

## Femicide

**Femicide**, a global problem, is a sex-based, hate crime term, broadly defined as "the intentional killing of women or girls because they are females."

### Ghylaine's Story

French woman Ghylaine, 34, had mustered the courage to leave an abusive partner. As she was packing to leave, her partner knocked her to the ground, doused her with gasoline and set her alight in front of their 7-year-old daughter. She suffered burns to 90% of her body and died of her injuries two days later. (*Washington Post*, March 2020)

### What is your reaction to this true story?

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**Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

**Goal 16** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

### Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

**3** - Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security.

**5** - No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment

**7** - All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to protection of the law.

*KolaSulamon/AFP/GettyImages)-Nigeria*

### CEDAW (Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women)

**Articles 1-16:** what governments must do to end discrimination against girls and women. It lists specific areas where discrimination against girls and women must end i.e. in law, marriage, education, health care, and employment.

*"States shall recognise, encourage and support the work of relevant NGOs and of civil society active in combating violence against women and establish effective co-operation."*

(Article 9: Council of Europe's Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women)

### ACTION

**Raise awareness** of *Femicide* and lobby for justice wherever this occurs.

**Work for** gender equality in every country.

**Visit** <http://femicide-watch.org/readers/must-knows-femicide>

**Read** 'A Gendered Analysis of Violent Deaths' - [http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/H-Research\\_Notes/SAS-Research-Note-63.pdf](http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/H-Research_Notes/SAS-Research-Note-63.pdf)

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Prepared by 'Future We Need' (FWN) a faith-based group with members from the Columbans, Franciscans, Josephites, Mercy, Presentation and Salesians.

(Updated November, 2020)

freeonline.wordpress.com (womensaid.org.uk)

### Global Facts

- ❖ In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, research shows that vulnerability and precarity of women and girls exacerbate during times of crises. ([www.femicide-watch.org](http://www.femicide-watch.org) May, 2020)
- ❖ Nigeria saw an increase of sexual violence during the pandemic curfews. Two cases in June 2020, in which young women were raped and killed, shocked the country. ([www.justice.gov.za](http://www.justice.gov.za))
- ❖ *BBC Monitoring* followed press coverage of women killed by another person on 1 October 2018 around the world. Their regional specialists counted 47 women reported killed that day apparently for gender-related reasons, in 21 different countries. (femicide-watch)

In 'Laudato Si' Pope Francis states:

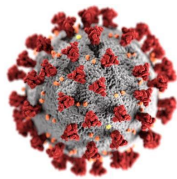
*'It is clearly inconsistent to combat trafficking in endangered species, while remaining completely indifferent to human trafficking, unconcerned about the poor, or undertaking to destroy another human being... (91)*

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

is a systematic and widespread human rights violation. It cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries.



[www.google.ie/search?rlz=1C1EODB\\_enIE584IE584&biw=1920&bih=974&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=pixiebav](http://www.google.ie/search?rlz=1C1EODB_enIE584IE584&biw=1920&bih=974&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=pixiebav)



### **BEFORE**

#### **THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC**

**243 million** women and girls, aged 15-49, experienced sexual and/or physical violence by an intimate partner in the past year.

#### **SINCE THE PANDEMIC**

violence against women, especially domestic violence, has increased dramatically.

#### **EXACERBATING FACTORS INCLUDE**

security, health and money worries, cramped living conditions, isolation with abusers, deserted public spaces, limited access to support services.

In some countries, resources and efforts have been diverted from responses to violence against women for immediate COVID-19 relief.

*(unwomen.org)*

#### **Watch: WOMEN AND GIRLS TARGETED FOR 'FEMICIDE' IN CENTRAL AMERICA**

*(Sky News - March 7, 2020)*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkN6UmvBG10>

#### **"As Cities Around the World Go on Lockdown, Victims of Domestic Violence Look for a Way Out"**

*(Melissa Godin, TIME, March 18, 2020)*

<https://time.com/5803887/coronavirus-domestic-violence-victims/>



**of Activism  
Against  
Gender  
Violence...**

**DAY 13...**

**7<sup>th</sup>**

**December**

**FEMICIDE**



**2020 UNiTE Campaign Theme:**

**"Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!"**