



Woman Abuse Working Group

www.wawg.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2014

WAWG Members

Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton

Catholic Family Services

Centre de santé communautaire Hamilton/Niagara

Good Shepherd Women's Services

Hamilton Regional Indian Centre

Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre

Immigrant Women's Centre

INCommunities

Interval House of Hamilton

Mission Services of Hamilton - Inasmuch House

Native Women's Centre

Phoenix Place

SACHA - Sexual Assault Centre (Hamilton & Area)

Sexual Assault/ Domestic Violence Care Centre

The AIDS Network

The Elizabeth Fry Society Hamilton Branch

Women's Centre of Hamilton

YWCA Hamilton

Resource Members:

Hamilton Probation and Parole

Victim/Witness Assistance Program

Victim Services Branch – Hamilton Police Service

Ex-officio Member:

MCSS/MCYS

The Woman Abuse Working Group (WAWG) calls on the community to speak out against Bill Cosby's upcoming performance in Hamilton on January 9 at Hamilton Place.

WAWG is deeply concerned that Mr. Cosby's performance is proceeding in our community, despite the numerous, public allegations of sexual violence from over 20 women (to date).

We question the support of alleged rapists and are especially concerned about the message this sends to survivors of abuse and violence – that celebrity and entertainment are more important than taking a strong stand on violence against women.

We have contacted Global Spectrum and have been told that for contractual issues they cannot cancel the date. While we understand this, it appears that other communities have been able to cancel performances (e.g. Las Vegas, New York, Iowa, Arizona, South Carolina, and Illinois).

We therefore ask the public to contact Global Spectrum at (905) 546 3050 and/or email Scott Warren, General Manager for Hamilton at swarren@Global-spectrum.com and Frank Russo, Senior Vice President of Business Development for Global Spectrum, at frusso@global-spectrum.com. Let them know that you believe that the well being of everyone of our community is more important than a contract – ask them to cancel the show.

If the event is not cancelled, WAWG will proceed to organize a peaceful gathering outside the venue on January 9. We would like to emphasize that at the gathering we will not tolerate any behavior that is oppressive, rather we hope this is an opportunity for everyone to support all victims of violence.

WAWG is a coalition of over 20 community agencies in Hamilton, working to eradicate violence against women (and their children).

For media inquiries or interview requests please contact:

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(Sexual Assault Centre)
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Chair of the Action Committee of WAWG
Aboriginal Healing and Wellness
Coordinator for the Hamilton Regional
Indian Centre
905 548 9593

For any other questions or concerns, please visit us at our website (wawg.ca) and contact us via the online form.

~ A coalition of 20+ community agencies to eradicate violence against women and children ~