonarelli when Bernini had her face slashed out of jealousy, just a few months after finishing the bust.

Costanza was disfigured by the artist because of unrequited love; actually, he had one of his servants to do it.





Havis Amanda, Helsinki

One of the most iconic pieces of art in the capital of Finland.

The 100 years old statue has constantly been a victim of abuse.. It's common to see people – mostly men – climb on the statue. T

It has come to a point, where the fragile female figure is now in danger of partially collapsing. Most threatened is its weakest part – the neck.

Nollalinja, a Finnish nationwide free-of-charge helpline for anyone who has experienced violence or a threat of violence in a close relationship decided that the Havis Amanda statue could serve as an important reminder of domestic violence.

This is why the statue now wears a neck brace.

According to Statistics Finland's data, there were 9,900 victims in domestic violence and intimate partner violence offences reported to the authorities in 2018, which is 3.6 per cent more than in the previous year. Of adult victims, 76.5 per cent were women.



Voices of Hope Ontario Canada





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In Brockville Ontario a sculpture attracts young children to it, mainly girls.

Crested by the students at the Thousand Islands Secondary School.

Two figures hold birds aloft.

Installed in a 2011 ceremony called the "Voices of Hope"

It is a tribute to women who experience violence and to the people who work to stop it.

It is a difficult subject and sometimes a taboo topic, the statue is approachable and accessible.

It is described as a "symbol of hope for a violence free community".



Our Emmeline statue Manchester





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December 2018 a statue of Emmeline Pankhurst was unveiled as the first statue of a woman in 100 years in the city of Manchester

In 2019 In the spirit of 'Deeds not Words' Manchester charities and organisations used Our Emmeline to support and carry their message.

Each day one of the charities dressed Emmeline to represent a different job role as an interesting visual reminder of the campaign's objectives and the call internationally for change in the workplace.

On the first day, Our Emmeline was dressed as a GP by the Pankhurst Trust and Manchester Women's Aid in recognition of the physic mental harm caused by violence against women and to raise the profile of the IRIS GP referral system





Women's Rights Pioneers Monument Central Park, New York

In August 2020 New York's Central Park unveiled a statue of women's rights pioneers Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Sojourner Truth

The park's first statue of real-life women.

It marks 100 years after the passage of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

It honors three key figures in the women's rights movement with roots in New York, each of whom died before American women gained the right to vote.

- Anthony, who was arrested and convicted of voting illegally in 1872 [Strengtone 16 Days of Activism
- Stanton co-founded the American Equal Rights Association and pushed for women's suffrage.
- Truth, was born into slavery in New York, escaped to freedom in 1826 and became a well-known abolitionist and women's rights activist.





The Match Girls Strike

The Match Girls' Strike In 1888 in the East End of London was industrial action taken up by the workers of the Bryant and May factory against the dangerous and unrelenting demands which endangered their health with very little remuneration.

The factory management wanted to mitigate their bad publicity as soon as possible and with the public very much on the side of the women, the bosses were forced to compromise just weeks later, offering improvements in both pay and conditions, most notably including the abolition of their stringent fining practices.



Bernini's "Rape of Persephone" Villa Borghese in Rome

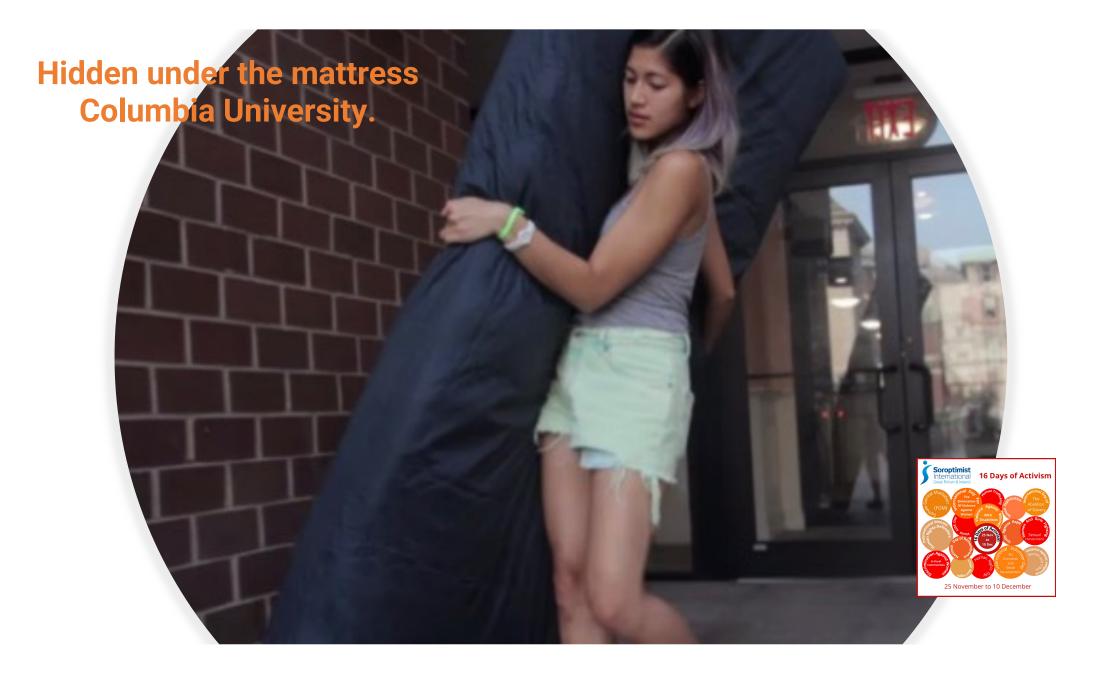
Baroque grace and pure white marble evoking beauty, rather than feelings of horror or indignation at her tears.

Persephone was the vegetation goddess and was the daughter of Zeus.

She was abducted by Pluto, the god-king of the Underworld



Not sure about this one ????????



Hidden under the mattress Columbia University

21 year old Emma Sulkowicz, a performance artist, decided to not forget about and keep "hidden under the mattress" a date rape incident at Columbia University.

For her senior thesis, called "Carry that Weight", she carried the offensive mattress wherever she went

Even disregarding university authorities by bringing it with her to graduation.

University President Lee Bollinger turned away from her, refusing to shake her hand.

She was harshly criticized for creating publicity that could promote her career, but she did bring awareness to the public about the prevalence of date rape, a backlash to the growing independence and success of young women





Shoes on the Danube Bank Hungary

A memorial erected on 16 April 2005 in Budapest, Hungary.

Film director Can Togay created it on the east bank of the Danube River with sculptor Gyula Pauer.

The sculpture honours the Jews who were massacred by Fascist Hungarian Militia belonging to the Arrow Cross Party in Budapest during the Second World War.

They were ordered to take off their shoes (shoes were valuable and could be stolen and resold by the militia after the massacre) and were shot at the edge of the water so that their bodies fell into the river and were carried away.

The memorial represents their shoes left behind on the bank



Filipino "comfort women"





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Filipina Comfort Women was a statue publicly displayed in Manila.

Unveiled in 2017 it was dedicated to the Filipino "comfort women", who worked in military brothels in World War II including those who were coerced into doing so.

Since its installation in Manila it has garnered support from concerned groups, and criticism from government agencies.

The statue was removed in 2018, which has received backlash.

It has since been stored in the private studio of its artist, Jonas Roces, but is a later stolen.





Korean Statue of Peace

The statue a symbol of the victims of sexual slavery, known as comfort women by the Japanese military during World War II

The Statue of Peace was first erected in Seoul to urge the Japanese government to apologize to and honour the victims.

However, it has since become a site of representational battles among different parties



Beacon of Hope





Beacon of Hope at Thanksgiving Square in Belfast, Northern Ireland

This angelic silhouette holding the globe is Harmony.

The metalwork by Andy Scott, also called the Beacon of Hope, is an allegory for "oneness of mankind."

The plaque at its base further explains it symbolizes, "peace, reconciliation and respect for diversity."

The 64 foot, stainless steel sculpture was erected along the River Lagan in Thanksgiving Square in 2005.



Belfast Women's Peace Quilt Mural





Belfast Women's Peace Quilt Mural

The Lower Shankill Women's Group created this artwork using the theme of a traditional family quilt as their inspiration

The women decided to decorate their quilt with words that described themselves and their family members.

Each member of the group contributed to the project,

They wanted to highlight that women have a pivotal role within the Shankill area and that their voices are as important as anyone else's.

The artwork replaces a contentious paramilitary mural and an artwork depicting the burning of Protestant homes at the beginning of the Troubles.



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