



Standing Together Against Violence Against Women

November is Women Abuse Prevention Month. There are many campaigns working to protect women from violence. The 16 days between 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and 10 December, Human Rights Day, are known as the [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign](#), a time to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world. This year, as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women falls on a Sunday, UNESCO will start observing the day on Friday, 23 November, and will mark the 16 Days of Activism through a series of events under the overall theme: "UNESCO says NO to violence against women".

November 25th has been designed as the Orange Day by the [UNiTE to End Violence against Women Campaign](#). The color orange symbolizes a brighter future, free of violence. It also serves as a means of demonstrating your solidarity in eliminating all forms of violence and it is therefore used as the color of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. As a show of solidarity, the UNESCO globe will be illuminated in orange.

Why an umbrella ?

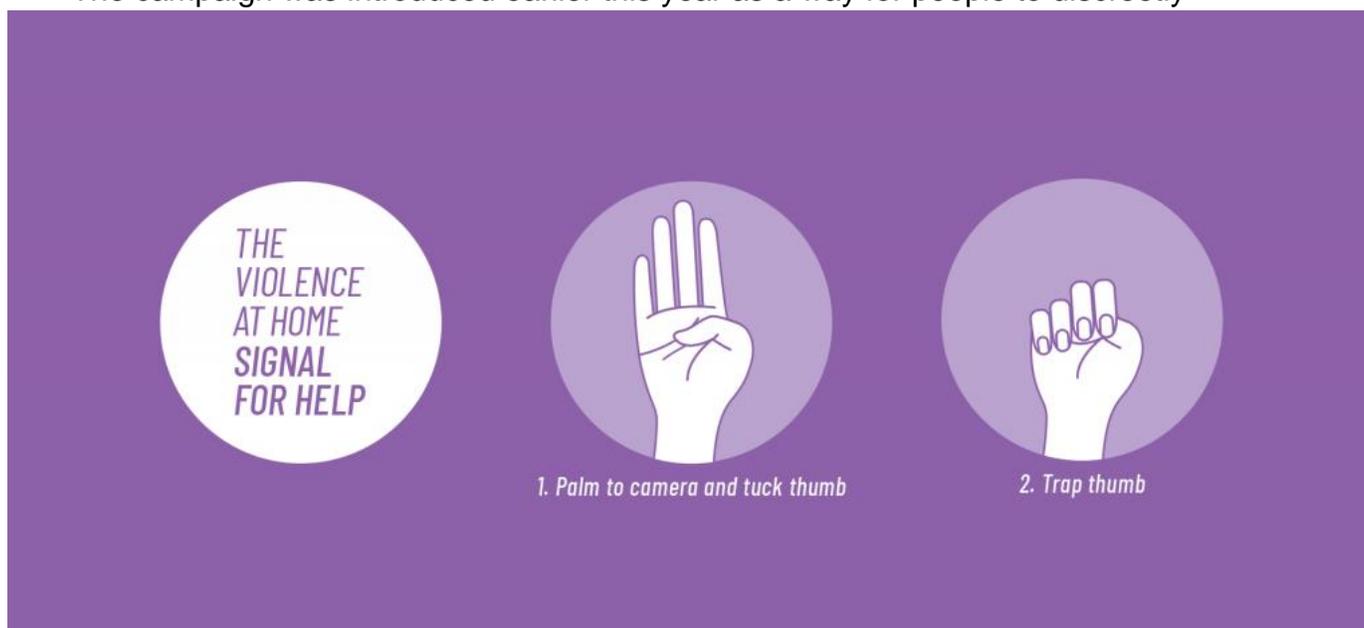
Under an umbrella, we stand united to fight physical, verbal and emotional violence, both online and offline and SAY NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

For the last few years, Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen have been having a vigil at City Hall in early December as part of the UN Campaign: Orange the World: End Violence Against Women and Girls. We did not think that it was responsible to gather this year, but we are having a display in the outdoor display case in front of City Hall from December 7th to the 14th.

November is also Wrapped in Courage month — a campaign organized by the Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses . The Wrapped in Courage fundraising and awareness campaign has taken place every November for the past seven years. Women’s shelters in Ontario play a vital role for survivors of violence. In previous years, the campaign has revolved around the selling of purple scarves and ties across the province. Over the years, more than 100,000 scarves and ties have been sold. But this year, due to the pandemic there are no scarves to sell.

A group of 16 Canadian artists is getting behind a social media campaign to raise awareness of hand gestures that may be used by people experiencing abuse in the home. The campaign was introduced earlier this year as a way for people to discreetly communicate over video call that they would like someone to check on them.

For the "Signal for Help" campaign, timed for National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, each artist created their own interpretation of hand gestures a domestic abuse victim may use when seeking help. One of the gestures is shown below. The campaign was introduced earlier this year as a way for people to discreetly



communicate over video call that they would like someone to check on them. The social isolation measures necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic are making it more difficult for those who are at risk of abuse or violence to safely reach out for help. “Signal for Help” is a simple one-handed sign someone can use on a video call. It can help a person silently show they need help and want someone to check in with them in a safe way.

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