

*World Student Christian Federation – Asia Pacific Region (WSCF – AP)
invites you to observe the
“International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women”*



The statistics for violence against women paint an alarming picture. Worldwide, as many as one in two women experiences intimate partner violence and up to one in five experiences or is threatened with sexual assault. . ‘Systematic rape’ used as a weapon of war, ethnic conflicts and caste conflicts. More than 80 per cent of trafficking victims are women. Up to 130 million women have been genitally mutilated. (Backgrounder, UN Secretary-General's Campaign to End Violence against Women, 2008)

Such violence occurs within the home or in the wider community and women are vulnerable to this violence at all stages of life, even before they are born, through female feticide. The UN estimates that over 60 million girls are ‘missing’ due to ‘son preference’.

Violence against women and girls takes many forms and is not limited to any culture, region or country, or to any specific group of women. It has enormous social and economic costs and undercuts the contribution of women to development, peace and security and human rights.

WSCF affirms that women are created in the image of God and this is the fundamental principle of the Federation that both women and men should live in harmony in a violence free society and equally experience the life in abundance. Therefore, our faith should not allow growing violence and injustices against women who are God’s creation. In the present context how can we relate our faith where violence against women is a reality? How can we translate our faith that we women and men are the part of the same body of Christ while there is so much of discrimination and injustices on the basis of gender? The present realities are challenging us to participate in the struggle to restore an inclusive community where both women and men can experience peace and justice!

WSCF AP joins hands with the women and men across the globe and participates to observe the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25th November) in a meaningful and creative way. The United Nations (UN) also encourages the governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to raise public awareness on violence against women. It has been observed on November 25 each year since 2000.

We also would like to highlight the observance of “16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence” starting from 25th November and ending on 10th December, 2010 (International Human rights Day)

Therefore, WSCF AP is encouraging to all the Student Christian Movements and like minded groups to participate in the journey of women’s emancipation. We invite you to organize creative workshops on Violence against Women and Girl children in your local SCMs on any day or all the days, starting from 25th November 2010. The students and youth of SCMs and the like minded groups are invited to participate in the workshop and contribute **POEMS, SONGS, PRAYERS, ARTS, DRAWINGS, and CARTOONS** etc. on “Say NO to Violence against Women and Girl Children.”

Theme : “Say NO to Violence against Women and Girl Children”

Event : Creative Workshop / Dates : 25th November – 10th December