

cpe CONSENT PEER EDUCATION

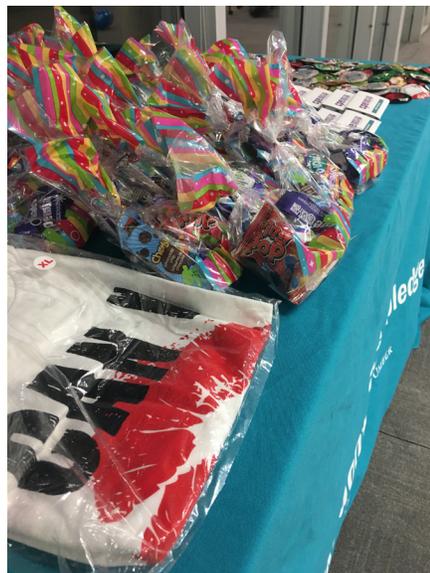
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH-HUMBER
HUMBER COLLEGE

January 2019

Welcome back, Humber! We hope everyone had a relaxing winter break and a Happy New Year! We've started the year off with a residence collaboration towards the end of Frost Week. In this issue you will find our February initiatives.

Our mission statement:

The Consent Peer Education Program fosters an environment of prevention surrounding sexual violence. At Humber College and the University of Guelph-Humber we support survivors, educate students in being active bystanders, and contribute to the conversation on consent.



Activities from our event at Lakeshore residence.



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Upcoming Events

One Billion Rising February 14th

In February we will be participating in an international campaign called 'One Billion Rising.' This campaign was named to represent the devastating statistic that "1 in 3 women on the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. With the world population at 7 billion, this adds up to more than **ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS.**" One Billion Rising is a call to action to Rise against violence against women, including cisgender, transgender, and others who are subjected to gender-based violence. This year's theme is solidarity.

On our Humber and University of Guelph-Humber campus, we are rising in solidarity with survivors of sexual violence.



Join us on February 14th on North Campus to participate in our One Billion Rising

event! The event will be held on the first floor of the LRC from 2 - 4 pm.

For more information on One Billion Rising, visit www.onebillionrising.org/



COLOURING CONTEST

Colour in the colouring sheet at the end of this newsletter and bring it to our event on February 14th. Put your name, student number and email on the back to be entered in a raffle draw!

**1 BILLION
RISING
SOLIDARITY 2019**

We are rising in solidarity with
survivors of sexual violence.
#webelieveyou

February 14th, 2019
2 - 4 pm
North Campus, first floor LRC

- Entertainment
- Zumba
- Snacks and refreshments



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Feature Article

One Billion Rising: how can public dancing end violence against women?

By: Homa Khaleeli (Joint deputy features editor at the Guardian)

The Guardian

Ahead of Saturday's worldwide dance demo, Eve Ensler explains why her campaign to raise awareness of violence is so important, sets out what OBR has achieved and hits back at her critics.

At first glance Eve Ensler's campaign, One Billion Rising, can appear slightly woolly. The idea that women gathering en masse to dance in public could help end violence against women and girls is, to me, fairly sketchy. But with 200 countries taking part, and grassroots organisations and activists coming together worldwide this Saturday, is it time to drop the cynicism and join in?

When I ask Ensler, the author of *The Vagina Monologues*, what success for One Billion Rising would look like, she does not equivocate: it is no less than ending violence against women and girls, everywhere and forever. The campaign was launched to invite one billion women – the figure represents the one in three women who, the UN says, will be raped and beaten in their lifetime – to take part in mass actions, or “risings”, which can encompass anything from demonstrations to poetry readings (although, yes, dancing and drumming are encouraged) in a spirit of solidarity and resistance.

This year, the number of events is growing – although with anyone free to create their own “risings”, it is impossible to keep track – including, says Ensler, in 34 provinces of Afghanistan, 22 states in Mexico and hundreds of places in the Philippines. The attraction, she says, is the energy of being part of a global movement.

Last year, for instance, there were risings in Bangladesh focused on labour rights in the wake of the Rana Plaza factory collapse, where more than 1,000 garment workers died; in Hong Kong, thousands joined an event focusing on the plight of domestic workers after a young Indonesian maid, Erwiana Sulistyaningsih, was allegedly abused by her employer.

On Saturday, London activists are hosting what they're calling a Love Revolution Carnival, with drummers, artists and musicians, to focus attention on sexual abuse and grooming in the UK.

“Sometimes in the feminism movement, we separate into silos,” says Ensler, “and this is a way of supporting each other's issues and weaving a tapestry which eventually will lead to system change.”

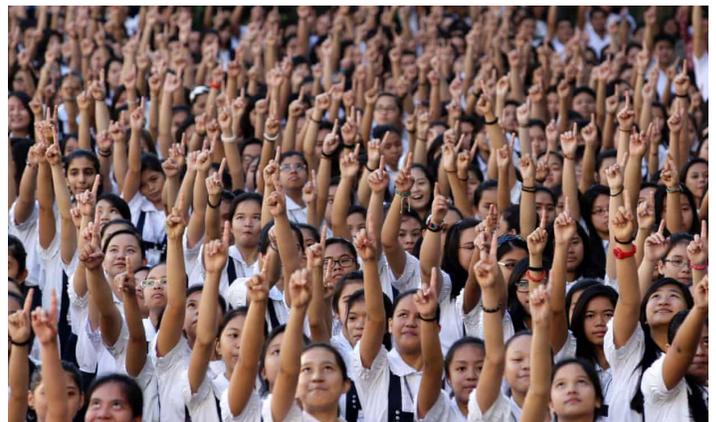
At a time when it can feel as if grassroots activism is often overshadowed by online in-fighting, the emphasis on action, solidarity and community-led events feels refreshing. Although, inevitably, the celebrity-heavy events in cities such as London or New York gain the most attention.

Each year, the campaign focuses on a different theme. Last year it was justice, with events taking place outside court rooms and detention centres, as well as town halls and corporations. This year it is revolution, because, says Ensler, if you want to end attacks against women, “it is the system that has to change – from neoliberal capitalism to patriarchy. People are interpreting revolution in different ways – from calls to oust their country's president to fighting against abuse in the family.

“In the US, restaurant workers are ‘rising’ for a raise. This is work they are doing on their own – but with OBR, we show solidarity. Lots of groups have adopted “Rise for the Raise”, so that becomes a solidarity movement.”

Her work in raising awareness of violence against women won't stop, says Ensler, because the violence has not ended. “This is also the year we have seen mass kidnappings of girls by Boko Haram,” she points out, “and the hideous rapes of Yazidi women in Iraq, women raped in the military and on campuses in America. There are also endless horrors.”

Raising awareness is a concrete change in itself, she adds. “If I had danced at 10 years old [in a mass protest] to end violence against women, I would have grown up knowing that no one had a right to violate me. I would have gone to the authorities because I would have had a community around me who encouraged me to tell the truth – and I would have known I had support.”



Students take part in an OBR event in Manila, Philippines.
Photograph: Dennis M. Sabangan/EPA

Read the rest at: www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/womens-blog/2015/feb/13/one-billion-rising-public-dancing-violence-women-eve-ensler

1 BILLION
RISING

