



On December 6, APUS joins members of the University of Toronto and the broader community observing the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. This day marks the 30th anniversary of the 1989 l'École Polytechnique massacre of fourteen women in Montreal. This day calls on us to reflect on the steps we are taking to end the epidemic of gender-based violence

In Canada, a woman is murdered nearly every other day. In 2018 alone, 50% of women killed between January and August resided in Ontario. Within higher education, 25% of undergraduate students who identify as women experience some form of sexual violence.

Gender-based violence also has serious implications for those from marginalized communities, including women and girls who are racialized, immigrants and refugees, queer, transgender and/or low income. Indigenous women and girls are 2.5 times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women, and 60% of women with a disability experience some form of violence throughout their lifetime¹. We have a collective responsibility to end all forms of oppression and that includes ending the rape culture, sexism, racism, transphobia and colonialism that enables this continued crisis.

As we head toward the holiday season and a new year, it is important we continue to do the work of eradicating gender-based violence. By working together, it is always possible to change the conditions of the present and future.

We invite members of the APUS community to attend the following vigil at the St George campus:

[December 6th Vigil](#)

Philosopher's Walk, 6 -7pm

Additional events:

[Consent: What We Were Never Taught](#)

APUS Boardroom (563 Spadina), 2-4PM

In solidarity,

APUS Executive Committee

¹ <https://www.canadianwomen.org/the-facts/gender-based-violence/>

² <https://femicideincanada.ca/sites/default/files/2018-09/CFOJA%20FINAL%20REPORT%20ENG%20V3.pdf>

³ <https://cfsontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Factsheet-SexualAssault.pdf>