



NEW ZEALAND WOMEN UNITE IN ANTI-VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN

Zonta clubs around the country will be working this month in their respective areas to raise awareness of violence against women.

The Zonta Says NO campaign begins on November 25 and will kick off 16 days of activism nationwide to draw public attention to the issue of gender-based violence.

Around 35 percent of women worldwide have experienced either intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime.

In New Zealand, the statistics are concerning. One in three women experience physical or sexual violence from a partner in their lifetime.

According to Family Violence NZ, 76 percent of all recorded assaults against females are committed by an offender identified as family.

Violence can result in physical, mental, sexual, reproductive health and other health problems.

Violence against women and girls is one of the most pervasive human rights violations and a global epidemic. It knows no national or cultural barriers; it takes place at home, in the workplace and in open spaces, and affects millions of women and girls in peacetime and conflict. It includes psychological, physical and sexual violence, and harmful practices such as rape, female genital cutting, child marriage and human trafficking.

Launched in 2012, the 'Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women' campaign is a call to action to end violence against women and girls in communities around the world. Each year, nearly 1,200 Zonta clubs in 67 countries unite at this time for this very important cause. Further information on the campaign is available at www.zontasaysno.com

Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals working to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. Zonta envisions a world in which women's rights are recognised as human rights and every woman and girl is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence. To learn more, visit www.zonta.org.