WHITE RIBBON .ORG.UK

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.: 1123874

END MALE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

White Ribbon Day
25 November

White Ribbon UK is the working name of White Ribbon Campaign Ltd, a registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1123874) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 05617302)

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in White Ribbon Day, which takes place on 25th November, the United Nations day to end violence against women. We hope this pack will help you to mark the day in your school. The 16 days following White Ribbon Day are designated as 'days of action to end violence' which gives further opportunities to use these materials. Of course the message of White Ribbon can be promoted throughout the year and there are many opportunities where our work is relevant and helpful. We will be launching new schools resources in 2022 which will be available free to White Ribbon Ambassadors and Champions.

Why White Ribbon is important

Violence and abuse against women and girls is prevalent and pervasive. But this doesn't mean nothing can be done. For change to happen we need to change and challenge the cultures that lead to violence. White Ribbon looks to stop violence before it starts by raising awareness of the social norms surrounding men and the part these norms play in harassment, abuse and violence towards women.

What you can do

- Encourage everyone to wear a White Ribbon
- Display posters throughout your school
- Create a white ribbon shape with students and take a photo from above to commemorate White Ribbon Day.
- Use one of the activities in this pack with a group of students.
- Find out more about the White Ribbon Youth Advocate Scheme. https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/youth
- Use White Ribbon Day to focus the schools implementation of the Government Statutory Guidance, Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education.
- White Ribbons and awareness raising materials can be bought in the White Ribbon Shop www.whiteribbon.org.uk/shop

WHAT IS WHITE RIBBON?

White Ribbon is the world's largest movement of men and boys working to end violence against women and girls, promote gender equity, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity. The campaign began in Canada in 1991 and is now present in over 60 countries around the world.

White Ribbon UK is the leading charity that works with men and boys, campaigning and educating to change the cultures that lead to abuse and stop violence before it starts.

The White Ribbon Promise

Central to the campaign is to encourage people, especially men and boys, to wear a White Ribbon and to make the White Ribbon Promise: ***never use, excuse or remain silent about male violence against women and girls***

We hope students will feel that they want to make the promise. It is a significant declaration, so it is important that students do not feel under pressure to do so. In general we would not be expecting children under the age of 14 to make the promise.

Please encourage your staff team to make the promise (this can be done online at https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/promise) – or follow the QR code later in the pack.

What is violence against women?

We use the United Nations Definition.:

Violence against women means 'any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, hysical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.' United Nations (1994) A/RES/48/104

Threats and coercion come within this definition. Although not all violence against women occurs within a context of traditional power relations, perpetrators' behaviour stems from a sense of entitlement supported by sexist, racist, disablist, homophobic and other discriminatory attitudes, behaviours and systems that maintain and reproduce inequality.

(These forms of violence and abuse are predominately experienced by women and girls, and perpetrated by men, however, men and boys can also be victims and women can also be perpetrators. For example, in 2014/15 domestic abuse cases 92.4% of defendants were male and, where recorded, 84% of the victims were female.)

What may surprise students is that acts such as 'cat calling' in the street, or making jokes about women come under this definition. If we talk about respect and how the lack of respect can lead to violence this can be shown on the scale below.

RANGE OF RELATIONSHIPS

RESPECT ⟷ DISRESPECT ⟷ VIOLENCE

Respectful relationships between all men and women	Mostly respectful behaviour towards women. Any disrespect is managed without violence	Men make derogatory or sexist comments about women to other	Harassment and abuse directed against women in public	Constant abuse and domestic and sexual violence towards women

NO VIOLENCE — SETS THE SCENE FOR VIOLENCE — INCREASING VIOLENCE

WHITE RIBBON DAY TEACHING RESOURCES

These resources have been brought together by the team at White Ribbon UK with material that has been adapted from our networks and other sources. Please take care to consider if it is appropriate for your students, their ages and the context in which you are working.

Ensure that when dealing with these issues you are clear about your policies if any students disclose abuse experienced by themselves, that they have perpetrated abuse or seen or heard about it and where they can get support.

ACTIVITY 1 POSTER

ACTIVITY 2 ON THE LINE

ACTIVITY 3 QUIZ

FURTHER READING

ACTIVITY 1
DESIGN A POSTER OR INSTAGRAM IMAGE

Your image should promote some or all of the following messages:

- Healthy masculinity is rejecting unhelpful stereotypes and unspoken rules about what it is to be a boy or man.
- Healthy masculinity is about being kind, empathetic, finding peaceful resolutions to problems.
- Healthy masculinity is about boys and men being confident in who they are without feeling pressure to be a certain type of boy/man.
- Boys and men can still be 'brave', 'have muscles', assertive, tough, love rugby, enjoy time with other men and boys, enjoy a 'pint' with the lads. But boys and men should also be free to express sad emotions, enjoy cooking, dancing, gardening and anything else that does not fit into gender stereotypes.
- Healthy masculinity is treating everyone with respect and having respectful relationships (which always include consent).
- Healthy masculinity is recognising that people express gender and sexuality in a variety of ways.

HEALTHY MASCULINITY

you are free to be sad

you are free to cook

you are free to create

you are free to dance

you are free to build

you are free to be happy

you are free to garden

you are free to laugh

you are free to be you

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HEALTHY MASCULINITY

ACTIVITY 2
ON THE LINE

Either, draw a line across a board or set up a piece of string with STRONGLY AGREE written/attached at one end, DON'T KNOW in the middle and STRONGLY DISAGREE at the other end. This activity can also be undertaken online using a platform such as Padlet.

Take the statements below one at a time – ask students to vote for where each should go on the line and place with the majority view. Online write the statements on a 'note' and allow students to move them to the place where they think they should go.

Encourage conversation during this activity. Invite a few individuals from those who chose different places on the line to justify their position. Why does the group feel it came to the majority view? Has a sensible answer been chosen but students know that this is not how people necessarily think and act in the 'real world'. Have some students perceived a gender split in how the statement is viewed?

- Violence against women is really not a problem in the UK.
- Women enjoy equal rights in the UK, don't they?
- Girls are less valued than boys in all societies.
- Men are naturally more physically aggressive than women.
- Girls who flirt or get drunk are 'asking for it'.
- In Europe more women aged from 16 to 44 die (or are severely disabled) from heart attacks, cancer or from traffic accidents than from domestic violence.
- Men prefer submissive women.
- Men who are violent towards women are emotionally immature.
- Few women and girls in this country have experienced severe beating, rape or sexual abuse.

FACT SHEET

Discussion: Share the fact sheet. What did students find most surprising or shocking in the fact sheets?

Can they think of other examples of violence against women?

Have they changed their minds now about their position on any of the statements on the line?

In the UK:

- **1 in 4 women will experience domestic abuse in her lifetime**
- **1 in 5 women will experience sexual assault during her lifetime. (Globally this rises to 1 in 3).**
- **It is estimated 20% of women and 4% of men have experienced some type of sexual assault since the age of 16, equivalent to an estimated 3.4 million female victims and 631,000 male victims.**
- **5 in 6 victims (83%) of sexual assault did not report their experiences to the police.**
- **An estimated 3.1% of women (510,000) and 0.8% of men (138,000) aged 16-59 experienced sexual assault in 2018.**
- **Approximately 2 million adults experienced domestic abuse in 2018, with 695,000 of these being male.**

ACTIVITY 3 QUIZ

1. Violence against women is:

A) Violence that a woman has reported to the police

B) Violence that is committed against woman or girl specifically because she is female

C) Sexual assault and rape

2. What is family violence?

A) Disagreements between family members

B) Physical assault between faimly memberrs

C) Behaviour that makes anyone in the family frightened

D) Any behaviour that is pressurising or controlling a family member, is violent, threatening, or causes that family member t be fearful

3. Sexual assault:

A) Is most often committed by someone that the woman knows

B) Is most often committed by strangers, especially late at night in public areas like parks

4. Which of the following are forms of violence against women?

A) Harm to a woman's loved ones to harm or control her

B) A girl or woman being pressured into marriage by her family or community

C) Removing wheels from a woman's wheelchair to prevent movement

D) Prison guards requesting sexual acts from women in exchange for providing toiletries

E) All of the above

5. What was the cost of domestic abuse in England and Wales (health, policing, missed days at work) estimated to be for the year ending March 2017?

A) £447million

B) 920million

C) 66billion

6. Intimate partner violence contributes to more death, disability and illness in women aged 15 to 44 than any other preventable risk factor.

A) True

B) False

7. When can violence against women affect children?

A) Never, violence against children is always difference from violence against women

B) If children view or hear a violent act, or when violence against their mother is also directed at them

C) Violence against women can affect children when they are exposed to it but also due to the broader social conditions that it supports

D) Both B and C

8. What percentage of women have experienced aggressive, threatening, or intimidating behaviour?

A) 12%

B) 27%

C) 52%

9. Which of these are examples of unhealthy masculinity?

A) Boys need to be brave

B) Boys can't be gentle

C) Boys will be boys

D) Boys can't be emotionally hurt

E) All of the above

ANSWERS

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. E
5. C
6. A
7. D
8. C
9. E

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Additional Information and Resources for teachers

Three principles for working with men and boys
Michael Flood and Stephen Burrell
https://xyonline.net/content/three-principles-violence-prevention-work-men-and-boys

Violence Against Women - It's a Men's Issue
Jackson Katz
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTvSfeCRxe8

Relationship Safety Resources for Schools
https://www.aliceruggleestrust.org/relationship-safety-resource

Fawcett Society campaign addressing gender sterotypes
https://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk/news/gender-stereotypes-significantly-limiting-childrens-potential-causing-lifelong-harm-commission-finds

This White Ribbon schools pack is free to use. Please consider fundraising for White Ribbon UK. We are dependent on our supporters to be able to deliver our work and we hope to provide more resources in the future.

We promise

never to use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women

make the promise

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charity no. 1123874 company no. 05617302