

The Montreal Massacre

1989 - A lone man walked into an engineering class at L'École Polytechnique at the University of Montréal. He separated the men from the women and told the men to leave. After the male students complied, the man declared his hatred of feminists and began to shoot the women with a semi-automatic rifle. While police forces stood outside, Marc Lépine went on a rampage, shooting and stabbing the women at the school. He then shot himself.

He left behind a note that included a list of prominent Canadian feminists whom he planned to kill. It was clear that these women engineering students symbolized the progress of women's equality. Lépine's actions could have pushed back women's demands for increased equality through social change. However, women organized in defiance of his attack.

Women rose up to demonstrate in towns and cities across the country. They connected Lépine's acts of violence to the everyday sexism to which women are subjected. Women dedicated themselves to feminist organizing to bring into reality their expectations of freedom for the present and the future.

The 14 women who were killed as feminists:

Geneviève Bergeron, Hélène Colgan, Nathalie Croteau, Barbara Daigneault, Anne-Marie Edward, Maud Haviernick, Barbara Klucznik Widajewicz, Maryse Laganière, Maryse Leclair, Anne-Marie Lemay, Sonia Pelletier, Michèle Richard, Annie St-Arneault, Annie Turcotte

Among his list of 19 feminists he planned to kill were:

A freelance journalist, the first woman firefighter in Quebec, a television host, the vice-president of the Confederation of National Trade Unions, the Quebec Immigration Minister, the first woman police captain in Quebec, the Canadian champion of the 1988 Chartered Accountant Exams, the former vice-president of Montreal Trust, a radio sports show host, and a transition house worker.

Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter

Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter (VRRWS) offers a 24-hour rape crisis line and transition house for women escaping male violence. Annually, we answer over 1400 calls from women in crisis and house over 100 women and their children. We provide women with emotional support; peer counselling; a support and action group for women who've experienced male violence; and advocacy & accompaniment to the hospital, police, court.

VRRWS is available to attend your organization to speak on any topic concerning violence against women.

As a volunteer-run organization, VRRWS is always seeking volunteers to assist in operating our transition house and 24-hour crisis line, to fundraise, and to maintain the transition house.

Volunteering begins now,
call 604-872-8212 to sign-up today.

Yes, I want to support Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter.

Name _____

Address _____

City/Prov/PC _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please accept my enclosed donation of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other _____

Enclosed are 12 post-dated cheques for
my Ongoing Pledge of \$ _____

- Please send me a tax receipt
 I would like more information about making an Ongoing Pledge
 I would like to receive the "Friends of Rape Relief Newsletter"
 I want to get involved, please have someone contact me

Thank you for sending your donation to:
Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter,
c/o PO Box 21562, 1424 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC V5L 5G2



Remember 14 massacred in Montreal, killed as feminists
Remember 62 wives killed last year in Canada
Remember 69 prostituted women gone from Vancouver
Remember over 500 Aboriginal women missing from Canada

Saturday, December 2nd
10:00am-6:00pm

Vancouver Public Library - 350 West Georgia Street

Dialogue Among Feminist Activists
Monologues by Feminist Speakers
Feminist Films with Discussion
A Feminist "Walk In Her Shoes"
...more information inside...

Wednesday, December 6th
6:30pm-8:00pm

Vancouver Public Library - 350 West Georgia Street

The North Side, Vancouver Public Library
Rally Against Violence Against Women
First Mourn, Then Organize

LEARN, EXCHANGE, ACT: INTERACTIONS AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

DIALOGUE AMONG FEMINIST ACTIVISTS



10:00am
Prostitution As Violence Against Women: Trafficking As the Global Trade of Women

12:00pm
Prostitution As Violence Against Women: How Do We Reduce the Harm Without Entrenching the Trade?

2:00pm
Prostitution As Violence Against Women: Prostitution As a Practice of Racism

4:00pm
Prostitution As Violence Against Women: How Do We Interfere with the Demand Internationally & Locally?

Join us to hear the expertise of these women and observe community development around key issues on the abolition of prostitution and male violence against women. Prominent feminist participants from across Canada include: Lorina Serafico (Committee for Domestic Workers & Caregivers' Rights); Penny Irons (Aboriginal Mother Centre Society, Executive Director); Diane Matte (Int'l Body of the World March of Women, Cordinatrice); Darla Tomeldan (BWSS); Claire Robillard (IWD Organiser); Erin Graham (Harm Reduction Researcher); Gunilla Ekberg (Former Special Advisor, Division of Gender Equality, Sweden); Ashia Czapska (Justice for Girls); WAVAW; Jackie Lynne (Researcher, CAT-W Member); Jane Turner (BC Teachers' Federation); Sunera Thobani; Sherry Lewis (Native Women's Association of Canada); Suzanne Jay; Sharon Mclvor (Canadian Feminist Alliance for Int'l Action [FAFIA]); Tamara Gorin; Suzanne Baustad (Grassroots Women); Christine Boyle (UBC Professor of Law); Sook C. Kong (AsianWomen-led Coalition Ending Prostitution); Cindy L'Hirondelle (Status of Women Action Group); Marilou Carrillo (Phillipine Women's Centre); Ann Livingston (Vanc. Area Network of Drug Users [VANDU]); Cynthia Low (DEWC); Shelagh Day (FAFIA); Alice Lee, Yvonne Chow, Daisy Kler, Jennifer Anderson, Sargie Kaler and other members of Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter [VRRWS]

MONOLOGUES BY FEMINIST SPEAKERS



10:00am
Hypersexualization of Girls & Women

Speakers:
 Anita Roberts (SafeTeen International) & Van Le (VRRWS)

11:00am
Abortion & Women's Reproductive Freedom

Speakers:
 Joyce Arthur (Pro-Choice Action Network) & Traci Humchitt (VRRWS)

12:00pm
Fighting Rape at a Time of War... A History of Israel's Rape Crisis Centres

Speakers:
 Hilla Kerner-Soliman (Assoc. of Rape Crisis Centres - Israel) & Tamar Eylon (VRRWS)

1:00pm
International Feminism: What Have We Learned from the World March of Women?

Speakers:
 Diane Matte (Int'l Body of the World March of Women, Cordinatrice) & Cristina Friere (VRRWS)

2:00pm
Feminists Leading the Way: The Swedish Law Against Prostitution

Speakers:
 Gunilla Ekberg (Former Special Advisor, Division of Gender Equality, Sweden) & Jacqueline Gullion (VRRWS)

3:00pm
Economic Security for Women: Fighting for a Guaranteed Livable Income

Speakers:
 Barbara Cameron (Feminist Public Policy Analyst) & Kathleen Piovesan (VRRWS)

4:00pm
Aboriginal Feminists Fight The Indian Act

Speakers:
 Sharon Mclvor (FAFIA) & TBA (VRRWS)

5:00pm
Policing & Violence Against Women: One Woman's Story

Speakers:
 Gayle Hull & Pauline Funston (VRRWS)

FEMINIST FILMS WITH DISCUSSION



10:00am
Not a Love Story: A Film About Pornography (Bonnie Klein) A classic with as much relevance and chutzpa today as when originally released.

Introduced by: Mary Salaysay, West Coast Women's Legal Education & Action Fund

11:25am
Sisters and Daughters Betrayed (Chela Blitt) Exposes sex trafficking in SE Asia and celebrates feminist resistance.

Introduced by: Amnesty International

12:00pm
Highway of Tears (Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy) Demands state accountability for more than 32 missing Aboriginal women from Highway 16 in Northern BC. Police have made no arrests.

Introduced by: Laura Holland (Aboriginal Women's Action Network, Founding member & VRRWS, Rape Crisis Worker)

1:10pm
You Can't Beat A Woman (Gail Singer) Stands out as one of the most daring films on wife assault, carrying its message from around the world.

Introduced by: Mary Clifford (BC & Yukon Transition House Society, Executive Director)

3:00pm
NO! (Aishah Shahidah Simmons) A profound film about rape and the struggle to stop rape in the Black community in the US.

Introduced by: Angela MacDougall (Battered Women's Support Services (BWSS), Executive Director)

4:50pm
Taking the Heat: The First Firefighters of New York City (Bann Roy) Tells the story of a group of women who dared to want a "man's job."

Introduced by: WAVAW

A FEMINIST "WALK IN HER SHOES"



10:00am - A New Walk Begins Every Half-Hour

You are Ann. You are a landed immigrant and your husband is your sponsor. He hits you, he pushes you, he strangles you until you pass out. You wake on the kitchen floor. What will you do?... You are Rita. Last week, your ex threw a plate of food at you, called you names and slapped you for talking back to him. He threatens to take away your daughter and refuses to pay child support. What will you do?...

To find out what you could do, take a "Walk In Her Shoes". This interactive activity illustrates which options are available to women, which obstacles stand in their way and what they can expect from the state, their communities and each other. Call Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter at 604-872-8212 to pre-register or sign up at the Vancouver Public Library on December 2nd.

Feminist Book Table and Free Community Information Tables Available. Call 604-872-8212 to book yours today.

