

Media Education Project: Experts List

About the project

We improve how violence against women and girls/gender-based violence (GBV) is covered by media makers (reporters, journalists, bloggers, journalism students) by uncovering hidden narratives, challenging assumptions and myths, and promoting public education to ultimately prevent violence.

Initially launched by METRAC, the following partnering organizations working to end violence against women and girls have joined together to achieve shared project goals: Assaulted Women's Helpline (www.awhl.org); Barbra Schlifer Clinic (www.schliferclinic.com); Canadian Women's Foundation (www.canadianwomen.org); Elizabeth Fry Toronto (www.efrytoronto.org); Ernestine's Women's Shelter (www.ernestines.ca); METRAC (www.metrac.org); Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto (www.nwrct.ca); Springtide Resources (www.springtideresources.org); White Ribbon Campaign (www.whiteribbon.ca); Women's College Hospital Research Institute (www.womensresearch.ca); Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (www.leaf.ca); and YWCA Canada (www.ywcacanada.ca).

Contact: Andrea Gunraj, Communications Specialist, METRAC
Phone 416-392-4760 | Email outreach@metrac.org

About this experts list

We maintain this growing list to help media makers find interview-ready contacts who have identified expertise in areas related to violence against women and girls and GBV. Note: this is for **information purposes only** and briefly summarizes biographical material provided by these contacts. This list is not exhaustive and inclusion on it does not constitute endorsement, nor does it confirm the accuracy or relevance of contacts' perspectives, views or credentials. Contacts are listed in alphabetical order by last name.

Angie Arora, MSW, RSW (Professor, Social Service Worker – Immigrants and Refugees Program, Seneca College): practicing social worker. Key topics include violence against newcomer, immigrant and refugee communities; impacts of immigration policy on women and children; and community mobilization addressing issues of violence against women. Email angiearora13@gmail.com | Phone 416-561-5711

Dr. Linda Baker (Learning Director and adjunct professor, Centre for Research & Education on Violence against Women & Children, Faculty of Education, Western University): clinical psychologist with expertise in children and youth experiencing mental illness, children and adolescents affected by violence and youth in conflict with the law. Key topics include supporting survivors of woman abuse as mothers; children who have lived with violence or experienced other traumas; bullying in schools;

adolescent suicide; cognitive-behavioural skills for treatment settings; conduct disorder; and community collaboration to end violence against women and children. Email lbaker@uwo.ca | Phone 519-661-2111 x80077

Natalie Basilières (Family Court Support Worker for Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Akwesasne, Prescott and Russell counties): Family Court Support Worker with expertise on domestic violence. Key topics include: safety planning for those who have experienced domestic violence and family law. Email nbasilieres@vsv-sdga.ca | Phone 613-938-8900 x221

Leighann Burns (Executive Director, Harmony House; Family Law Lawyer): Executive Director of a women's shelter and family law lawyer representing women coping with abusive partners. Active in the Ontario Association of Interval and Transitional Housing (OAITH) and with various other groups working toward women's equality. Key topics include women's shelters and family law issues. Email director@harmonyhousews.com | Phone 613-233-5990

Jehan Ahmed Chaudhry (Executive Director, Sandgate Women's Shelter of York Region Inc.): key topics include shelters for women, "honour-based" crimes and trafficking of women. Email JChaudhry@Sandgate.ca | Phone 905-722-4043 x111 | Cell 905-252-0694

Ann Decter (Director of Advocacy & Public Policy, YWCA Canada): leads national campaigns, issue advocacy, research and policy development. Holds expertise and authors works on housing and anti-poverty work for women, children and families. Key topics include violence against women and girls; women's homelessness; women's economic equality/security; child and family poverty; and child care. Email ltilley@ywcacanada.ca | Phone 416-962-8881 x233

Sandra Diaz (Director, Engagement & Partnerships, Interval House): spokesperson for Interval House – Canada's first shelter for abused women and children. Key topics include shelters for women, violence against women, victim-blaming, community support and violence prevention. Email shawkendiaz@intervalhouse.ca | Phone 416-924-1411 x237

Anuradha Dugal (Director, Violence Prevention, Canadian Women's Foundation): spokesperson for Canadian Women's Foundation. Key topics include violence and violence prevention, non-violent communication, education of young women, teen violence prevention in schools and the non-profit sector and organizations. Can do interviews in English or French. Email adugal@canadianwomen.org | Phone 416-365-1444 x228, 1-866-293-4483, 514-994-6804

Janice Du Mont (Scientist, Women's College Research Institute, Associate Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health): key topics include prevalence of sexual assault and intimate partner violence; physical, emotional, and social sequelae of sexual assault and intimate partner violence; medical and legal responses to sexual assault

and intimate partner violence; and global health burden of sexual assault and intimate partner violence. Email Janice.DuMont@wchospital.ca | Phone 416-351-3732 x2705

Dr. Jennifer Fraser (Assistant Professor, Department of Criminology, Ryerson University): key topics include trends in violence against women; risk factors, correlates, and consequences; criminal justice responses; prevention; history of feminist activism on violence; and academic research. Email jennifer.fraser@ryerson.ca | Phone 416-979-5000 x4090

Isobel Granger (Staff Sergeant, Ottawa Police Service): international expert on sexual gender-based violence and advocate on behalf of issues affecting women and children. Key topics include sexual gender-based violence as a weapon of war, domestic violence and gender. Email grangeri@ottawapolice.ca | Phone 613-236-1222 x5127

Andrea Gunraj (Communications Specialist, METRAC): spokesperson for METRAC. Key topics include gender-based violence, community and campus safety, healthy relationships, youth violence prevention and innovative technology projects to prevent violence. Email outreach@metrac.org | Phone 416-392-3135

Linda Ivsins (Group Facilitator, Women & Children's Shelter of Barrie): shelter employee in roles including child support, victim-witness support, counsellor and group facilitator. Key topics include empowerment for women and children who have experienced abuse. Email lindai@barrieshelter.com | Phone 705-721-9977 x25

Dr. Peter Jaffe (Academic Director, Centre for Research & Education on Violence against Women & Children, Faculty of Education, Western University; Director Emeritus for the Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System): key topics include domestic violence; impact of domestic violence on children; mental health for children and families; child custody and access disputes; and judicial education in domestic violence cases. Email pjaffe@uwo.ca | Phone 519-661-2018

Wendy Komiotis (Executive Director, METRAC): spokesperson for METRAC with a wealth of experience preventing violence against and building safety for women and youth. Key topics include gender-based violence, community and campus safety, sexual violence, culture and violence, policies and practices to reduce violence. Email outreach@metrac.org | Phone 416-392-3135

Beth Lyons (Associate Director, YWCA Moncton): expertise on sexual violence. Key topics include online sexualized violence and bullying. Email blyons@ywcamoncton.com | Phone 506-855-4349, 506-858-7222

Barb MacQuarrie (Community Director, Centre for Research & Education on Violence against Women & Children, Faculty of Education, Western University): manages the Neighbours, Friends and Families campaign on woman abuse and Make It Our Business workplace domestic violence training program. Key topics include research and initiatives on prevention of and responses to violence against women and girls; and

domestic violence risk assessment and management. Email bmacquar@uwo.ca | Phone 519-661-4023

Dr. Robin Mason, PhD (Scientist, Women's College Research Institute; Assistant Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health and Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto): researcher interested in knowledge translation and participatory action projects that address violence against women. She has developed educational tools and contributed to guidelines to improve health care practices and services for women who have experienced violence or abuse, particularly intimate partner violence. Key topics include mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Email Robin.Mason@wchospital.ca | Phone 416-351-3732

Sheila Macdonald RN, MN (Provincial Coordinator, Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Care and Treatment Centres in Ontario; Clinical Manager, Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Care Centre, Women's College Hospital): extensive clinical experience providing health and forensic care to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. Key topics include sexual assault, acute health issues of concern for survivors of sexual assault or domestic violence, forensic evidence, drug facilitated sexual assault and HIV post-exposure prophylaxis. Email sheila.macdonald@wchospital.ca | Phone 416-323-6400 x4472

Gemma Napoli (Executive Director, Elizabeth Fry Toronto): leads organization that works with women at-risk or in-conflict with the law. Knowledge in gender-responsive programming and advocacy of the complex needs of incarcerated and community-based women. Key topics: gender-responsive services; residential care; pathways of crime; community corrections and reintegration; trauma-informed care; and the criminal justice system. Email gnapoli@efrytoronto.org | Phone 416-924-3708 x253

Heather Norhaugen (Client Advocate, Thunder Bay Sexual Assault/Abuse Counselling & Crisis Centre): key topics include sexual assault and abuse; criminal justice process for victims of sexual assault and abuse, including police, courts and victim impact statements; criminal injuries compensation claims for victims of sexual violence; and healthy relationships. Email hnorhaugen@tbsasa.org | Phone 807-345-0894 | Cell 807-632-2907

Jeff Perera (Community Engagement Manager, White Ribbon): founded Higher Unlearning, an online space to explore gender and masculinity. Key topics include young men, consent and violence against women; men and violence against women; masculinity; "toxic masculinity"; and healthy relationships. Email jperera@whiteribbon.ca | Phone 416-920-6684 x16 | Cell 647-283-2144

Paulette Senior (Chief Executive Officer, YWCA Canada; Vice Chair of Women's College Hospital): holds a wealth of grassroots and advocacy experience in social and community development work helping women, children and youth. Key topics include violence against women and girls; women's homelessness; women's economic

equality/security; child and family poverty; and child care. Email Itilley@ywcacanada.ca | Phone 416-962-8881 x233

Tamar Witelson (Legal Director, METRAC): spokesperson for METRAC with a wealth of experience addressing the intersection of women and youth, violence and the law. Key topics include gender-based violence, law's impact on women and youth experiencing violence, building women's access to justice and the legal system. Email outreach@metrac.org | Phone 416-392-3135

Shelley Yeo (Director, Transitional & Community Programs, Women's Community House): oversees programs for Second Stage Housing, children and mothers, and family court support for victims of domestic violence. Key topics include recognizing and responding to abuse, housing for women. Email shelley@shelterlondon.org | Phone 519-686-3444 x3300

Mary Zilney, MSW,RSW (Chief Executive Officer, Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region): key topics include services for abused women and their children (shelters, outreach, programming) and education on the link between human violence and animal cruelty. Email mary.zilney@wcsvr.org | Phone 519-741-9184 x2111