

# A DAY FOR WOMEN WORLDWIDE



- Honouring women's lives
- Celebrating women's resistance

**This Saturday, 8 March 2014, is International Women's Day**

***Violence against women knows no borders. It occurs in peacetime and war. And everywhere, women are organizing against it. A few facts....***

- ❖ Domestic violence is the major cause of death and disability for women aged 16 to 44 in Europe, accounting for more death and ill-health than cancer or traffic accidents (Council of Europe)
- ❖ Up to 70% of female murder victims worldwide are killed by their male partners (World Health Organisation)
- ❖ In England and Wales in a recent typical year, 90% of crimes involving violence against the person were committed by men. And 99% of sexual offences were committed by men (Home Office statistics.)
- ❖ Rape can be a weapon of ethnic genocide, as for instance in Gujarat in 2002. (International Initiative for Gender Justice, Mumbai, India; Vimochana and Women in Black, Bangalore).
- ❖ Worldwide, one out of three women has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused, usually by someone known to her, at some time in her life. (Finding of 50 surveys from around the world, cited by Amnesty.)

***8 women's organizations standing together in anticipation of 8 March, affirming solidarity with 8 others worldwide...we are:***

**Women in Black London:** a world-wide network of women committed to peace with justice and actively opposed to injustice, war, militarism and other forms of violence. [www.womeninblack.org](http://www.womeninblack.org)

**Women in Black, Armenia branch,** a representative of whom is with us today

**Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, London and Orpington branches:** women worldwide united in working for peace by non-violent means, promoting political, economic and social justice for all. [www.ukwilpf.org.uk](http://www.ukwilpf.org.uk)

**London Feminist Network:** we work together for women's rights and against patriarchy in all its forms. [www.londonfeministnetwork.org.uk](http://www.londonfeministnetwork.org.uk)

**Older Feminist Network:** we voice the concerns of older women and oppose misogyny and ageism. <http://www.olderfeminist.org.uk/>

**Older Lesbian Network:** we meet once a month in a central London location and oppose homophobia and sexual and gender-based violence. <http://www.olderlesbiannetwork.btck.co.uk/>

**Southall Black Sisters:** a comprehensive service to women experiencing violence and abuse - meeting the needs of Asian and Black women in West London. [www.southallblacksisters.org](http://www.southallblacksisters.org)

***NO TO MALE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN  
IN THE HOME - IN THE COMMUNITY - IN PEACE AND IN WAR  
WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS***