

Gender Based Violence



University Women's Club of North York, Gender Based Violence Sub Committee sponsored a Zoom Panel Discussion on June 16th. The topic was "Why Partner Violence Has Increased During COVID-19". The panelists were Humberto Carolo, Executive Director of White Ribbon and Keetha Mercer, Director, Community Initiative & Grants at the Canadian Women's Foundation.

White Ribbon is the world's largest movement of men and boys working to end violence against women and girls, through education programs and the fundraiser, "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes"

The Canadian Women's Foundation is Canada's public foundation for diverse women and girls, which funds programs across Canada to address the issues of gender based violence, economic security, girl's empowerment and inclusive leadership.

Excerpts from the summary.

Gender Based Violence (GBV) has been overshadowed by COVID 19 but the very troubling issue has by no means gone away and, indeed, has worsened during the lockdown. UWCNY's Gender Based Violence Sub Committee of the Status of Women and Human Rights Group shone the spotlight in a valuable Zoom discussion June 16 focusing on prevention and what UWCNY and CFUW as a whole can do to help.

GBV increased during the COVID pandemic. "By 20-30 percent." "No surprise because home is not safe for many people. Shelters have been closed. We expect more reports of violence when the lockdown restrictions are lifted."