

The Waterfall is a tangible symbol of the Thursdays in Black campaign, in which individuals, churches, groups, and organizations show that they are a part of a global movement to eliminate gender-based violence.

The Thursdays in Black campaign is simple yet profound. Wear black on Thursdays. Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement working towards a world without rape and violence. Show respect for resilient women in the face of injustice and violence.

THURSDAYS IN BLACK

Towards a world
without rape and violence

Learn more:
www.oikoumene.org/thursdays-in-black



SCAN ME



World Council
of Churches

#ThursdaysinBlack

Waterfall of Solidarity and Resistance



World Council
of Churches

*"Thanks to the brave and inspiring women who know how we can help one another, there are projects and NGOs, such as Mãos que criam [Hands who raise], that help to start over with dignity. My work is proof that even with a broken heart, we must always have the strength to fight."
(Brazil)*



The Thursdays in Black Waterfall of Solidarity and Resistance is a tapestry crafted by people across the world who continue to hope for a world free from rape and violence.

One block depicts a woman with a zipper for a mouth, expressing her reaction to psychological violence and control experienced at home. Another block has the wishful words "Safe Space for Everyone." Some squares depict women crying. Others read "Hope" or "Courage." Together, they say: "Enough! Basta!"

These visual statements point to deeper stories, some told and some never told, yet they are happening around the world. As Brazilian artist Janine Marja Schneider sewed them together, she hoped the finished Waterfall of Solidarity and Resistance would make a powerful, international statement of a global commitment to end rape and violence.

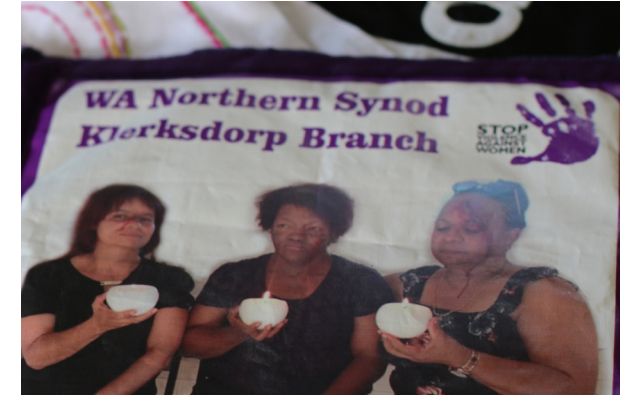
Schneider said she was deeply moved by all those who shared their stories of survival through crafting squares for the tapestry. "I think of each one of you who have gone through violence or have seen a loved one go through violence," she said. "We want a different world. This is indeed a long journey towards a world without gender-based violence and femicide. The waterfall is one step forward that might bring small and important changes."



"This picture reminds me of the darkest phase of my trauma, in which I was "stuck" for a long time. The world had become scary to me. Despite various support from my parents and friends, it was not possible for me living my life. The hands stretched out in solidarity towards the girl show and symbolize the things that this girl was missing at that time: **Trust, Dignity, Courage, Hope.**" (Germany)



"The symbol of our church is a candle lit in the darkness underlined by the words "Lux lucet in tenebris" (the light shines in the darkness). Violence against women, rape and injustice, is nothing else but evil and darkness, and we ask Christ to bring light to those that suffer and to drive out the darkness." (Italy)



"Stop the violence. You are not only scarring us physically but emotionally. We are tired of making stories up on how we look. Speak up and be helped." (South Africa)



"Sometimes when we are fighting against gender-based violence in Korea, we feel very lonely because we feel like we are stopped in our situation. Creating panels to be included in the Waterfall of Solidarity and Resistance will give us the impression that we are not alone." (South Korea)