

Female Genital Mutilation

Prostitution

Forced Marriage

Trafficking

Sexual Assault

Child Sexual Abuse

'Honour' Crimes

Rape

Pornography

Domestic Abuse

The 16 Days of Action

The 16 Days of Action is an international campaign, which aims to raise awareness of the issue of Violence Against Women and to highlight it as a human rights issue.

The campaign runs annually, from 25th November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to 10th December, International Human Rights Day.

During this period, individuals, groups and organisations worldwide use the campaign to call for the elimination of all forms of gender based violence. In Highland a series of events are taking place to raise awareness of the issues. The programme for the Highlands is included on the next page.

16 Days of Action for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

25th November – 10th December

Highland Programme 2009

Further Information:

Unless otherwise stated, you can get more information about the 16 Days and the activities included in this programme by contacting:

Gillian Gunn
Violence Against Women Development & Training Officer
Highland Community Planning Partnership
01463 704814
gillian.gunn@nhs.net

Violence Against Women

Violence Against Women is the term used to cover a wide range of actions that harm or cause suffering or indignity to women and children, where those carrying out the actions are mainly men and where women and children are predominantly the victims. The different forms of violence against women - including emotional, psychological, sexual and physical abuse, coercion and constraints - are interlinked. Forms of Violence Against Women include domestic abuse, rape and sexual assault, prostitution, child sexual abuse and so called 'honour' crimes. They have their roots in gender inequality and are therefore understood as gender-based violence.

More information is included in the Highland Violence Against Women Strategy 2008-11, available at www.highlandlife.net in the Highland Community Planning Partnership section.

2009 Highland Programme for the 16 Days of Action for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

25th November - 10th December 2009

Art Exhibition

Chamber Foyer, The Highland Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness

This powerful display of drawings and photographs explores one artist's experiences of domestic abuse and sexual violence and how she used art to explore her feelings about what happened to her

Contact:

Gillian Gunn, 01463 704814 or gillian.gunn@nhs.net

Wednesday 25th November 2009

Film Screening - 'Nil By Mouth'

7pm, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness

'Nil by Mouth', directed by Gary Oldman, starring Ray Winstone and Kathy Burke, explores the issue of domestic abuse. To introduce the film, the Managers of Inverness and Ross-shire Women's Aid Groups will present local and national information about domestic abuse. After the film there will be an opportunity to discuss the issues raised

To Book Tickets Contact:

Eden Court Box Office on 01463 234234

Friday 27th November 2009

Play - 'Don't Say a Word'

7.30pm, Caol Community Centre, Caol, Fort William

Pauline has most definitely met the perfect man - or has she? What happens when 'happy ever after' becomes a nightmare? This one-woman play, depicting a situation of domestic abuse, has successfully toured throughout Ireland and has been performed as part of the Fringe in Edinburgh.

Contact:

Julie Wileman, 01397 705734 or juliewileman@btconnect.com

Saturday 28th November 2009

Activism and Campaigning Workshop - Commercial Sexual Exploitation

10am-4pm, Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Inverness

Zero Tolerance is one of the leading campaigners in tackling forms of Violence Against Women and Children. For much of the past year the organisation has been working in various ways to highlight the ways in which our culture increasingly objectifies women and normalises prostitution and lap dancing, and working hard to challenge this. Zero Tolerance are offering an opportunity for people to explore the idea of direct action, look at ways in which to organise as a campaign group, learn about specific techniques for effective campaigning including getting your message heard by the media and wider public, and begin to identify opportunities for action in your area. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

To Book a Place Contact:

Gillian Gunn, 01463 704814 or gillian.gunn@nhs.net

Tuesday 1st December 2009

Film Screening - 'Price of Pleasure'

7pm, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness

This film focuses on how pornography is affecting our lives and relationships. It aims to move debate about pornography from the morals versus censorship debate to look at issues around Violence Against Women. It also includes pornographic film clips ranging from what some may term soft core to more extreme graphic, sexually explicit images and language.

Before the showing of the film Linda Thomson from the Women's Support Project will facilitate a discussion on the Sexualisation of Culture and how this is contributing to what has been termed a 'Pornified' society.

To Book Tickets Contact:

Eden Court Box Office on 01463 234234

Wednesday 9th December 2009

Film Screening - 'Sisters in Law'

7pm, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness

In a small courthouse in Cameroon, two women are working to change a village—and making progress that could change the world. State prosecutor Vera Ngassa and Court President Beatrice Ntuba help women in their Muslim village find the courage to fight difficult cases of abuse, despite pressures from family and their community to remain silent. With fierce compassion, they dispense wisdom, wisecracks and justice in fair measure, handing down stiff sentences to those convicted.

To Book Tickets Contact:

Eden Court Box Office on 01463 234234

