For the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, we have joined together as a faith-based coalition to focus on ending violence against girls and young women in education, confident that all activism promoting equal and respectful relationship is good news, all year round, wherever and whoever we are.

The 16 Days begin on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and end on 10 December, Human Rights Day.

Education provides the foundation for girls’ development on their journey toward adult life. It plays a vital role in helping women realise their potential economically, politically and socially. But school is often not a safe place for a girl.
Girls with Dignity

In School

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

(logos)
IN SCHOOL
GIRLS
WITH DIGNITY

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

25.11.2015
26.11.2015
27.11.2015
28.11.2015

29.11.2015
30.11.2015
01.12.2015
02.12.2015

03.12.2015
04.12.2015
05.12.2015
06.12.2015

07.12.2015
08.12.2015
09.12.2015
10.12.2015

(logo)
Thursdays in Black
until all girls will live with power & dignity

Join us as we link with a growing global movement of women and men who lament violence against women and girls and show their solidarity and commitment to ending it by wearing black every Thursday. The Thursdays in Black websites link to information and tools to help us, including resources on girls’ safety in and out of school.

We are using each of the three Thursdays during the 16 Days:

• to gather sacred narratives from the Christian and Islamic traditions that empower and give voice to girls and women
• to tell the stories of initiatives by our faith institutions or faith-based organisations to end violence against girls and women
• to promote a prayer of lament and confession and a prayer of blessing relating to the girl child.

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GIRLS with dignity

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

in school
I have some new images of God today
As we sat and talked of dignity
And how that could be damaged
God crept in and sat and listened
And bowed us our dignity
In the most unexpected places
I have some new images of God today
Today God went up to the children’s panel
And spoke up quietly for her son
Whose humanity can not be defined as a problem
And who, too, is created in God’s image
God refused to go to school today
and dug his heels in
And refused to confirm to anyone else’s image
Of what he should be
God went disco-dancing by mistake today
And didn’t walk out when it wasn’t
What she expected - and God discovered
That she liked disco-dancing
I have some new images of God today
(she paints beautiful pictures)
God’s womb surrounds and nurtures
Yet knows the pain of birth and death
God’s rainbow breaks into the chains of
Responsibility and duty
Bringing gifts and illuminating forgotten talents
And God’s no good jigsaw
The pieces don’t make a neat pattern
God is untidy - not easy to define
Will not fit in my boxust isn’t quite the right shape
Yet lives in the holes where the pieces don’t fit
As well as the pattern
I have some new images of God today
God the alarm clock wakes me each morning
Ready or not to be a disciple or not
God the Granny stands and waits
Strong, forthright, dependable
Watches me grow - teaches me justice
God the woman
Who will be Elisabeth for me
And see me through God’s eyes
When I am misjudged and celebrate my state
I have some new images of God today
God rejoices over me
She dances for me with shouts of joy
She renews me with love
I talked of dignity
But I am God’s creation created in God’s image
In God’s image - and so are you
GIRLS in school with dignity

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

http://www.lutheranworld.org/content/women-church-and-society
in school

GIRLS with dignity

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Every girl has an inherent dignity as God’s creation. Making sure that every girl has access to education honours that dignity. Yet in spite of promises made to children in many international conventions and national constitutions, one in five adolescents and one in 11 primary school-aged children are excluded from the classroom. Fifteen million girls are unlikely to set foot inside a classroom (UIS/UNICEF 2015). Girls who miss out on education or who leave school too soon are less likely to develop themselves and their families and communities. They are less likely to have any say in what happens to their lives and their bodies. They are more likely to live in poverty, be trafficked and prostituted, be exposed to HIV and sexually transmitted infections, be coerced into early marriage, have pregnancies at an early age, and to die or suffer serious physical injury during childbirth. Faith leaders and the whole faith community have a vital role to play in advocating for compliance of the universal right to education and for national policy - adequately resourced - for the prevention and elimination of violence against girls in school. The new Sustainable Development Goals 4 (Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning) and 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) provide fresh impetus for this.
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