



“16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence – From Peace in the World to Peace in the Home”

About 40 Winnipeggers came out on a cold winter's night to participate in a special event during the 16 Days Campaign. There were refreshments and a warm sense of support for women's activism in room 2M70, at the University of Winnipeg on November 26th 2014. A resources table included the postcard addressed to Canada's political leaders regarding gun control. A special song, written and performed by Darcia Senft for Peace Days, "One Step Closer", was particularly appreciated by everyone. The event closed with the song and video UN Women's "One Woman".



PHOTO of "orange" participants on Nov. 26th - from L to R: Roxana Obasi, Emily Rempel, Mary Scott, Meenu Kapoor, Gertrude Hambira, Marilou McPhedran, Nancy Cosway

In response to the international appeal from UN Women to "Orange Your Neighbourhood" during the 16 Days of Action to Counter Violence Against Women, the sister organizations of the Institute for International Women's Rights at Global College (directed by Marilou McPhedran) and the community-based Institute for International Women's Rights - Manitoba (hosted by co-chair Mary Scott) teamed on the evening of Nov. 26th (Day 2 of the 16 Days of Action) for an interactive session on The Compassion Games (presented by Darcia Senft of Winnipeg Peace Days) to explore global to local responses to gender-based violence. Roxana Obasi helped the audience understand the incentives that perpetuate FGM/CÂ ('female genital cutting') in her native Cameroon, Gertrude Hambira demonstrated the costs of being a human rights defender in her native Zimbabwe and Ellen Judd provided contextual analysis situating violence against women and girls in our increasingly militaristic cultures. Following the panel moderated by Marilou McPhedran, Tolu Ilelaboye briefed the audience on the 'Youth Vital Signs' report card hosted by the Winnipeg Foundation while Jazmin Papadopoulos and Giselle Roch of Voice of Women-Manitoba described the young women's peace camp curriculum being translated into French to be used by Girl Ambassadors for Peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo - followed by an open discussion among all members of the audience.

The 16th of the 16 Days for Action countering violence against women and girls is on International Human Rights Day - December 10th. For more information on "orange your neighbourhood" as part of the 16 Days of Action, visit:<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/end-violence-against-women>