STOP THE VIOLENCE

THE WORLD’S ONLY GLOBAL CAMPAIGN TO STOP ALL VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AND WOMEN.

Over 1 in three girls and women around the world will experience some form of violence in their lifetimes.¹
Violence against girls and women (VAGW) exists in every town, in every country in the world. It can happen to us, our friends, family members and neighbours and can affect girls at every stage of their lives.

STOP THE VIOLENCE

As the largest voluntary organisation for girls with a network of 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 150 countries - many of them who were already working to stop violence in their communities – we recognised the unique role we had to reach and inspire girls to be the voice of change.

All the work of STV comes under five components, designed to ensure the campaign has a direct impact on girls’ lives, as well enabling them to influence policy, and change societal attitudes at a local, national and global level.

Yet despite its global prevalence, minimal investment in research and prevention programmes, as well as a lack of substantial data to highlight the true scale of the issue, meant there had been little political will to take action.

OUR LAUNCH OF THE STV CAMPAIGN IN 2011 SET OUT TO CHANGE THIS.

I don’t think anywhere in the world, or our country, is 100% safe. Girls need to support each other. Guides should teach other girls in my country how they can help themselves and other exposed to violence. To all women on this planet – no-one should ever hurt you – and together we have the power and ability to stop it.

Luluwah, aged 20, Kuwait.

About the Campaign

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1. Awareness Campaign
2. Education Programme
3. Research and Policy
4. Lobbying
5. National and Community Campaigns.

By basing the campaign on these four central components – Learn, Lead, Speak Out and Volunteer – we are ensuring that our global partnership approach reflects the wider Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting method and helps us realise our overall vision at WAGGGS; to support girls and young women to develop their full potential as leaders and active citizens of the world.

1. https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women
The Educational Component of STV is Voices Against Violence (VAV), a non-formal education curriculum developed in partnership with UN Women and designed for girls around the world from the ages of 5 to 25 years.

Launched in 2013, VAV is available in four handbooks:
- early years (ages 5-7)
- younger years (ages 7-11)
- middle years (ages 12-16)
- and older years (ages 17-25).

It starts with the younger age and that is where other organisations fail because they start with adults, it is too late. We are raising a new generation. We raise strong girls and women who understand their rights. 

VAV trainer

VAV is based on the premise that the best way to stop violence against girls and women is to prevent it from happening in the first place, and that education is the key to achieving this. The curriculum is an eye-opening guide for girls, boys and young women and men about the root causes of violence, what positive, respectful relationships look like and directs them to the right support network if they need help.

“Voices against Violence gives girls and young women the words they need to name and reject this violence. It passes on a powerful idea to girls – they do not have to accept gender-based violence as their norm or reality.”

Billeen, who attended the third ACTIVATE event in the USA

SPEAKING OUT AND TAKING ACTION is a key component of the Stop the Violence campaign and since its launch in 2011 Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world have been advocating to end violence against girls and women in their communities, counties and around the world. During 16 Days of Activism WAGGGS has mobilised thousands of young women around the world as part of campaigns like #OurStreetsToo #GirlsAreUnsafe and #OurStreetToo.

In 2017 our Stop the Violence team launched a series of national Stop the Violence trainings reaching over 350 young women in Chile, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, Malaysia, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria.
WAGGGS is the largest voluntary movement dedicated to girls and young women in the world with 10 million members across 150 countries. For more information please visit www.wagggs.org or call 00 44 207 794 1181.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL (SDG) 5: GENDER EQUALITY**

Our ambition at WAGGGS is a world where no girl or young woman faces violence or discrimination. All our work across STV is designed to help achieve this vision and enable the world meet its commitment to SDG5; achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Many Girl Guides and Leaders are introduced to the concept of gender equality for the first time through the VAV programme. It makes them aware that gender stereotypes and inequality are the root causes of violence, and enables them to identify it in their own families and communities and take action to challenge it.

**OUT OF THE PROBLEM - INTO THE SOLUTION:**

**Girls as Drivers of Change:**

In 2019, we launched a new partnership with Save the Children – Out of the Problem, into the Solution: Girls as Drivers of Change – which builds on our STV work by addressing gender based violence in Uganda and Jordan. Funded by the Postcode Global Trust, the partnership is unique as it is driven by the voices and direct experiences of girls.

It combines our unique experience at WAGGGS of working with girls, with the reach and global influence of Save the Children to create a wide-reaching programme focused on ending gender based violence through education, awareness raising, lobbying and community action.

**OUR IMPACT**

- 80,000 young people have completed the VAV curriculum so far.
- WAGGGS have directly trained more than 200 National Trainers, who then went onto train more than 7,000 leaders in their own countries.
- STV is now active in 70 COUNTRIES, with 35 of these countries delivering the VAV curriculum in four different languages – English, French Spanish and Arabic.
- 8 National ACTIVATE trainings focusing on Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to take action by influencing decision makers and mobilizing the girls in their communities.

In MALAYSIA a campaign has been launched by MGGA for an end to child marriage, in Nigeria a campaign has been launched calling for the domestication of of laws to end child sexual abuse and in Chile Girl Guides have taken action for the implementation of laws on street harassment. Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world continue to bold steps to tackle the violence girls and women are experiencing in their communities in order to Stop the Violence.