



December 6, 2015

December 6th Statement

This year, on December 6, APUS will join members of the University of Toronto and broader community in marking the 26th *National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women*. This day marks the anniversary of the 1989 l'École Polytechnique massacre of fourteen women, as well as the ongoing reality that women are still not safe on our campuses and in our communities.

Violence against women is the most widespread and persistent human rights violation in the world. In Canada, more than 50% of women will experience violence at some point in their lives, most before the age of 25. In a given year, more than one in every ten women in Canada suffer physical abuse at the hands of their partners and 25% of women undergraduate students experience some form of sexual assault. These rates are even higher for people from marginalized communities, including women with disabilities, racialized, indigenous, immigrant, queer, trans and low-income women.

We must also concern ourselves with the diverse and intersectional manifestations of violence against women in our communities. The intersecting violence of misogyny and colonialism results in disproportionate amounts of violence perpetrated against Indigenous women. Misogynoir manifests itself in violence experienced by Black women. Anti-Black racism and transphobia manifest themselves in violence experienced by Black trans folks. Sexism and Islamophobia result in harassment faced by Muslim women. Violence against women is also perpetuated through imperialism. These forms of oppression and discrimination know no bounds.

Today, we are in the midst of an ongoing national conversation around combatting sexual assault that continues to legitimize the stories of some while ignoring violence experienced by others. We must continue to fight for safer communities and work to end violence against **all** women.

In solidarity,

APUS Executive Committee
Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students of the University of Toronto
Local 97 of the Canadian Federation of Students

Women Won't Forget - December 6 Vigil
December 6, 2015 | 6pm
Philosopher's Walk
University of Toronto

To get involved or for resources, please contact:

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