

# 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence

Dear Teacher,

This Teacher's Resource Guide is designed to provide resources you may use in your classroom as a basis for expanded discussion and student learning about Prince Edward Island's 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence.

This year, the Purple Ribbon Campaign marks the 21st anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, in which 14 women were murdered at their engineering school in Montreal. They were singled out and murdered because they were women. This staggering national event occurred only weeks after a PEI woman was murdered. And in the 21 years since the Massacre, seven more women have been murdered on Prince Edward Island by men they knew. Over the same 21 years, the community has worked hard to develop violence prevention programs to ensure events like the Montreal Massacre or the murders of Island women do not have to happen again. Over the past 21 years, young people like your students have shown a strong interest in violence prevention and a keenness to learn what they can do.

This Resource Guide for PEI Teachers was designed especially with grade seven Social Studies teachers in mind. We have included the content of this year's Purple Ribbon information card and have suggested connections to curriculum, pointers for discussion, activities for students, and additional sources. We have also included copies of each handout for your classroom.

As we mark 21 years since the Montreal Massacre, we are aware that 21 years is like an eternity for many young people. In 1989, your students were not even born. We hope that some of the resources we have prepared will make the Purple Ribbon Campaign materials more accessible to your students and allow them to participate more fully in the Campaign if they wish to. We hope that using this resource guide makes the symbol of the purple ribbon and its association with action against violence more usable by young people.

We welcome your questions, comments, and feedback. Please complete and send in the evaluation form in this package.

Sincerely,

Isabelle Christian, Chairperson

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## ABOUT THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

Every year since 1991, the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women has coordinated a Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence. Again this year, volunteers from across Prince Edward Island – individuals, church groups, youth groups, Women's Institute members, and school groups – will spend hours pinning purple ribbons to thousands of bilingual information cards. Volunteers help distribute these ribbons across the Island to raise awareness of violence issues and to encourage people to work together towards an end to violence.

Thousands of Islanders wear purple ribbons during the week of December 6 to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. The ribbons are also worn during Family Violence Prevention Week (February 13-19, 2011) as a sign that they stand up against violence.

## Curriculum Connections

The grade seven Social Studies curriculum, with its focus on empowerment, provides an exceptional opportunity to look at the dynamics of family violence and violence against women. The social reform movements that sprang from the late 19th and 20th centuries and led to agitation for health reform, prison reform, improved living and working conditions, and more rights and opportunities for women, are continuous with action for social and political reform and for social change related to violence today.

In 1900 a woman was under the complete legal authority of her father or her husband. She had no legal rights after marriage. She could not own property, sign legal documents or make binding decisions about her children. An Act to confer the Electoral Franchise upon Canadian women was passed, effective January 1, 1919 but it wasn't until 1929 that they were considered "persons" under the law and eligible to serve in the Senate. Women on PEI were eligible to vote in 1922.

The continued vulnerability of historically disempowered groups such as newcomers to Canada and Aboriginal Canadians comes clear in examinations of violence, as well.

In the textbook *Changing Your World: Investigating Empowerment*, Chapter 13 on Women and Social Reform (pp. 241-57), it focuses on how and why women worked to become more politically empowered at the beginning of the 20th century, towards a goal of equal voting rights.

Below are some questions and suggestions that might help students compare and contrast the social reforms of the first 20 years of the 20th century and the 20 years since 1989.

### Organizations and Individuals

The Women's Christian Temperance Union, The Toronto Women's Literary Club, Women's Institutes, and other organizations were important to the social reform movement for women's voting rights. Students might wish to explore questions like these:

1. What organizations have been active in pressing for changes that eliminate family violence?
2. What methods and tools have individuals and organizations used to raise awareness or bring about change?
3. What changes have come about?
4. How can we tell if these changes are making a difference or not?

*Resource: "Timeline 20 Years after the Montreal Massacre - The PEI Story" handout, provided in this package.*

### Slow Change

Consider the problem of "Slow Change" highlighted on page 253, which states that "Women who were recent immigrants or from minority groups continued to be the most disempowered. They face the same discrimination as other women, plus discrimination because of their backgrounds."

The Sisters in Spirit project led by the Native Women's Association of Canada highlights ways in which Aboriginal women in Canada continue to be more vulnerable to racialized and sexualized violence against women.

*Resources: [www.nwac.ca/programs/sis-research](http://www.nwac.ca/programs/sis-research) for Sisters in Spirit research reports and resources, including awareness and education materials.*

### Taking Action

The Purple Ribbon Campaign provides an ideal outlet for students to apply ideas of "active citizenship" (p. 256) or to "Take Action on an Issue" (p. 257) with their own activities.

The *20 Ways Young People Can Help End Violence Against Women and Children* handout provided in this package is a good starting point for discussion. S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violence Everywhere) is a local student organization that is learning about and working against violence. Their website includes resources, videos, and connections with PEI students who are active citizens: [www.savepei.com](http://www.savepei.com)

*Resources: The "20 Ways Young People Can Help End Violence Against Women and Children", provided in this package.*

### Extending the Research

One handout in this package features bar charts comparing women's and men's status according to several indicators. Your class can find out more about each of the featured charts from the source material, which contains lots of context and analysis. Your class could also create charts of its own, looking at their own class to compare boys' and girls' participation in sports, attendance rates, hours spent on homework, hours spent in cultural activities, hours spent on household chores, and so on.

## 2010 Purple Ribbon Card

Below is information from the 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign information card. Thousands of the French and English cards are printed and volunteers attach ribbons to them. For more copies of the card, please contact the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women, 902-368-4510.

## Face the Facts: Stop the Violence

People use violence to establish power and maintain control over others. Violence and abuse take root in the many types of inequality in our society. Most at risk are women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, Aboriginal women and children, and other people who are vulnerable to violence because of their ethnicity, sexual orientation or economic status.

In our patriarchal society, it is most often men who use violence to get their way, both in personal relationships and with strangers. But women can also be violent and men are also victims.

### Face the facts about victims:

- ✧ The risk of sexual abuse for persons with disabilities is at least 150% of that for individuals of the same sex and similar age without disabilities. (Disabled Women's Network Ontario, 2006)
- ✧ Between 1997 and 2000, homicide rates of Aboriginal females were almost 7 times higher than non-Aboriginal females. (Native Women's Assoc. of Canada 2010)
- ✧ Canadian police reported 464 cases of Internet child luring from 2006 to

2007. The figure is believed to be only 10% of actual cases. (Canwest News Service, 2009)

- ✧ Women accounted for 8 in 10 dating violence victims in 2008. About 57% of incidents reported involved a former partner. (Statcan, 2010)
- ✧ Approximately 10% of male victims and 1% of female victims were harmed by a same-sex partner. (Statcan, 2009)

### Face the facts about offenders:

- ✧ Men were the accused in 81% of cases of violent victimization against women, and in 79% of cases of violent victimization against males. (Statcan, 2010)
- ✧ Female family members were accused in 29% of cases involving physical assault on children or youth in the family. (Statcan, 2007)
- ✧ Male family members were accused in 96% of cases involving sexual assault within the family. (Statcan, 2007)

*Please visit [www.gov.pe.ca/acsw](http://www.gov.pe.ca/acsw) for more information on the history of violence against women on PEI. View a short video at <http://www.vimeo.com/9444976>. Learn how you can help end violence in our province. Wear a purple ribbon during the week of December 6 to mark the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Save your ribbon for Family Violence Prevention Week, February 13-19, 2011. If you can, donate to an organization working to end violence against women.*



## On-line Resources

**PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women**  
[gov.pe.ca/acsw](http://gov.pe.ca/acsw) (website)  
[peiacsw.wordpress.com](http://peiacsw.wordpress.com) (blog)

**PEI Family Violence Prevention Services Inc.**  
[fvps.ca](http://fvps.ca)

**Justice Options for Women project**  
[justiceoptions.ca/safetycircles](http://justiceoptions.ca/safetycircles)

**PEI Rape and Sexual Assault Centre**  
[peirsac.org](http://peirsac.org)

**Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention**  
[stopfamilyviolence.pe.ca](http://stopfamilyviolence.pe.ca)

**YWCA Research**  
[ywcacanada.ca](http://ywcacanada.ca)

**Shelternet**  
[shelternet.ca](http://shelternet.ca)

**Amnesty International**  
[amnesty.ca/campaigns/svaw\\_overview.php](http://amnesty.ca/campaigns/svaw_overview.php)

**White Ribbon Campaign for Men**  
[whiteribbon.ca](http://whiteribbon.ca)

**Sisters in Spirit Research**  
[nwac.ca/programs/sis-research](http://nwac.ca/programs/sis-research)

**Newfoundland & Labrador Respect Women Resources**  
[respectwomen.ca](http://respectwomen.ca)

**Students Against Violence Everywhere - PEI (S.A.V.E.)**  
[savepei.com](http://savepei.com)

## Dates and Occasions

### When do people wear the purple ribbon on Prince Edward Island?

- **November 25, every year** - United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- **December 6, every year** - Canada's National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
- **February 13-19, 2011** - PEI's Family Violence Prevention Week\*

\*Family Violence Prevention Week runs annually from Sunday to Saturday during the week that includes February 14, Valentine's Day.

## Interactive Activities

**PIN RIBBONS** In November 2010, your class can get hands-on with the Purple Ribbon Campaign by pinning ribbons to information cards to distribute throughout your school. Materials are free and available through the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women by calling 902-368-4510 or e-mailing [peipurpleribbon@eastlink.ca](mailto:peipurpleribbon@eastlink.ca)

**TRAVEL IN TIME** Go back to the events of December 1989 through the CBC Digital Archives, where there are clips from news coverage of the Montreal Massacre and extensive educational materials and activities for teachers and students. ♥ *Caution - With teacher or parent supervision, students may visit [archives.cbc.ca/society/crime\\_justice](http://archives.cbc.ca/society/crime_justice)*

**ATTEND A MEMORIAL SERVICE** Many communities across the Island hold memorial services for victims of violence on or near December 6. Visit [gov.pe.ca/acsw](http://gov.pe.ca/acsw) for memorial details.

**VISIT THE LEGISLATURE** Usually, when the PEI Legislature is sitting close to December 6, MLAs make speeches and statements in the House about violence against women. Call the Interministerial Women's Secretariat about possible dates this could happen: 902-368-6494.

**ORDER POSTERS** Status of Women Canada produces a poster each year for December 6, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. You can order these for your class free of charge. Visit [www.swc-cfc.gc.ca](http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca)

**INVITE A SPEAKER** The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women has a list of experts in the PEI community who are available to speak to school groups. Call 902-368-4510 for suggestions.

## List of Handouts/ Resources

*In this package, you will find the following handouts developed by the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women as resources for PEI teachers for the 2010 Purple Ribbon Campaign. You may copy, use, and distribute these freely.*

### Teacher Handouts

#### ■ **Timeline: 20 Years After the Montreal Massacre:**

**The PEI Story** (3 pages): A year-by-year summary highlighting progress the PEI government and community made to prevent violence. Also notes, without identifying, the murders of eight women on PEI since 1989.

■ **Background: What Is the PEI Purple Ribbon Campaign Against Violence** (1 page): Answers to frequently asked questions about the Purple Ribbon Campaign.

■ **20 Years: What Has Changed for Women in PEI and Canada?** (2 pages): Visually appealing charts compare changes women and men have seen over 20 years for spousal murder rates, election results, university and college attendance, and wages for young workers.

■ **20 Ways You Can Help End Violence** (1 page): A list of 20 practical, hands-on actions any student can do to help prevent and end bullying, relationship violence, family violence, and other forms of violence against women and children.

### Teacher Resource

■ **The Victims: 1989-2009** (1 page): Lists names of the women murdered in the Montreal Massacre and on PEI since 1989. ♥ *Caution - students may be connected to the victim or the offender. Use discretion with this information in your classroom.*

## SPECIAL VIDEO FEATURE

In February 2010, the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women released a video for the 20th Anniversary of the 1989 Montreal Massacre. We invite you to view the five minute video found via links on our website and blog: [gov.pe.ca/acsw](http://gov.pe.ca/acsw) [peiacsw.wordpress.com](http://peiacsw.wordpress.com)



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