

Toronto Rape Crisis Centre



www.trccmwar.ca

Multicultural Women
Against Rape

Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape (TRCC/MWAR) P.O. Box 6597 Station A
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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

September 14, 2010

Toronto's 30th Annual Take Back the Night
Friday October 22, 2010 - Yonge-Dundas Square
Theme: "30 Years of Struggle, Resistance, Liberation"

TORONTO - The Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape (TRCC/MWAR) hosts Toronto's 30th Annual Take Back the Night (TBTN) on **Friday October 22, 2010**. All events take place at Yonge-Dundas Square.

Take Back the Night is about bringing visibility and exposure to the impact of sexual violence in women's lives. It's a space created to ensure women and children can take up space and have our voices heard. "The TBTN march is an event organized by feminist grassroots, anti-violence & anti-oppression activist groups all around the world with a focus on safety for women and children" says Grissel Orellana, TRCC/MWAR Outreach & Community Development worker.

Sadly, we have been marching and protesting for 30 years. And although violence against women has been brought into mainstream awareness, it still persists in the lives of women, trans people and children every day. The Toronto Rape Crisis Centre / Multicultural Women Against Rape has continued to fight the rape culture we live in while providing support to survivors who continue to experience violence. While some laws have been enacted and sexual assaults are taken more seriously in certain contexts, violence has actually become stronger in our culture and *implicit* violence has become more pervasive.

"Forms of institutional violence like police not believing women, the system of evidence collection in sexual assault cases, raids in our shelters for non-status women, all maintain a culture of violence" says deb singh, Counselor and Activist at the TRCC/MWAR. "We need to see that things haven't got better, more women are being sexually assaulted and are being silenced every day".

We demand our rights to safety, and lives free of the fear and perpetration of violence. We demand Aboriginal rights, equal status for all women, safe affordable housing, rights for sex trade workers, de-criminalized prostitution, safe shelters, health care, child care, education, employment, the raising of social assistance rates by 40%, immigration status

for all, and the raising of the minimum wage. Without access to a safe place to live, an adequate income, childcare and other community resources, women are being left to face violent situations. We, as survivors, demand lives free of sexual violence, murder, living in poverty, police injustice and any violence that is directed towards women and children.

Toronto's 30th Take Back The Night is a Trans-Positive, wheelchair accessible event with ASL interpretation, Attendant Services, childcare and refreshments. All events will take place on Friday October 22, 2010 at Yonge-Dundas Square.

SCHEDULE:

4:00 – 8:00 pm

- * **Community Fair:** groups provide information and resources to share with the public
- * **Town Cry:** featuring discussion, solidarity greetings, and voices from the community. Hosted by PAVE (Parkdale Anti-Violence Education Working Group)
- * **Rally:** featuring speakers, performances and other onstage presentations

8:00 – 9:30 pm

- * **Take Back The Night March:** will start and end at Yonge-Dundas Square. Marshalls will provide security and guide marchers on the undisclosed route. The Take Back The Night March is for women and children only.

9:30 – 11:00 pm

- * **Afterparty:** with DJ JOLA & DJ ZAHRA at Yonge-Dundas Square

The Take Back The Night March is for women and children only, men are encouraged to attend in solidarity by participating in the other activities, including the provision of childcare so their partners, mothers, sisters, and aunties can march. You can be a part of Take Back the Night by spreading the word to everyone you know and join us on Friday October 22nd. Please note: TRCC/MWAR has historically, scheduled TBTN on a Saturday so that people who keep the Sabbath can fully participate, but due to space restrictions, we had to schedule TBTN on a Friday this year.

For more information contact:

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The Toronto Rape Crisis Centre/Multicultural Women Against Rape is a non-profit, grassroots womanist/feminist organization committed to fighting violence against women and children. Our vision is to work towards the eradication of all forms of violence against women and children from all races, social & economic classes, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, ages, disabilities/differences, religious, spiritual, and political beliefs.