

"I came to know of the We Can Campaign through one of my students who had participated in it.

What impressed me is that the campaign talks of the smaller forms of violence that we ignore, though they happen daily in homes.

I feel very strongly that violence against women is not acceptable, and we must end discrimination in homes. I want all my students get this message.

I believe in the campaign's stand on how schools can help children live in homes that are safe and happy for them. We can do this by (a) intervening when there is a crisis at home (b) having teachers sensitively counsel affected children and (c) by alerting children that they can seek help from friends,

"In our school the teachers, students and I are collectively making changes in our attitudes and practices"



teachers and principals if they feel threatened.

My teachers have admirably counselled children facing violence at home. They take the children aside and talk to them at length. My teachers tell me that many children they have spoken to have found a new will and zest to study.

Our day often begins with talking to children during morning assemblies - about violence against women within homes. I often personally raise such issues.

I also ensure that girls in my school break stereotypes. They play basketball and work in science labs. I am so happy to see many girls take enthusiastically to it. I am keen that girls in all schools become good human beings who are able to counter violence against them positively"

Ms. Usha Mishra, Principal
Senior Secondary Girls School,
Dakshinpuri, New Delhi



Sign up for the We Can Campaign

Get in touch with us at the addresses below. You can share your experience and challenges so other schools can learn from them.

local alliance address



We Can India National Secretariat, 4/203, 1st Floor,
Kaushalya Park, Hauz Khas, New Delhi 110 016

hundreds of schools across the country are showing the way

ANDHRA PRADESH ALLURISITARAMARAJUHIGH SCHOOL • SHREEVENKATESHWARA DEGREE COLLEGE • WEST BENGAL KATHALPURMADHUSUDHANHIGH SCHOOL • MOHANPUR K.G. SCHOOL • **UTTAR PRADESH** DR. RAMMANOHARLOHIA AVADHANIVERSITY • SRIMAHAVIRPRASADGIRLSDEGREE COLLEGE • TIMESBUSINESSSTUDIES • DR. RAMMANOHARLOHIA RANGANATHAN PECTA • KUPPANUR BLOCK PANCHAYAT MIDDLE SCHOOL • **MAHARASHTRA** DR. AMBEDKAR SOCIAL WORK INSTITUTE • NATIONAL COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK • **RAJASTHAN** EKLAYA VIDHYA NIKETAN SR. SEC. SCHOOL • RAJKIYABALIKASR. SEC. SCHOOL • **GUJARAT** ST. JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL • LAXMANGANPITH HIGH SCHOOL • MAHARANI SHREE JAYVANTISINHJIHS SCHOOL • PRANAMI VINAY MANDIR • VIVEKANAND VINAY MANDIR • ANUPAM VIDHYALAY • SHETHS CHIGHSCHOOL • SHARDA VIDHYALAY • MUNICIPAL GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL • SMT N. K. METALYA HIGH SCHOOL • SRI KASHIBEN VASHRAMBHAI VAGHADIYA VIDHYA MANDIR • SRI SARASWATI VINAY MANDIR HIGH SCHOOL • SMT A. K. MORADIYA HIGH SCHOOL • MADHMIKSHALAVADVIYALA • ADARSHMASYAMIKSHALABODIDAR • SHETHSHREE M.P. VALANI HIGH SCHOOL • SHETHSHREEA. M. KODHARIU. B. VIDHYALAY • MADHYMIK SCHOOL • VADGAM • SARASVATI KANYA VIDHYALAY JAINABAD • ADARSH VIDHYALAY RADHANPUR • SARASVATI KANYA VIDHYALAY • UTTARBUNIYADI KANYA VIDHYALAY • DAXANPATH VIVIDHLAXI SHAKHA • BHANMER HIGH SCHOOL • BUDHELI MADHYMIK SHALA • NAVRACHNA MADHYMIK SHALA • J.K. HIGH SCHOOL • UTTARBUNIYAD ASHRAM SHALA • SHANTINIKETAN HIGH SCHOOL • B. H. MODI VIDHYAMANDIR • ANLEMATA VIDHYALAY • SHREEJI HIGH SCHOOL • SHREE SARVAJANIK VIDHYALAY • PIPLIYA RAJ HIGH SCHOOL • TITHAVA HIGH SCHOOL • SHREE K. K. PAREKH & MAHETA R.P. VIDHYALAY • MANARKEDUCATION • SHREESAHJANANDVIDHYALAYGURUKUL • SHREEVIDHYABHARTI HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL • MADHMIK SHALA MADHGM • MAHANT SHREE K.D. ADARSH HIGH SCHOOL • KANYA VIDHYALAY VANOD • MANDAVARAJI VIDHYALAY, MOTI PALI • **ORISSA** PROJECT UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL • SHRIGANESWAR HIGH SCHOOL • PRENA VIDHYALAY • RUKMANIDEVI VIDHYALAY • BUDDHDEV SARASWATI HIGH SCHOOL • NAVJIVAN HIGH SCHOOL • SHANTINIKETAN VIDHYALAY • **UTTARAKHAND** BALIKA INTER COLLEGE CHAMBA • RAJKIYA INTER COLLEGE NAGATHATH • GOVERNMENT INTER COLLEGE (GIC) NAUGAON REETHAGAD • GIC MANOLI • GIC CHAMTOLA • GIC KHETI • GIC BANWALYA • GIC DANYA • HIGH SCHOOL BANTHOK • HIGH SCHOOL DOLI • GIC BARCHEENA • GIC NAGARKHAN • GIC PANYOLA • GIC OLCHEENA • HIGH SCHOOL PETSHAL • ACHARYA NARENDER DEV HIGH SCHOOL, BANGLATA • GIC BARAKAL • GIC BALIGUNADITYA • GIC CHIKUJELI • GIC HUDOLEE • GIC NAUGAON • GHSS KAPNOL • GIC BARNIGAD • GIC BHATKOT • GIC DIET BARKOT • GIC RAJGARHI • HILL GREEN HIGH SCHOOL • BARKOT • GIC KHARADI • GIC CARAKOT • GOVERNMENT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, KIMMI • GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL, NAINI • GIC BARDAKHAN • GOVERNMENT GIRL INTER COLLEGE (GGIC) KAKAR • GGIC - CHAMPAPAWAT • GGIC - KHEKIKHAN • GIC - GHSS - KAMAGULA • RITHAKHAL • GHSS - GIC - LOHAGHAT • PATI • GIC - DHAM • KARANKARAYAT • GIC CHAUMEL • GIC SAITHANIGOTH • GIC - SICTY • GHS - VIVIL • GIC - REGRU • GHS - STAND • GHSS - BIRN WALGAON • GHSS - BEORI • GHSS - NELOTI • GHS - SCHOOL, CHANDEWAL • CGHSS - KHARKARKI • GHSS - SUE • GIC - DEVIDHURA • GHSS - DABABHAGU • GIC - MOOLAKOT • GHS - GAINDAKHALI • GIC - BAPRU • GIC - CHAMPAPAWAT • GIC - DYARTOLI • HGSS - WALA • GGIC - LOHAGHAT • GGIC - TANAKPUR • GGIC - TUNLA • GHSS - CHAURAKOT • GHSS - DUBCHOURA • GHSS - PANIYA • GHSS - TAMLI • ST. POLLS SCHOOL, KATHGODAM • GIC - PHOOLCHOUR • HALDWANI • LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL, HALDWANI • GIC KALADHUNGI, HALDWANI • GGIC PHOOLCHOUR, HALDWANI • GIC MOTINAGAR, HALDWANI • GGIC HURPATAL • GIC KUMDAR • GIC BHATKOT • GIC PITHORAGARH • **MADHYA PRADESH** ADARSH HSS SCHOOL • ADARSH UCHTTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, SHENKI • BHAGYODAYA MADHYMIK VISHALAYA, MAHARAJPUR • CIVIL LINE MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA • DIVYA JYOTI VIDHALAYA • GOVT. GIRLS COLLEGE • GOVT. GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, BASGHAT • GOVT. GIRLS HSS SCHOOL • GOVT. GYAANDEEP H.S. • GOVT. GYAN JYOTI VIDHALAYA, SARGINJI • GOVT. HIGH SCHOOL, BICHIA • GOVT. M.G.U. MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, BAPATHAR • GOVT. MADHYMIK SHALA, HATINAPUR • GOVT. MADHYMIK DEVANVIDYALAY, SUKLU DHANDHA • GOVT. MADHYMIK SHALA, BAMNI • GOVT. MADHYMIK SHALA, KATANGSIVNI • GOVT. MADHYMIK SHALA, MAJHGAO • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, GAVRI • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK SHALA, KHAJRI • GOVT. UCCTAR VIDHALAYA, CHANDANGAON • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, BASGHAT • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, GANERUA • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, KANIWADA • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, KHAMI • GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, TIGHARA • GOVT. UTKRASHAMADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, GURUKUL PUBLICS SCHOOL, BARGHAT • GYAN BHARTI VIDHALAYA, CHANDANGAON • GYAN DEEP VIDHALAYA, KHAPABHAT • GYAN JYOTI VIDHALAYA • GYAN JYOTI VIDHALAYA, KHAJRI • HANMISTHA H.S. SCHOOL • GYAN UCCHTAR MADHYMIK VIDHALAYA, HANUMANA • KISAN GOVT. UCCHTAR MADHYMIK SHALA, DHARNA • LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL • MADHYMIK SHALA, AAMGAVA • MADHYMIK SHALA, BHALWARA • MADHYMIK SHALA, KHAMADONGRI, NIWAS • MAHARAJPUR KANYA SHALA • GOVT. SCHOOL • MOUNT FORT H.S. SCHOOL • MSW DEPT. APS UNIVERSITY • PRAGYA H.S. SCHOOL • RANI AVANTI GOVT. H.S. SCHOOL • RANI AVANTI BAI PUBLIC SCHOOL, LALBAG • RANI • **JHARKHAND** AMCHI DEVI SARAFF GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL • CHAIBASA WOMEN'S COLLEGE • **NEW DELHI** GOVT. GIRLS SR. SECONDARY SCHOOL #3 • SARVODAYA GIRLS SCHOOL A&B BLOCK • **BIHAR** HIGH SCHOOL GAWATI • HIGH SCHOOL PANAPUR • based on data as of June 2010

schools show the way



How schools are delivering better education by addressing Domestic Violence

Across India, schools are delivering better quality education by addressing the adverse impact of Domestic Violence on children. Here are what people from different parts of the country are saying about their experiences...

Supporting affected children

"One of my class 4 students had become suddenly very irregular. When asked, he would say he had gone to his village. I decided to visit his family, and there I discovered that his mother was being abused by her husband. That is why she would often go to her parent's home with her son.

Later, I visited the family again with a counsellor from a local women's organisation. After many meetings and follow-ups, the situation has improved and the boy is able to focus a bit more on his education"

Madhuben Rathod, Principal Prarthna Vidhyalay, Bhavnagar, Gujarat



Change is difficult, but possible

"When I read about the We Can Campaign in 2008, I felt that the work was difficult, but possible. I started by talking to students about domestic violence. Then I found it necessary to discuss it with the school management. It was hard at first, but eventually the management introduced domestic violence as a topic for discussion with guardians.

Initially the guardians protested strongly, telling us to focus on education instead of irrelevant issues. It took several meetings before we were able to convince them.

Today the management and the guardians committees have together decided that our village should be a Changemakers' village. The board at the school gate now reads 'Balika Inter College **Changemaker**, Chamba"

Anjali Chandola, Professor Balika Inter College, Chamba, Uttarakhand



Improved student performance

"After attending the We Can Campaign event, the Headmaster and I organised a similar session with the school staff; focussed on identifying children who had witnessed domestic violence, and supporting them. We believe this initiative has improved student performance in the Higher Secondary Board Exam last year. Now our school has become a model to many others"

Mr. Vishwanathan, President PTA Govt. Higher Sec. School, Ranganatham Pettai Karur, Tamil Nadu

Encouraging gender neutral behaviour

"We have introduced gender neutral behaviour in the school. We try to ensure that boys and girls both play outdoor games. Boys also welcome guests, prepare for prayers and serve tea - tasks that were earlier done by girls."

Dharamsinh Parmar, Principal Shreemati V K. Patel High School, Patan, Gujarat

'We Can' Question Box

"We now have a Question Box where girls can anonymously share their personal dilemmas. A committee of lady teachers were formed to respond and counsel the girls. This has made it so easy for us to discuss things that we otherwise would not have raised"

Prabha Sharma, Student Tala High School, Madhya Pradesh

Special teacher to address domestic violence issues

"I have appointed a new teacher specifically to help students experiencing domestic violence. This teacher works with students to build their hope and confidence through different sessions, and meets with parents every quarter. Seeing the benefit of this initiative, I have influenced two other schools to do the same"

Ponnurajam, Headmaster Onu Ramasamy Middle School, Devaram, Tamil Nadu



Adding the mother's name

"We have introduced an additional column in the 'admission and school leaving forms' for the mother's name"

Kalpana Dave, President Prarthna Vidyalay, Bhavnagar, Gujarat

Reaching out helps everyone

"I have often noticed students who seemed disturbed, and though I wanted to talk to them to find out why, I kept my distance, thinking it was their personal matter. Then, at a We Can Campaign meeting, I realised how domestic violence affects children, and that moved me. Since then I make every effort to reach out to such students, talk to them and listen to their problems."

Raj Kumar Mahobia, Teacher High School A, Umeria, Madhya Pradesh

what's your story?

your inspiring story may help many other schools to address domestic violence, and improve education

addressing domestic violence in schools

which of these are practiced in your school?

encouraging boys and girls to adopt gender neutral roles



have a "no violence" policy for the school



listening to children and respecting them



raise awareness about domestic violence with teachers and parents

this is how domestic violence affects studies



influence public opinion through campaigns

