

SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION!



In every country, genderbased violence is a tragic reality. This violence is frequently hidden, and victims are often silent, fearing stigma and further violence. We all have a responsibility to speak out against violence, to ensure that women and men, boys and girls, are safe from rape and violence in homes, schools, work, streets-in all places in our societies.

The campaign is simple but profound. **Wear black on Thursdays**. Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence. Encourage others to join you.

Often black has been used with negative racial connotations. In this campaign Black is used as a color of resistance and resilience.

Share your Thursdays in Black photos on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, using hashtags #ThursdaysInBlackWISEWomen.

For more info on this initiative go to the WISE page on lottcarey.org

You can order the Thursdays in Black Buttons TODAY!

Women In Service Everywhere~W.I.S.E.

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Thursdays in Black grew out of the World Council of Churches (WCC) Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1998), in which the stories of rape as a weapon of war, gender injustice, abuse, violence, and many tragedies that grow outward from such violence became all the more visible. But what also became visible was women's resilience, agency and personal efforts to resist such violations.

The campaign was inspired by:

- The Mothers of the Disappeared in Buenos Aires, Argentina who on Thursdays protested at the Plaza de Mayo, against the disappearance of their children during the violent dictatorship.
- The Women in Black in Israel and Palestine, who up to now protest against war and violence.
- Women in Rwanda and Bosnia who were protesting against the use of rape as a weapon of war during the genocide.
- Black Sash movement in South Africa protesting against apartheid and its use of violence against black people.

Join this movement of people and organizations that can make a difference to individuals, communities, and national and international policy forums.

Inspiring others: Thursdays in Black Ambassadors

Standing together from many sectors and many countries, Thursdays in Black ambassadors are conveying a sense of solidarity against violence and injustice

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Pause for a moment of silence on Thursdays at noon your local time to remember and honor those who have died at the hand of sexualized or gender-based violence.



Pray with us: We stand with invisible victims of sexual and gender-based violence.We see you. We hear you. You are not forgotten.



Post your prayers, photos, or inspirations on social media using the hashtag #ThursdaysInBlackWISEWomen



I commit to Thursdays in Black in solidarity—in protest—in mourning, for awareness and hope.

By supporting Thursdays in Black I stand

- In solidarity with 1 in 3 women worldwide who face violence in their lives

- In protest against systems and societies that encourage violence in any form

- In mourning for men, women and children who are harmed and killed in sexual violence

- For awareness and knowledge about the challenges of sexual and genderbased violence.

- In the hope that a different reality is possible.

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