16 DAYS FOR ACTIVISM

25 November – 10 December 2026

WorldYWCA

UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS: ENSURE JUSTICE, PROTECT SURVIVORS, END IMPUNITY

Recognise. Speak Out. Take Action.
Show Violence The Red Card!

#YWCALeaders #16DaysOfActivism

Why a Red Card?

In sports, a red card signals a serious violation of the rules and calls for immediate action. Across our communities, violence against women and girls also demands action, accountability, and justice.

During the **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence**, World YWCA invites YWCA entities, young women leaders, and allies around the world to **show violence the red card**!

From online harassment and stalking to intimate partner violence, sexual harassment, and abuse of power, violence takes many forms. It affects women and girls across generations and communities, and too often, those responsible face no consequences.

Building on our movement's commitment to intergenerational leadership, we are turning red cards into tools for conversation, awareness, and action. Together, we can challenge harmful behaviours, support survivors, and call for systems that deliver justice.

The Activity: Create Your Own Red Cards

One simple activity. Many ways to participate.

Use our adaptable Red Card templates to highlight an issue affecting women and girls in your community and encourage conversations about what needs to change.

1. RECOGNISE: What deserves a red card?

Choose an issue or behaviour you want to challenge. You can use our suggested examples or create your own based on your local context.

2. DISCUSS: What needs to change?

Bring together young women, community members, staff, volunteers, or intergenerational groups. Use the cards to start conversations:

- What makes this behaviour harmful?
- What prevents women and girls from accessing safety, support, and justice?
- How can communities and institutions better protect survivors and hold perpetrators accountable?

3. ACT: Show your red card!

(Download template: https://canva.link/hwupnadxz9yvovo *To use the Canva cards, please make a copy before editing. Do not edit the original templates directly through the shared link.*)

Share your message and encourage others to take action. You could:

- Hold up your red cards in a group photo or short video.
- Organise a youth-led or intergenerational discussion using the cards.
- Create a social media carousel highlighting local issues and solutions.
- Engage community leaders, schools, or decision-makers in conversations about prevention, protection, and accountability.

Red Card Examples

Use these as starting points, and adapt them to reflect issues in your community.

Red Card to Recognise the Harm	Our Call For Action/ Demand for Change
Red Card to Online Harassment	Digital spaces must be safe for women and girls.
Red Card to Cyberstalking	Stalking is violence, online and offline.
Red Card to Victim-Blaming	Survivors deserve dignity, support, and justice.
Red Card to Digital Coercive Control	Healthy relationships respect boundaries and autonomy.

Red Card to Silencing Women's Voices	Women and girls have the right to participate freely and safely.
Red Card to Impunity	Perpetrators must be held accountable.
Red Card to Ignoring Reports of Violence	Institutions must respond and protect survivors.
Red Card to Barriers to Justice	Justice must be accessible to every woman and girl.

Make it local: What other forms of violence, barriers to justice, or failures of accountability deserve a red card in your community?

Make It Safe and Inclusive

The goal is to encourage meaningful conversations, not to pressure anyone to share personal experiences.

- Make participation voluntary and respect privacy and confidentiality.
- Do not ask participants to disclose experiences of violence or identify alleged perpetrators.
- Share information about locally available support services where possible.
- Centre the dignity, choices, and safety of survivors.
- Invite young women to lead, while creating opportunities for intergenerational solidarity.

Share Your Action With the Movement

Every conversation and collective action contributes to a world where women and girls can live free from violence.

Download and customise the Red Card templates, translate them into your local language, and use them in your communities and online.

To use the Canva cards, please make a copy before editing. Do not edit the original templates directly through the shared link.

Share your red cards and activities with World YWCA! Tag World YWCA on social media and use **#16DaysOfActivism #UNiTEtoEndGBV #YWCALeaders.**

Together, let's show violence the red card and demand a future where justice, safety, and dignity are rights enjoyed by all women and girls.

Learn more: UN Women's 2026 UNiTE campaign

This activity supports the UN Secretary-General's UNiTE campaign for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

World YWCA Signature Tools to help support your discussions:
Safe Spaces Guide: https://www.worldywca.org/team/our-spaces-power-spaces-ywcas-safe-spaces-guide/

RiseUp! Peace, Conflict, and Justice Module:
https://www.worldywca.org/team/riseup-peace-conflict-and-justice-module/

Show Violence the Red Card! Join World YWCA for 16 Days of Activism 2026

From 25 November to 10 December, World YWCA joins the global **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign**, standing alongside women, young women, and allies calling for a world free from violence.

This year's UN Women UNiTE campaign theme, **"Ensure Justice, Protect Survivors, End Impunity,"** reminds us that ending violence requires more than awareness. It requires action, accountability, and systems that protect the rights and dignity of women and girls, online and offline.

At World YWCA, we know that change begins with conversations and grows through collective action. That's why we're inviting YWCA entities and friends across our global movement to **Show Violence the Red Card!**

Inspired by the internationally recognised red card in football, our simple, adaptable campaign activity invites you to identify harmful behaviours, challenge violence and impunity, and call for meaningful change.

Whether you're organising a youth-led discussion, bringing generations together for a community conversation, or sharing your message on social media, our **Red Card activity sheet** and editable Canva templates make it easy to participate in a way that works for your YWCA entity.

Download the activity sheet, customise your Red Cards, and join the movement in calling for justice, protection, and accountability for all women and girls!

- Download the Red Card Activity Sheet
- Access the Editable Canva Templates

We encourage you to share your actions with World YWCA and connect with others across the movement using **#16DaysOfActivism #UNiTEtoEndGBV #YWCALeaders.**

Together, let's show violence the red card and rise for a world where women and girls can live free from violence!

For more information about this year's 16 Days of Activism Campaign, visit:
https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/unite/theme
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