



**Say No to War  
and Weaponry**

**Weapons do NOT equal Security**

Many residents in East and South London are angry that during the Olympics the government is siting missile batteries in areas of public housing. In our militarized state, wheeling out the weaponry is being made to seem a normal strategy in both foreign and home affairs. Londoners are also critical of the government for handing considerable responsibility for 'security' during the Games to armed employees of private contractors.

With government support, UK manufacturers export arms and military equipment to over 150 countries, many of whom use British weapons to repress their own people. Arms dealers and profiteers are often also involved in illegal markets in drugs, prostitution and trafficking.

On the home front, gun owners and gun users are overwhelmingly male. In cases of domestic violence in which guns are involved, women are less able to resist or escape, and death is more common. On average in the UK two women a week die at the hands of their partners, and guns are used in one-third of such murders.

At the other end of the scale, the UK continues to maintain an arsenal of Trident submarine-borne nuclear weapons, despite having signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty. It plans to update this system at an estimated cost of £100 billion plus, despite the fact that to use a nuclear device under any circumstances would constitute a crime against humanity.

***Women in Black is an international network of feminists opposed to war, militarism and other kinds of violence. We call for peace and justice. We oppose the use of violence, whether its purpose is state power, economic exploitation or personal control. We seek to build bridges in situations of conflict, and choose non-violence in our actions. We believe a more respectful, just, co-operative and caring way of life is possible.***

***We invite you to sign and send this leaflet as a letter to:  
To the Prime Minister, Rt.Hon. David Cameron, 10 Downing Street, London SW1.***

We urge the UK government to take a lead in action to curb the spread of weapons small and large:

- Tighten the laws governing the licensing and sale of guns in the UK
- Cease state subcontracting of 'security' to armed private firms
- End arms exports from the UK
- Support the adoption of an international Arms Trade Treaty
- Decommission the UK nuclear arsenal and lead the campaign for a binding, verifiable international Convention to ban all nuclear weapons

Signed.....Name.....

Address.....

**Women in Black, C/o The Maypole Fund, PO Box 14072, London N16 5WB  
Donations for leaflets etc most welcome. [www.womeninblack.org.uk](http://www.womeninblack.org.uk)**

Women in Black holds vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the door of the National Portrait Gallery, St.Martin's Place, London WC2. The vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black