



UN Commission on the
Status of Women



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

SOCOMUN XXXIII

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS
OF WOMEN

TOPIC: ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



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Commission on the Status of Women Ending Violence Against Women

Hello delegates! My name is Jocelyn Ferletic, and I will be your head chair at SOCOMUN 2024. I am a senior this year here at Santa Margarita as well as a 4th year MUNer, and I am so excited to make my last SOCOMUN the best one yet! Looking back on my years in MUN thus far, it is clear that this program has impacted my life and way of thinking in multiple ways. MUN has made me a global thinker, widening my perspective beyond my local community. As a junior last year, I had the opportunity to attend a conference in London which completely took my global perspective to a new level. Additionally, MUN has challenged me to push myself outside of my comfort zone, improving my skills and confidence in how I present myself both as a delegate and even just on a daily basis. Outside of MUN, I am a competitive dancer and in my free time enjoy hanging out with family and friends, listening to music, and traveling. I look forward to being your committee chair and to hearing all of your ideas and discussion! Best of luck, Delegates!

Hi guys, my name is Jolyn Zheng, and this is my third year in MUN. I'm a current senior at SMCHS. I'm proud to have this opportunity to be your vice chair. Through my time at MUN, I have learned many skills that I'm grateful for such as public speaking and researching. Outside of MUN, I'm a competitive swimmer who swims around with the club and school. In my free time, I love listening to music, especially Lana del Rey and Olivia Rodrigo. I'm looking forward to seeing engaging debates on these topics with thorough speeches and well-prepared research! See you in committee!

Hello, my name is Marie Unterman, and I am looking forward to being one of your rapporteurs for the 2024 SOCOMUN conference. I am a current sophomore, and this is my second year participating in MUN. When I started MUN I did not like public speaking, but this program has helped develop my confidence and ability to speak in front of others. I am so excited to see you at SOCOMUN!

My name is Helen Song, and I'm currently a sophomore student here at Santa Margarita. I am very happy and excited to be one of the rapporteurs for this year's SOCOMUN. However, Model United Nations has become one of my favorite subjects now, and I started to enjoy finding solutions for world-wide problems and the feeling of winning an award.

At SOCOMUN, our main priority is that all delegates feel prepared to debate and feel that their ideas and concerns are heard throughout the conference. Our committee will begin with speeches where delegates will have a chance to share their solutions with the rest of the committee. Periodically throughout the speakers list, we will take motions for formal and informal consultations to delve deeper into the specifics of the topic and provide time for delegates to collaborate. Informal consultations include lengthened time for delegates to meet with each other, discuss viewpoints and solutions, and ultimately begin writing resolution documents with the group they formulate. To close off committee, each group will present their resolution papers, in which other delegates will ask questions about the contents of the document. Finally, each paper will be voted on. We want to stress the importance of remembering country policy and how this will affect the success and validity of your resolution papers. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact socomuncsw@gmail.com



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Background

Women across the world experience violence and abuse. Most commonly, this violence occurs through abuse from an intimate partner or close member in the victim's life. The World Health Organization (WHO) states that 30% of women across the globe have experienced this type of abuse. The COVID-19 crisis made domestic violence against women even more prevalent of an issue because of the global lockdown. After the pandemic began, The United Nations resurveyed thirteen countries and discovered that 2 in 3 women reported instances of abuse whether it was their personal experience or a situation they knew of. The United Nations also emphasized the lack of abuse cases being reported to the police, stating that only 10% of women officially took their concerns to law enforcement.

While these kinds of violence make up a large portion of abuse statistics, violence against women occurs in many different and specific ways. These instances include human trafficking, genocide specifically targeting women, child marriage and forced marriage, and technology-based violence. With the rise of technological resources in the modern world, violence through technology has become increasingly common. Examples of these instances include specifically targeting women with cyberbullying, sending threatening messages, sending explicit content to a woman without her consent, and doxing, which is the release of private information to the public.

There are many recent examples of violence against women that highlight the severity of the situation. For example, Kenya has a large number of violence instances targeting women, especially seeing as at least 500 Kenyan women have been murdered within the past 8 years. The nation has made efforts to alleviate this violent environment, contradicting the growing presence of abuse that has occurred. Femicide, or the targeted genocide of females, is the most prominent issue in Kenya. In fact, 41% of married women in Kenya have experienced violence by their partner. Furthermore, a report from UN Women in February of 2024 states that over ten women have already been killed in 2024, fueling Kenya's urgency to provide solutions to this issue and it provides an example of the need for an increased global effort to end this violence.

The UN has provided substantial assistance in alleviating gender disparity and discrimination. Firstly, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women was established on November 25th. This day of activism is promoted by the United Nations as a means to provide increased awareness on the importance of reducing female targeted violence and creating a unified global movement in support of women's rights and safety. Additionally, the WHO created a comprehensive plan to improve the global health system, specifically focusing on the health of women and girls who have had violence committed against them. Because of the health issues that are caused by gender-based violence and damage to reproductive, physical, and mental health, the WHO has placed increased importance on lessening this issue. The WHO is working to tackle all aspects of the health crisis attached to violence against women. This includes taking steps such as increasing research ability, improving implementation of health strengthening practices, and working with numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Some examples of these NGOs include Together for Girls, which is an organization that specifically targets violence against children, and the Sexual Violence Research Initiative, which is a research organization dedicated to providing



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advancements in uncovering information on how to alleviate sexual abuse, especially in developing nations.

Potential Solutions

As seen in the background of this topic, there are several approaches that can be taken to provide solutions to violence against women. In developing solutions, it is essential to maintain country policy. Understanding the nuances and uniqueness of your nation's policy will set you apart from other delegates and make your ideas effective in achieving your nation's goals. Additionally, it is important to develop all aspects of your solutions. Answering the questions who, what, when, where, why, and how is important in ensuring realistic and effective solutions. The more detail and implementation you include in your ideas, the more prepared you will feel and the better your solutions will be received by the rest of the committee. Something that the bureau recommends using as a tool in your preparation process is to research specific solutions that are presently in place and model your ideas and thinking off these past action examples. This way, the validity of the solutions is strong and there is an increased level of success.

Having solutions that tackle specific aspects of the issue of violence against women is also extremely important. The bureau recommends creating solutions with the inclusion of time constraints, meaning having solutions dedicated to short, mid, and long-term processes. An example of a short term solution is to increase awareness of violence in the younger populations of women and girls in education systems. Additionally, creating or implementing new recovery programs for victims would be a perfect facilitator for discussion on support of women in the aftermath of their experiences. This could include providing women with a method for sharing their experiences and concerns as well as give them the opportunity to help other women firsthand. Another great topic to touch on is the lack of reports by women to the police and other law enforcement agencies out of fear that their abuser will punish them and embarrassment and shame they often feel in sharing their experiences.

Whatever topics you choose to focus on, remember to ensure that you are proposing specific and implementable ideas. Also, the bureau would like to remind you that funding and budgeting should **not** be a concern regarding your solutions. The UN 5th Committee handles all funding for UN projects, so ensure that specifics focus on other aspects of your solutions instead.

The above solutions are only a few ideas for solutions, but they should get you started on your research! We highly encourage and expect more ideas to be debated than just those listed here. Remember to keep policy and diplomacy in mind when formulating your ideas. We cannot wait to hear all of your solutions during committee!



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Questions to Consider

Below are some questions to consider in order to help guide your research and solution creating. It is **NOT** required that delegates use or formally answer these questions, however they are provided as a helpful source if a delegate should find themselves in need of assistance.

1. In your nation, what are the most common instances of violence against women and how has your nation historically handled these instances?
2. What are the legislative practices in place within your nation, and how can you use them to suggest global framework?
3. What kind of immediate aid can be provided to violence victims?
4. How has your nation engaged in United Nations action regarding this topic?
5. How can you encourage women who have experienced violence to report their experiences?
6. How will you tackle the health aspect of violence against women, whether physical, reproductive, or mental?
7. If this applies to your nation, how can you effectively tackle the issue of certain nations with discriminatory practices against women in place?
8. How can you strengthen law enforcement itself in order to provide better prevention measures?
9. What kinds of specific educational practices can you propose in order to effectively raise awareness on the topic?



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