

# Violence Against Women-A Global Crisis

## Accountability—Activism—Action

**VENUE:** Thomond Park, Limerick

**DATE:** Thursday, 26th November 2009, 9.15 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

A conference organised by Banúlacht-Women in Ireland for Global Solidarity, the Clare Women's Network and the Limerick Women's Network for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. This conference aims to raise awareness of violence against women as a human rights issue globally, to highlight the work of women's organisations in challenging violence against women and to promote solidarity between women in Ireland and women in the global South. Violence against women has been termed a "global pandemic": The conference will explore diverse aspects of this pandemic and highlight the work of organisations in Ireland and the South that are working for the eradication of violence against women. This conference is funded by Irish Aid and Trócaire.

### PROGRAMME

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9.00 Registration

9.30 Clare Women's Network Community Singing Group

**Morning Panel: Why 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence...Every Year?**

#### **Keynote speakers**

Margaret Martin (Director, Women's Aid) : **Overview of violence against women in Ireland**

Leila Sheikh (Journalist/activist): **Violence against women: a Global Overview**

Chair: Nessa Ni Chasaide (debt and Development Coalition/Banúlacht)

**11.45 Workshops** (*see list below*)

#### **Afternoon Panel: Commit, Act, Demand!**

**The Road Ahead: Strengthening Global and Local Responses to End Violence Against Women**

Dr Nata Duvvury (Global Women's Studies Programme, NUI Galway)

*Second speaker to be confirmed*

#### **World Café Round Table Discussion and Plenary**

**4.30 Close by Clare Women's Network Community Singing Group**

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## **WORKSHOPS**

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- 1. The Global Costs of Violence against Women**  
Nata Duvvury, NUI Galway (NUIG)
- 2. What Is Violence against Women?**  
Denise Dunne, Clare Haven House and Siobhán Curran,  
Joint Consortium on Gender Based Violence/Amnesty International
- 3. One Size Doesn't Fit All: Making Services More Inclusive**  
Nobuhle Ncube, AKIDWA; Emma Jane Hoey, National Traveller Women's Forum;  
Iris Elliott, NUI G
- 4. Challenging Violence against Women through Feminist Activism**  
Ailbhe Smyth, Feminist Open Forum
- 5. The 16 Days Campaign: Community-based Responses**  
Monica McLaughlin, Adapt House; Mary Farren, West Clare Women's Forum;  
Aileen Foran, Hill Street FRC
- 6. Looking after Me: Relaxation Skills**  
Noirín Long
- 7. Where the Legal System Fails Women**  
Ursula Regan, Family Law Solicitor/Women's Aid
- 8. Violence against Women and HIV: A Global Pandemic**  
Leila Sheikh, Tanzanian journalist/activist
- 9. Women and Armed Conflict**  
Gorana Mlinarivic, NUI Galway; Deirdre Ni Cheallaigh, Joint Consortium on  
Gender Based Violence/Trócaire

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## **Conference fee**

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For organisations with no funding, waivers or reduced fees are available. Please contact one of the organisers (see below) by 23 November. For all others, the following fees apply (per person):

Statutory/Development agencies: €60  
Women's organisations (funded): €45  
Member organisations and individuals: €35  
Small women's groups and unwaged individuals: €15  
Asylum seekers: €5

## SPEAKERS

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### **Margaret Martin**

Margaret Martin is the director of Women's Aid. Her background is in education and training, where she has 20 years experience. Margaret was a volunteer member of Dublin Rape Crisis Centre in the early 1980s. In particular, she has worked with marginalised and disadvantaged women's education groups and was the team leader for Ireland's first training manual for women's education groups – "From the Personal to the Political." Margaret acted as a consultant for NGO representatives on the Task Force on Violence against Women. Prior to working with Women's Aid, Margaret was Projects Manager for the National Women's Council of Ireland.

### **Leila Sheikh**

Leila Sheikh is a journalist activist who has specialized in media advocacy and public education programs. As well as designing the first crisis centre program in Tanzania to give support to women undergoing intimate partner violence, she has also designed an outreach and training program to sensitize Tanzania's public about violence against women, including domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment and female genital mutilation. She has written extensively on violence against women and produced television documentaries on the issue. In 1998, Leila coordinated the lobby for the enactment of the Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act (SOSPA 1998), which changed the outlook of the judicial system in Tanzania, and amended the Penal Code to shift the blame from a rape victim to the offender. Leila is a political scientist by training, a journalist by profession and a volunteer in programmes that aim to assist vulnerable women in Tanzania, including survivors of violence, widows with HIV/AIDS, albino women and older women.

### **Nata Duvvury**

Dr Nata Duvvury is lecturer and co-director of the Global Women's Studies Programme at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Dr. Duvvury has extensive international research and programme experience in gender and development, with particular emphasis on gender inequality, domestic violence, rights-based approaches to development, and civil society participation and accountability. She led a pathbreaking 5-year research project on domestic violence in India in partnership with 20 academic institutions and NGOs. The project provided the evidence needed to propel the passing of a new law on domestic violence in India. Additionally, she has explored the links among women's property and inheritance rights, HIV/AIDS, and violence against women. She has also directed a small grants program in Sub-Saharan Africa to identify innovative interventions to strengthen the property and inheritance rights of women. She recently completed a multi-country study on estimating the costs of intimate partner violence in Bangladesh, Morocco and Uganda.

## Conference Organisers

***Banúlacht** is a feminist development education organisation that works in solidarity with women's community-based organisations in Ireland and in the global South ("developing countries") for the implementation of women's human rights.*

*The **Clare Women's Network (CWN)** is a community development project based in Ennis, County Clare. The CWN recognises the inequalities that still exist for women and aims to support women's progression to economic and social independence and well-being. The CWN support women's groups and organisations in Clare, as well as individual women in communities from all backgrounds in accessing essential services, training and education opportunities.*

*Limerick Women's Network* was established in 2001. It is the only dedicated group in Limerick city committed to working with women experiencing multiple types of poverty and disadvantage. The network's vision is to welcome all women in Limerick to work with us. The network focuses on the issues of equality and anti-poverty. It aims to be open, friendly, fun and vibrant, encouraging positive change for women through inclusion, empowerment and participation.

## Booking form

Name

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Organisation

(if

applicable)

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Address

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Telephone

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Email

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Do you have any special dietary requirements? \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require sign language interpretation (please let us know by 12 November) \_

### **Banúlacht**

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