

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence



Dialogue: **COVID-19 Impacting Domestic Abuse**

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020

10:30AM to 12Noon Eastern Time

RSVP here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dialogue-on-covid-19-impacting-domestic-abuse-tickets-130675272257>

We acknowledge the pandemic has resulted in isolation within households globally causing high levels of anxiety for those who are experiencing or feel at risk of domestic abuse. There is never an excuse for domestic abuse, no matter the circumstances. The UN has described the global increase in domestic abuse as a "shadow pandemic" alongside Covid-19. During our dialogue we will hear from several leading members of our community who are coming together to address the impact of the shadow pandemic. Cases have increased by 20% to 30% during the lockdown, as many people are trapped at home with their abusers. We will be sharing best practices across all sectors of the globe that look at empowering survivors to thrive. Remind the person of their rights to seeking confidential housing information, or emergency accommodation from the local authority, which retains a duty to place them, if necessary. Where possible keeping a mobile charged and on the person you are caring for. Agree code words, a blank text or emoji with friends, family or professionals, to alert them to call the police. The importance of talking to children about where they should go in the house to keep safe. Consider asking the person to leave an overnight bag with someone, with some money and ID/passport. Signpost to digital support options. We will be looking at additional contributing factors of culture, climate, and social economic. Sadly, some women are unaware of their rights or services available for them to access.

Programme:

Opening: Margo LaZaro, President - Chair, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, Co-Founder – CSO of SDGIA Community, Soroptimist International

Keynote: Tessy Antony de Nassau, Social Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, UNAids Ambassador

Moderator: Mandy Sanghera, Philanthropist, International Human Rights Activist

Presenters:

- Kirthi Kirthi Jayakumar, Founder of The Gender Security Project
- Mary Muia, Soroptimist International, Entrepreneur, Nairobi, Kenya
- Dr. Amiera Sawas, Senior Climate and Gender Justice Advisor at Action Aid UK
- Professor. Geraldine Lee-Treweek, Founder, Interdisciplinary Field of Abuse Studies
- Candice Shaw, Director, Violence Prevention & Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA People (MMIWG2S+) at the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)

In Partnership: The Gender Security Project: <https://www.gendersecurityproject.com/>

Action Aid U.K.: <https://www.actionaid.org.uk/>

Finding Butterflies: <http://findingbutterflies.com/>

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY: <https://www.ngocsd-ny.org/>

SDGIA Community: <https://www.sdgimpactawards.org/>

Soroptimist International: <https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/>

Birmingham City University: <https://www.bcu.ac.uk/>

Native Women's Association of Canada: <https://www.nwac.ca/>