

Dear Friend,

Zonta has dedicated the last 25 years to saying NO to violence against women and girls in all of its forms. We know one in three women has been a victim of violence. But often, gender-based violence is only associated with physical violence, neglecting other nonphysical forms. Some not so obvious forms of violence include psychological violence, stalking, forced marriages, harassment, cyberbullying, sexual exploitation, street harassment, campus sexual assault, and the list goes on.



As we begin the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and our Zonta Says NO campaign, I ask you to expand your thinking and challenge yourself to look beyond the statistics. No statistic will ever compare to the personal story of a woman or girl who has been the victim of violence. This is why a story of a girl who was rescued in the Eastern United States after showing a hand signal known on TikTok to represent distress and violence to a passerby really stood out to me. The passerby looked beyond the obvious of just another erratic driver, saw the girl and her hand signal (holding her palm facing out, tucking her thumb into her hand and closing her fingers to trap her thumb) and immediately took action. The girl was abducted days before from her home. The man who took her was arrested and charged for this crime as a result of the passerby's action.

We will continue to say NO until we realize a world without violence. I encourage you to continue to share your stories of how you are making a change in your community. Every action matters.

I look forward to seeing your work and to seeing you at the Zonta Says NO Summit next Tuesday. Find out more about the event below and please register early. We would love to have a sold-out event.

Warm regards,



Sharon Langenbeck, Ph.D.  
President



To read translated text of this email, please [click here](#).



[Zonta International is hosting a one-day online summit](#) on Tuesday, 30 November to share how as a society we can come together and say NO to violence against women and girls. Join us to hear live guest speakers, participate in an interactive workshop and leave with life-changing actions you can take.

Admission is US\$10 per person (plus fees), with all proceeds, minus fees, going to the Zonta Foundation for Women International Service Fund to support global initiatives to address gender-based violence. Members who participate will have this donation count toward their Every Member Every November Zonta Foundation for Women giving total.

[Register](#)

**Session 1: 9-10:30 AM CST**

### **Violence Against Women Is a Men's Issue**

Join Zonta International and renowned educator, author and social theorist, Jackson Katz, Ph.D., for an important conversation on why violence against women is a men's issue.

**Session 2: 2-3:30 PM CST**

### **Taking Your Zonta Says NO Action to the Next Level**

Zonta International is pleased to welcome clubs from across the Zonta world for an interactive workshop. Learn from Zonta Says NO activities around the globe, discuss lessons learned and challenges overcome with your fellow Zontians, and leave ready to take your Zonta Says NO action to the next level.

**Session 3: 7-8:30 PM CST**

### **Young Voices for Change**

We close our summit with an engaging and insightful conversation about the many forms of gender-based violence and how young people are working for change with a few of our Young Women in Public Affairs awardees from across the globe. Their stories and commitment to change will inspire you.

[Click here to access our 2021 ZSN Toolkit](#)

## **How our International Service Projects address gender-based violence**

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a hindrance to women's equality. That is why each of our Zonta International service projects addresses violence against women or girls.

A few of the expected outcomes of our projects include:

- **100 health care professionals in Peru** receive training on adolescent-friendly health care and how to provide an adequate response to cases of sexual violence.
- **At least 70% of project-trained health practitioners** demonstrate an 80% increase in knowledge on survivor-centered principles for GBV response in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.
- **114 children's clubs** are established in Madagascar to implement plans of action to raise awareness in their schools and communities about the issue of violence.
- **Almost 3 million individuals** (boys, girls, women and men) participated in group education/dialogue sessions on consequences of and alternatives to child marriages, rights of adolescent girls and gender equality.

Your gift to the Zonta Foundation for Women International Service Fund goes to programs specifically designed to end violence against girls and women and makes these expectations realities.

**Donate**

## Local Actions to address unseen forms of gender-based violence

Clubs and members have made great strides to further our impact on addressing unseen forms of gender-based violence through service and advocacy on the local level. Read the stories below that showcase their fantastic work.

### [Zonta Club of Cebu II and Z Club of Childlink High School produce anti-cyberbullying video](#)

Because of the devastating effects of cyberbullying on young people, the Z Club of Childlink High School and the Zonta Club of Cebu II, Philippines, embarked on an advocacy project against cyberbullying. In 2020, all 40 members of the club decided to make a video to illustrate in very clear terms the devastating effects of cyberbullying.



The video illustrates the many and often subtle ways that the aggressor reaches their victims, including direct text messaging, anonymous phone calls, instant messaging and sharing on networking websites. The video plot goes on to demonstrate the pain, suffering, dashed dreams, loss of ambition, feelings of never being good enough, self-doubt and hopelessness that a victim experiences.

The high school students of the Z Club of Childlink hope that this advocacy video sends the very clear message that cyberbullying damages motivation, destroys dreams and negatively impacts the future of young people.

[Watch the video here.](#)

### [Zonta Club of Maroochy Inc plants Seeds of Change](#)

On 22 May, the Zonta Club of Maroochy Inc, Australia, hosted the Seeds of Change, a community forum on gender-based violence. The local council and a local university sponsored the event. The club invited nine local Domestic and Family Violence organizations, police and community groups to talk about new ways they are changing the story and how they are engaging the community to change actions. Former Australian of the Year and advocate Rosie Batty was a keynote speaker.



150 people attended the forum in person, along with 50 more people online. Local television, radio and papers reported the event.

**[Share Your Zonta Says NO Action](#)**

**Pledge to Say NO to Violence Against Women**

[Click to sign the pledge](#)



### This year, I'm going to:

- Raise awareness of gender-based violence.
- Advocate for laws that help survivors of violence.
- Support services for survivors of violence.

Join me and make your own pledge to end violence against women and girls.

[www.zontasaysNO.com](http://www.zontasaysNO.com) | #ZontaSaysNO | #16Days

## CELEBRATE

25  
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**ZONTA**  
 INTERNATIONAL  
 celebrates  
 this month's  
 club anniversaries!

**Congratulations** to the Zonta Club of Cleveland, USA, District 5, Zonta Club of Jamestown, USA, District 4 and the Zonta Club of Toledo I, USA, District 5, all of which celebrated their 100th anniversary this month! To see which other clubs celebrate a milestone anniversary in November, please visit [Zonta News](#).

## WATCH



**Watch this recording** of V. Renée Cutting, the Chief Philanthropy Officer for UNICEF USA.

In case you missed it, **watch this recording** of our Zonta Advocacy Series on gender-based violence and cyberbullying.

## FOLLOW



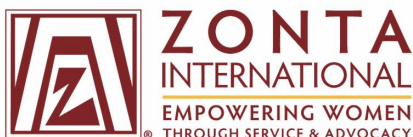
To follow along with groundbreaking accomplishments for women around the world, follow our **[Firsts for Women Instagram account!](#)**



# PRESENT AT CONVENTION

INSPIRING INTELLIGENT IMPACT  
WORKSHOP SERIES

Submit your idea for a virtual or live workshop today at [www.zonta.org/Convention](http://www.zonta.org/Convention).





[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

Keep your network informed on how Zonta International is putting our mission to work by sharing this message to your social feeds.

