



**WALK
the TALK
to End
VIOLENCE
Against
Women &
Children**

30 women and 12 children have been killed this year alone in Ontario as a result of domestic violence. The **Walk the Talk** project displays a pair of shoes to symbolize each woman and child murdered between November, 2005 and November, 2006. The project has been adapted from “shoe project” initiatives in other communities, some related to violence against women, some to soldiers killed in the line of duty.

Community organizations across Toronto have participated by “sponsoring” a pair of shoes for a woman or child. Agencies donated shoes to represent the woman or child murdered; some decorated the shoes and all provided a brief message about why violence against women and children needs to stop. Each display includes the woman or child’s name, age, place of residence, how she was murdered, what charges were laid by police and the name of the perpetrator charged. Staff, volunteers and woman abuse survivors from the various agencies created the displays. The shoes presented in this project symbolize only those women and children where charges were laid or where the perpetrator also killed himself. There are many women not represented in this exhibit as their murders or disappearances are still under police investigation.

The goal of this exhibit is to raise awareness and encourage action to end violence against women and children. We hope that it will help people grasp the incredible number of women and children who are murdered across Ontario each year, and remind our community that this is an outrage and must be stopped. We also hope that seeing these displays will help viewers realize that each woman and child murdered is more than an abstract statistic; she was a real person, someone’s daughter, granddaughter, grandmother, mother, sister, colleague, friend...

It is urgent that all members of our community address this issue and take action. We all have an important role to play to truly **“Walk the Talk to End Violence Against Women And Children”**.

We sincerely thank the many community organizations and individuals who so generously contributed the shoes and messages, to make this project possible.

Presented by:

**The Woman Abuse Council of Toronto
Accountability Committee**

