



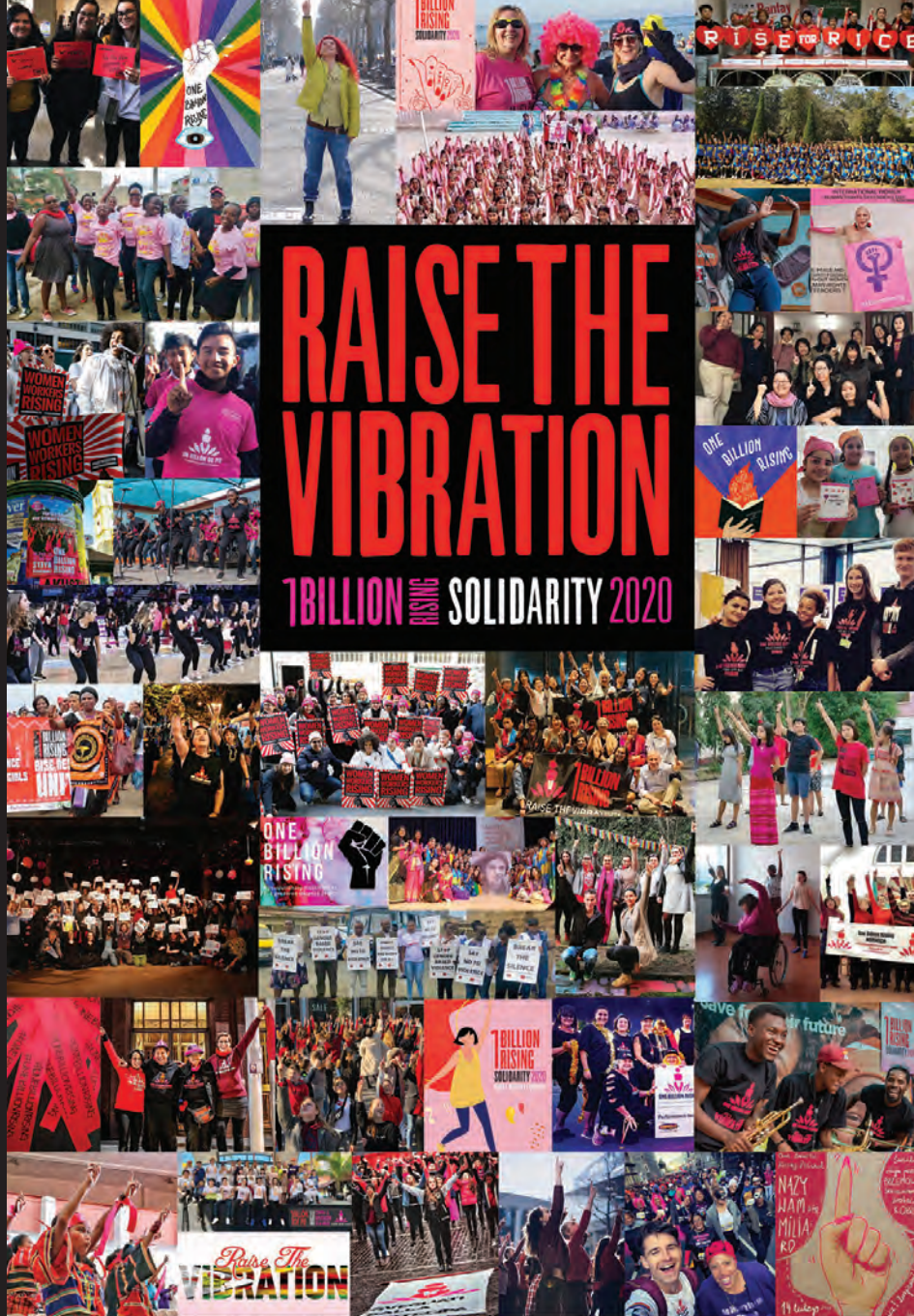
1 BILLION RISING



ONE BILLION RISING

ACTIVISTS WORLDWIDE MOBILIZE, ENGAGE, AWAKEN AND JOIN PEOPLE ACROSS THE PLANET TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

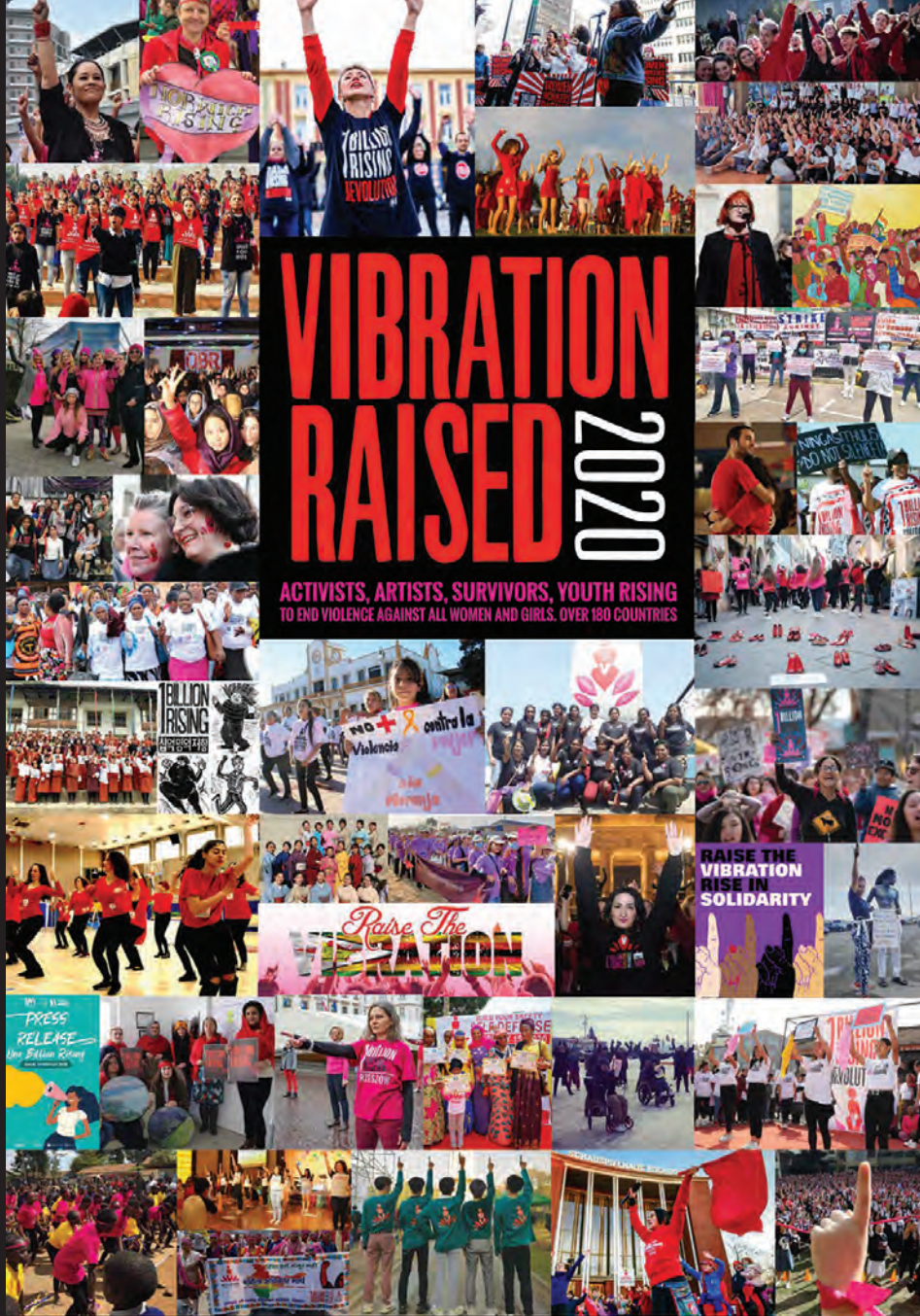
1 in 3 women across the planet will be beaten or raped during her lifetime. That's ONE BILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS. Every February, we rise – in countries across the world – to show our local communities and the world what one billion looks like and shine a light on the rampant impunity and injustice that survivors most often face. We rise through dance to express joy and community and celebrate the fact that we have not been defeated by this violence. We rise to show we are determined to create a new kind of consciousness – one where violence will be resisted until it is unthinkable.



RAISE THE VIBRATION

1BILLION RISING SOLIDARITY 2020

#1BillionRising #RiseinSolidarity #RaisetheVibration



VIBRATION RAISED 2020

ACTIVISTS, ARTISTS, SURVIVORS, YOUTH RISING TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS. OVER 180 COUNTRIES

#1BillionRising **#RaisetheVibration**

2020

GLOBAL
SUMMARY

ONE BILLION RISING 2020
A YEAR OF
RAISING THE
VIBRATION
FOR RISING GLOBAL SOLIDARITY
AND REVOLUTION WITH RADICAL
CREATIVE RESISTANCE

Without any pause, hesitation or doubt, since February 14, 2013 to this present day – and in many parts of the world, ongoing throughout the year – people from all over the world, ignited by the women and girls who are leaders in every country – have come out of their homes, their offices, factories, workplaces, churches, farms and schools, to RISE, STRIKE, DANCE, DISRUPT, CONNECT, RESIST, UNITE to end systems and structures that put women, children, marginalized people's and Mother Earth at risk.

Around the world, brought into heightened focus every February, are no longer the commodified versions of love on capitalist infused Valentine's Day – but the harsh and destructive realities that broken systems across the globe have wrought, and which can no longer be denied or covered up: climate crisis, the pandemic of global and quick spreading viruses, grave abuse of human rights by totalitarian governments who continue to enjoy popular support, escalating violence on women and girls, the plunder of the environment and the world's resources in the name of profit over people, cultures and policies that despise the other and those who are different based on class, race, economic background, gender, age, and ability.

One Billion Rising global activists have known, since the Risings began in 2013, that the world cannot go on this way.

That is why they have been rising, in the thousands, in the millions, every year, with fiercer, bolder, more radical, and more unified, unstoppable energy, commitment, force, and creativity – despite all the many odds against them also escalating each year – political oppression and repression, criminalization of dissent, illegal arrests, enforced disappearances and killings.

OBR global activists, largely led by some of the most marginalized and oppressed grassroots communities in nearly 150 countries around the world – know that these economic, political, cultural beliefs and practices do not support life, and what does not support life cannot genuinely celebrate LOVE.

OBR global activists have been rising, not to beat fascists, misogynists, tyrants, abusers, climate deniers, and plunderers in their game of greed, dominance and power, but to Rise in an alternative paradigm where the rules and conditions on life and humanity are different. A culture of caring for the environment which includes all living things and beings. A culture of including everyone and not leaving anyone out. A culture of prioritizing the most marginalized, the most historically as well as currently exploited. A culture of respect and equality for all – regardless of race, ethnicity, beliefs or social status. A culture where community, solidarity and love are the core and beating heart of every society. Their powerful creative resistance over all these years, each year getting stronger than the last, is a testament that only a culture that they are Rising for and already manifesting, are what will break the chains of inequality, discrimination, oppression and violence.

One Billion Rising 2020 saw a year, not just of immense and escalated global solidarity, revolution and such an astounding raising of the vibration in every political and artistic way – even on the eve of the pandemic that was coming. It also witnessed a going-in deeper, a listening harder, a feeling rather than thinking language of the body and the heart that truly ignited and pushed people to fully engage, to take action, to get out of their comfort zones and the shallow mediocrity of self-centered lives, and to authentically and profoundly be in true solidarity with movements that uphold all human rights, earth rights, women's rights, children's rights, LGBTQI rights, worker's rights.

One Billion Rising 2020 saw the collective creative rising in every region, country and community create, build and support rising movements that seek to build a shared language of trust, unity, solidarity – protecting the sanctity and the survival of the most disadvantaged people in the world, as well as of Mother Earth from the same exploitation and devastation.

IMPACT OF RISINGS

Almost all the countries who Rose for OBR this year share these as resounding IMPACT of their actions and campaigns – but have put some specific examples for each impact just to highlight the expanse and scope of the risings. These are in no way, exhaustive of the many more examples in many other countries.

CHANGES IN NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS:

MEXICO

Because of the efforts of the Union of Domestic Workers, the Mexican President issued a decree that reforms the Social Security Law, which establishes compulsory social security for domestic workers, as well as the Federal Labor Law, which contemplates that domestic workers should enjoy bonuses, vacation premiums, paid vacations, among other benefits – plus written contracts.

Another reform that is coming into force, is the prohibition of proof of non-pregnancy (or pregnancy test) to hire a woman for any job, including the reform that pregnant women cannot be fired, and if she is, the dismissal will be classified as discrimination.

POLAND

Since 2013, OBR Poland actions have contributed to:

The ratification of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

A change in the procedures of prosecuting rape

The introduction of a police procedure protecting rape victims

The creation of Anti-Violence Women's Network

Introduced provisions on gender violence into several local programmes of domestic violence prevention

UNITED KINGDOM

Considerable pressure has been put to change the laws about abusers continuing to abuse their partners and the issue of having access to children they abuse.

ZAMBIA

Pressure has been exerted on their government to strengthen the legal framework on child marriage. Pressure has also been exerted on traditional leaders and people in communities, to look for and report child marriages in chiefdoms.

CROATIA/ BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA/ MONTENEGRO

A huge focus has been put on Education of the Youth as one of the most important factors where youth can learn more about gender and violence. This is of particular importance in these countries as they do not have civic education where the youth can learn about sex, sexuality and health.

ZIMBABAWE

Through OBR, currently pushing for the marriage bill which criminalizes child marriage

FIJI

OBR has led to discussions on policies related to “pink tax” (form of gender based price discrimination)

CULTURAL TRANSFORMATION:

CAMEROON

Communities have taken action to start earning their living, which is not common in many regions

BANGLADESH

On March 5th, a One Billion Rising Bangladesh friendly football tournament was held to raise awareness against sexual harassment and child marriage in Dhonbari, Tangail. Two girl child football teams (age under 9 and under 12 years old) played in the matches. The young players trained for 6 months under a former national athlete. Consequently, the girls started to come out from body shaming and being opened up from conservatism – and their parents and families started to notice the positive impact on the mental health of the girls. It was the first football matches for girls in the area, and the communities showed a lot of appreciation. The girls and their parents were inspired by the tournaments.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Because of the formation of V-Youth groups as part of the yearly and ongoing OBR campaigns, there have been changed and improvements to gender equality practices in schools. Boys are beginning to acknowledge that girls have equal rights and the young people have begun to insist that tasks in schools should not be assigned to gender as all pupils have equal rights to study and to choose their field of specialization.

ZIMBABAWE

Following the OBR 2014 initiative in Bindura where young women made a pact with traditional chiefs for them to take part in traditional judicial proceedings to end VAW – this has now taken place in many more regions and communities across the country, particularly in Guruve, Mazoe and Shamva.

FIJI

The increased visibility of young diverse women in political and public spaces

Main cultural transformation





POLITICAL CHANGES:

PHILIPPINES

For OBR Philippines, connecting the highlighting human rights issues, state sponsored VAW and the spike of cases of rape in the country, as well as ongoing economic issues during their OBR campaign, not just on Feb 14th but even in the months leading up to it and into March, was a clear political statement in defiance of the government's all out efforts to suppress political dissent (in the last 3 years, many Gabriela women leaders have been illegally arrested on trumped up charges and are now held as political prisoners, while some have been killed, and some are missing – and Gabriela members throughout the country continue to face grave security risks). The participation of government units with OBR at both the national and local levels, just giving that space to Gabriela, OBR, and other people's organizations, being targeted by the government – to explain about the campaign, was a huge form of protest against the national government's policy of political repression. OBR also became a chance for Gabriela to counter the negative propaganda by the Philippine national government, that the women's movement and people's movement in the Philippines are doing nothing for the country.

SOUTH AFRICA

OBR South Africa got a lot of media coverage, and now their opinion on gender-based violence (GBV) is being sought by the government. OBR SA demanded an apology from the government and the President of the country made a public apology to the nation about gender-based violence and about the killing of so many children, which has gotten out of hand in the country. OBR South Africa celebrates this as they now feel they are being seen and being recognized in their work. They also took one step further to use the clenched fist as their OBR symbol – knowing the historical context and repercussions in the use of this symbol during their apartheid years. They are now using to mean that while the country may have fought for its freedom – their women are still not free.

ESCALATED RAISING OF AWARENESS AND CONSCIOUSNESS

MEXICO Garnered more attention to the issue of femicide

MIAMI, USA OBR Miami was in collaboration as part of the host committee, of the Official Stop Sex Trafficking campaign of the Miami Super Bowl – along with the State Attorney's Office, Women's Fund Miami-Dade. This generated massive exposure on the issue of sex trafficking as it was highlighted on billboards, bus stops, roaming billboard campaigns, metro station take over and scores of events. This also generated multiple media interviews including Public Television in Miami and Broward Counties.

STRONGER AND MORE ENGAGED YOUTH RISINGS

PHILIPPINES Because of massive Youth Risings across the entire country, schools (from grade school to college) have generated formal discussions on the issue of violence against women, including facts on the situation of women in the Philippines. These are taken up formally in cases specially in Social Studies classes.

Additionally, Gabriela Youth have also connected to other OBR youth rising coordinators globally, to create global solidarity among the youth sector – and to connect to young women from different countries. Building strong youth alliance networks globally.

BHUTAN Because schools in all districts in the entire country joined OBR, Youth Risings have led to creating awareness spaces and discussions among the youth on violence against women both in their country, as well as violence against women globally. This is being supported by all the schools in their districts as well as the communities

PORTUGAL Because OBR Portugal took place in a women's prison, many women's organizations were moved by this, and have now encouraged schools to participate in OBR. There is an active initiative now for many social departments of schools to join OBR this coming year, focusing on domestic violence that the girls face at home.

STRONGER MEDIA SUPPORT

HONG KONG Because of the burning issues that OBR HK is raising (domestic migrant worker rights), and their Rising to fight Covid-19 Threats and Government neglect, OBR attracted mainstream media attention in the country to cover their events including their major press conference – which gathered more support for their OBR HK member groups, and brought support from legislative council, district counselor and the pro-democratic party.

DIRECT SERVICE ACTION

CAMEROON OBR Cameroon began supporting ten women to start activities to generate funds for their living and for financial independence – seeing economic dependence on husbands as one of the main causes of domestic violence

A PLATFORM TO BUILD MOVEMENTS AND SOLIDARITY

PHILIPPINES Maximized OBR as a platform to open connection to new communities and organizations. Because of its art and activism component, OBR Philippines also maximized this to encourage communities and organizations, government offices and officials, to participate and use the opportunity to show the intersectionality of issues, as well as to build allied networks and strengthen solidarity against attacks.

MORE ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION FROM PEOPLE WITH ABILITY TO INFLUENCE POLICIES AND CONSCIOUSNESS

ITALY In Rome, Roberto Gualtieri (Minister of Economy) attended the OBR flashmob in the Piazza San Silvestro, giving huge thanks and acknowledgement to the amazing work of OBR Italy (Italy had more than 100 towns and cities who Rose this year). In attendance also was a member of the Italian Senate – Valeria Fedeli (Minister of Universities and Schools who introduced sex education in schools). And Stefania Pezzopane, a member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies of the Democratic Party – also gave support on social media, which then garnered a lot of engagement for OBR in the country.

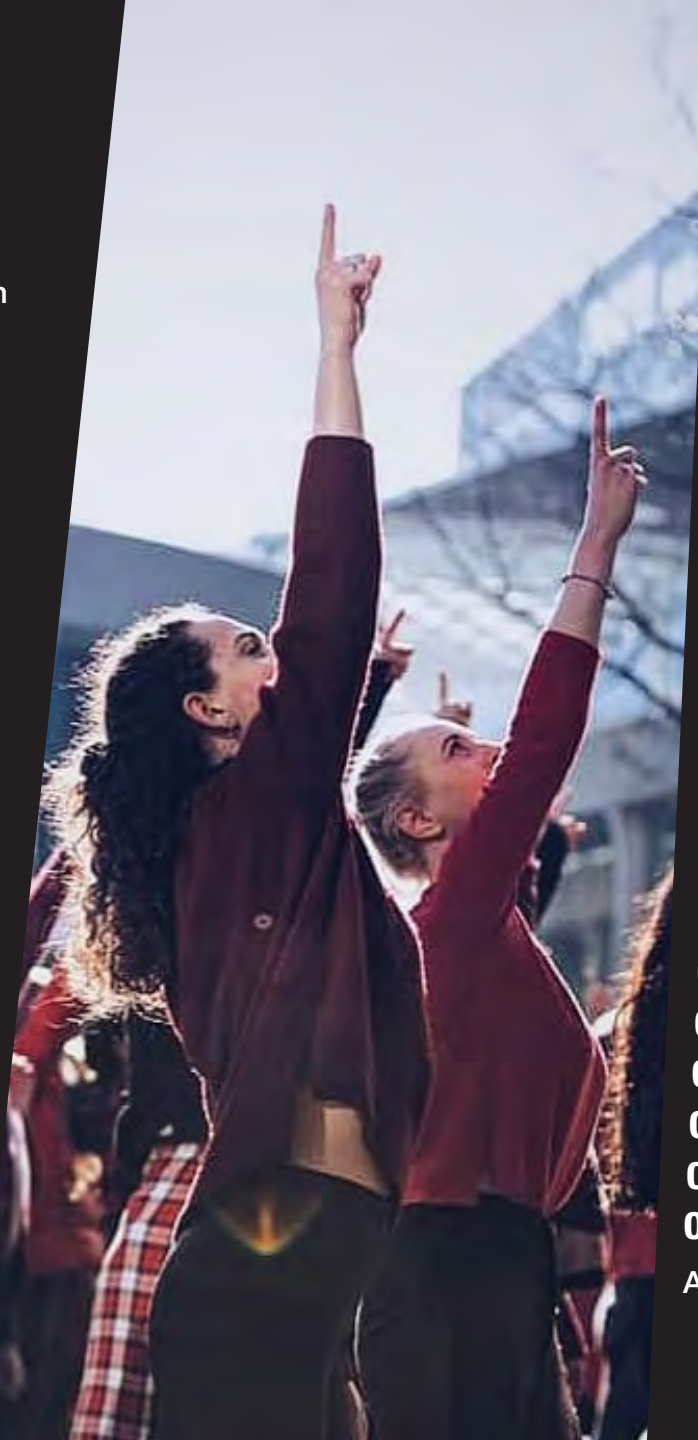
GHANA OBR Ghana was attended by the Deputy Minister of Gender which saw the presence of many major media houses. Their OBR action also saw the participation from representatives from the National Commission on Civic Education, Domestic Violence Unit, Legal Aid, Human Rights Administration and Department of Social Welfare. These gave a strong message to Ghanaians about the powerful work of OBR Ghana.

DECREASE IN VIOLENCE

ZIMBABWE In Actrurus, a farming community who have held Risings since 2015, they have annual OBR dances where they hold commemorations of the risings. They have reported that this has impacted in a reduction of domestic violence in the area.

COUNTRIES THAT WERE PART OF THE RISING:

ASIA | AUSTRALIA | India | Bangladesh
| Pakistan | Maldives | Nepal |
Afghanistan | Sri Lanka | Taiwan |
Mongolia | Japan | Korea | Hong Kong
| Philippines | Indonesia | Myanmar |
Singapore | Australia | Cambodia |
New Zealand | Vietnam | Thailand
AFRICA Swaziland | Zimbabwe |
Gabon | Cameroon | Zambia | Lesotho
| Uganda | Togo | Nigeria | Namibia |
Malawi | Kenya | Ghana | Democratic
Republic of Congo | South Africa |
Senegal | Tanzania **EUROPE** Croatia
| Serbia | Bosnia and Herzegovina |
Montenegro | Kosovo | Macedonia
| Albania | Bulgaria | Cyprus |
United Kingdom | Italy | Germany
| Poland | Portugal | Netherlands |
Iceland | Austria | Turkey | Spain |
Denmark | Belarus | Ireland **NORTH
AMERICA** Caribbean | Haiti | USA
| Guatemala | Mexico | Brazil |
Costa Rica | Peru | **OCEANIA/**
PACIFIC ISLANDS Fiji



SNAPSHOT

Over 1,000 Main Rising events in roughly 120 countries (between February 1, 2020 and March 8, 2020 – not counting risings and OBR 2020 launches that began to take place from November 2019)

Including:

OVER 178 RISINGS IN GERMANY

OVER 150 RISINGS IN THE US

OVER 120 RISINGS IN THE PHILIPPINES

OVER 90 RISINGS IN ITALY

OVER 80 RISINGS IN POLAND

OVER 70 RISINGS IN INDIA

OVER 50 RISINGS IN MEXICO

OVER 22 RISINGS IN CONGO

OVER 20 RISINGS IN BHUTAN

OVER 20 RISINGS IN GUATEMALA

OVER 20 RISINGS IN INDONESIA

OVER 20 RISING IN HONG KONG

OVER 15 RISINGS IN MYANMAR

And many more...

COORDINATORS GATHERINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS:



OBR EUROPE GATHERING MAY 2019: LONDON HOSTED BY V-DAY/OBR

With V, Susan, Monique and Lisa Schejola - and coordinators from the following countries: United Kingdom/ Italy/ Poland/ Austria/ Portugal/ Denmark/Palestine/ Croatia (regional coordinator also representing the Balkans, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia

*Launched OBR Europe with a regional OBR focus

*Regional European OBR focus centers on regional initiatives on refugees and migrants, the climate crisis, global and regional solidarity on Palestine, Rising against fascism



PARIS RISING EVENT JANUARY 9

“Les Rencontres pour la Lutte Contre les Féminicides et les Violences Sexistes” - Meetings to Fight Femicide and Gender-Based Violence” - was held at the National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts (CNAM). The event brought together leaders authors, artists, academics and activists in France, and was hosted by V and Cynthia Fleury-Perkins (Chair of CNAM). The 7 hour Rising event had several panels with in -depth discussions on violence against women, music, poetry, speeches - and ended with hundreds of participants dancing to the new OBR song “We Are Rising”.



OBR ASIA GATHERING NOVEMBER 2019: TAIWAN CO-HOSTED BY V-DAY/ OBR AND GARDEN OF HOPE (OBR TAIWAN AND OBR EAST ASIA COORDINATORS)

V, Monique, Christine Schuler Deschryver were participants of the 3rd Shelter for Women's Conference happening before the OBR gathering – also hosted by Garden of Hope – with over 1,600 participants from over 120 countries. The conference included a speech by Mama C, and the closing speech of V – and ending with a big OBR action call and dance led by OBR coordinators from all over Asia – who got all the participants in the audience to dance “Break The Chain”, and where the new OBR song “We Are Rising” was first premiered and danced. “We Are Rising” was a resounding success at the event, as 1,600 people danced in solidarity and committed to coordinating and organizing in their countries and regions).



OBR ASIA GATHERING NOVEMBER 10, 2019 WHEN THE MAIN CONFERENCE ENDED

With V, Monique, Mama C and coordinators from India, Philippines, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Bhutan, Taiwan, Japan, Mongolia and Singapore. Three OBR regional coordinators also represented South Asia (India/ Sri Lanka/ Maldives/ Afghanistan/ Pakistan), Southeast Asia (Philippines, Malaysia, Timor Leste, Vietnam, Laos) and East Asia (Taiwan, Japan, China, Korea, Mongolia)

*Focused on Regional solidarity actions as OBR Asia – particularly for many OBR Asia leaders and members currently experiencing severe government/state oppression and repression – with actual lives being slandered and threatened

*Committed to focusing on Rising for Mother Earth and Climate Justice as a main Rising issue

*Committed to Rising against Fascism as a region

THEME AND FOCUS OF
**GLOBAL
RISINGS**
AND ISSUES COUNTRIES
ROSE FOR:

CAMBODIA

THEME: “One Voice, One Energy, Together We End Violence Against Women and Girls”

RISING: Stop victim blaming

Youth spaces and roles to end VAW

End impunity of perpetrators

End Rape

Demand to make domestic violence a crime

JAMAICA

THEME: “Raise Yuh Voice Jamaica”

RISING: For women’s empowerment and visibility

To honor and recognize women whose lives were brutally taken

To give all women a voice

To give violence against LGBTQIX people greater visibility

UNITED KINGDOM

THEME: “Solidarity”

RISING: To stop violence against women locally and globally

To gain more public support for charities that support women and children

To pressure government to support refugees around the UK

To engage men in calling out other men about ending violence towards women

To unite with the Friday’s Climate Strike

For justice and protection of domestic workers in the UK

GHANA

THEME: “Raise the Vibration, Rise For

Revolution” – focusing on women and children

RISING: Against teenage pregnancy, early child marriage, drug abuse, rape and pedophilia

ITALY

RISING: Focused on support for women’s centers and shelters

To empower women to denounce all forms of abuse

JAPAN

THEME: “Raise The Vibration: Approaching The Younger Generation”

RISING: To disseminate truth about sexual violence in Japanese culture, and expand the movement

USA MIAMI

THEME: “Solidarity and Raising the Vibration”

*OBR Miami was the official Stop Sex Trafficking Campaign super bowl host committee

RISING: For freedom from violence

To end violence against women in the context of economic parity, climate change, sex and labor trafficking, intimate partner violence, health care and leadership

NEW YORK

RISING: For Workers Rights

SOUTH AFRICA

THEME: As part of #365 Day Protection “If They Can’t Protect Us, We Will Start Protecting Ourselves: Raising the Vibration, Rise, Resist and Unite Against Gender Based Violence”

RISING: To end all forms of violence against women

To end patriarchy and impunity of perpetrators

MEXICO

THEME: “Raise The Vibration”

RISING: To demand an end to femicide

To end sex trafficking

To support the rights of domestic workers





INDIA

RISING: Against the CAA (Citizenship Amendment Act – perceived as anti-Muslim) which is against the Constitution of India
To end the discrimination of minorities and its implications on the citizens of the country, specially with regard to single women, tribal communities, transgender communities
To focus on subjects including Constitution and Indian Democracy, rising fascism integrated with Hindutva nationalism and Hindi Rashtra
To focus on Citizenship, definition, equal rights, women's rights, hate politics, patriarchy and religion, and peace initiatives

PHILIPPINES

THEME: “Defend Our Future! Defend Our Motherland” – a call to end imperialist plunder that exposes women to the worst forms of violence

RISING: To end capitalist greed and what it has done to the environment, to indigenous people, communities and their culture, and to the rest of the people

To end fascism and tyranny – focusing on how the government has used its armed forces, the police, and how it has weaponized the law to go after women and other activists asserting their rights, defending their communities and the environment, and reclaiming their democratic rights

ADDITIONAL THEME: “RISE FOR RICE” *February 14 also marks the 1st anniversary of the signing of the Rice Liberalization Law. This law pushed to lift any control and tariff over rice imports in the country, affecting small farmers, ordinary consumer, rice dealers, practically the whole country, and will kill the agriculture industry in the Philippines.

RISING: To focus on the plight of peasants and their struggle to defend Philippine agriculture against liberalization
To demand the P750 (USD\$14) National Minimum Wage, and regular and better working conditions for women

NIGERIA

THEME: “Raise The Vibration”

RISING: To end rape, domestic violence, gender inequality, femicide, sex for grades (marks)
For women’s right to bodily autonomy (women’s sexual rights and right to choice – either to carry pregnancy to term or have access to abortion services without stigma)
To end all forms of intersectional exploitation and oppression that affects all women and children
To end climate degradation, importation of dangerous chemicals like Methyl Bromid, police brutality, drug addictions and economic oppression

CAMEROON

THEME: “Build Your Safety”

RISING: To end the kidnapping, rapes and murders of women and girls
To raise awareness regarding the insecurity faced by women and girls
To help them with psychological and physical self-defense training

SWAZILAND

THEME: “Raising The Vibration: Rising To End Gender Based Violence Against Women and Children, And Teen Pregnancy”

RISING: To end teenage pregnancy, child marriage, femicide, rape culture, and all gender based violence
For domestic workers rights
To end climate change

MALI

THEME: “Rising Against Femicide”

RISING: To sensitize authorities (government and members of Parliament) for them to guarantee all women of Mali a life free of violence and murder

PORTUGAL

THEME: “Rise, Unite and Defend The Sacred”

RISING: To include and integrate women in prison, many of whom have faced violence, in in a global movement

POLAND

THEME: “Only YES Means Consent. Sex Without Consent is Rape”

RISING: To focus on education and information on consent and intimate contact
To change the definition of rape in Polish law (at the moment it is still up to the women/girl to prove that her “No” was sufficiently loud and clear, if she wants to prove the rape)

BHUTAN

THEME: “Raise the Vibration, Rise For Revolution”

RISING: To end violence against women by raising the vibration through action, art, connection, imagination and love

DENMARK

THEME: “Raise The Vibration”

RISING: To end racism, sexual harassment, exotification, rape, representation, migration, physical and psychological violence caused by the drought and floods brought by cyclone Idai

MALAWI

THEME: “Ending Climate Crisis”

RISING: To end food insecurity, poverty, sexual harassment, rape and sexual slavery

HONG KONG

THEME: “Solidarity For Women Rights And Dignity: Fight Against COVID-19 Threats And Government Neglect”

RISING: To campaign against HK government neglect to address issues related to COVID-19

To protect the health and safety of Migrant Domestic Workers in HK *Since COVID-19 started (in HK, it began before February 14th), grassroots women have been heavily affected in terms of increased fears regarding their health due to the high cost and scarce supply of health equipment like masks, as well as due to necessary care for sick people in the household; increased cleaning responsibilities at home and (for cleaners) at work; increased care work at home for children who are unable to attend school; increased exposure to damaging chemicals used for anti-virus hygiene; and – as common in economic crisis – threats to wage cuts and layoffs. Migrant Domestic Workers are singled out and treated discriminately by indirectly banning their right to enjoy the rest day outside their employer’s houses.

FIJI

THEME: “Rising For Revolution To End Violence Against Women”

RISING: To end street harassment, violence against girls, corporal punishment and rape

SOLOMON ISLANDS

RISING: To end violence against women – one of the highest in the Pacific region

VANUATU

RISING: To end violence and discrimination against transwomen and other members of the LGBTQI community



TONGA

RISING: To end violence against women, and to increase women's leadership

CONGO

THEME: "To Rise Against All Forms Of Violence Against Women and Girls"

RISING: To raise awareness for men and boys on positive masculinity
To end sexist language, bullying, sexually transmitted grades at school, all forms of degradation to women and girls
To continue to insist on solidarity
To fight for the rights of women, including property rights, reproductive rights, inheritance rights
To create an egalitarian world where misogynistic, violent, oppressive, and exploitative policies will be eradicated

KAPOLEI, HAWAII

RISING: To "Raise the Vibration" and build awareness on topics that matter to their community: sex and gender based issues and campus health and safety.

VANCOUVER, CANADA

RISING: To help women and children in the Lower Mainland. Creating care packages filled with life's necessities for local shelters, families in low income housing and extreme weather shelters. An opportunity to work together to focus and learn about missing and murdered Indigenous women.

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL

RISING: For people with disabilities and for minority groups

EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY

RISING: As a region (30 country members in the EU) to have coordinated online and live creative OBR actions in 30 countries
To push for member states ratification or full implementation of the Istanbul Convention
To push for new EU strategy on equality between men and women
To target: EU Commission for Equality and EU Parliament

THAILAND

THEME: "Rise and Strike for Equality Now"

RISING: To end all forms of oppression, and roots of violence against women: patriarchy, militarism, fundamentalism and globalisation
For capacity building on how to better advance human rights
For the rights of all marginalized women including indigenous women who hold landless and stateless status, LGBTQI, women with disability, elderly women, sex workers, women migrant workers, children and youth, and feminist women human rights defenders

INDONESIA

THEME: "Stop Land Monopoly, Rise For Climate Justice"

RISING: To raise awareness on climate justice
For grassroots communities who are leading the fight for climate change every single day, caused by land monopoly – in particular, palm oil plantations.

IMPACT OF “RAISE THE VIBRATION” THEME

Infused new energy into the campaign

Gave more artistic and creative opportunities

Broadened outreach because it brought excitement

Engaged even more youth because it made them feel energized and part of the movement

Gave more visibility to the campaign and movement

Harnessed even more collective energy

Brought “life-affirming” hope that people responded to

Drew even more print media, television, radio and social media coverage

Encouraged leaders and members of local governments to participate more

The youth really loved the theme – as it felt vibrant, forward thinking, colorful, dynamic, fun, affirmative, creative

Activists felt a sense of power – that the energy was moving everyone forward, and that we are not stuck as a movement

Risings were imbued with a sense that “we are doing something right”

Helped raise situations from complete despair and desperation to Raising the Vibe of Hope.

Gave another Edge and Energy

Gave even more hope and courage to the voiceless, specially the marginalized

Brought clarity about the importance of unity

Inspired huge sparks of creativity from artists

Made campaign more people focused with emphasis on body as the revolution

Made communities aware that they are not alone, that they are part of a global movement

Brought back the energy that we need to rise together

Gave women determination and strength to amplify and strengthen their voices

Uplifted everyone’s spirits even in times of escalating violence

Brought intersectional involvement from sectors – the unifying focus being the body, hope, unity, joy

Helped usher in stronger inclusivity – which brought stronger solidarity between women’s groups and supporters, women from different sectors, legislators, local governments

Helped raise the level of political awareness on violence against women issues as well as intersectional issues - through a means that was accessible, do-able, embodied in mind, body and spirit - and less theoretical and dogmatic

Gave activists all around the globe a sense that all their collective efforts translate into a much louder global call

RISING VOICES

“We danced for our freedom once. We can dance for our freedom again”

—LUCINDA EVANS (OBR SOUTH AFRICA COORDINATOR),
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

“The youth – boys and girls – is the engine of transformation and development. Boys and girls need to break the glass ceiling and lift up one another”

—YOUTH FROM PANZI (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO)

“Dancing together is an act of courage. Only together can we be stronger”

—OBR POLAND

“I felt so included”

—A MINORITY ETHNIC QUEER MAN FROM FIJI

“The OBR calls are very relevant to our situation in Mindanao. I was inspired and challenged because of the courage and strength showed by the Lumad women when they talked about their situation”

—ALMA LUSANTA MONDRAGON
(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ALLIANCE AGAINST AIDS IN
MINDANAO), MINDANAO, PHILIPPINES





“OBR helped a lot in our community work in mainstreaming Violence Against Women among women and the village officials. It helped in unifying community based organizations in terms of advocacy work on VAW”

—**JEANETTE LAUREL AMPOG (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TALIKALA)
DAVAO, PHILIPPINES**

“OBR has raised the consciousness of those in government agencies. They learned to appreciate and banner OBR as their own advocacy and many adopted the calls”

—**LORNA MANDIN (OIC OF INTEGRATED GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF DAVAO CITY MAYOR’S OFFICE), DAVAO, PHILIPPINES**



“We are rising to liberate women from the bondage of poverty, abuse and exploitation – here and across the nation. We think globally, and act locally. From our home, to our community, to our society, and towards the globe – we will rise and defeat oppressors and exploiters”

—**LUCY FRANCISCO (GABRIELA ILOILO, PANAY AND GUIMARAS),
ILOILO, PHILIPPINES**

“It was wonderful yet again, year after year this collective fills me with hope and love. Thank you for holding this space and giving so much love”

—**MANMEET KAUR (OBR VOLUNTEER SINCE 2016),
DELHI, INDIA**

“OBR 2020 is of special relevance as its being observed at a time when we see growing resistance of women across the country against all forms of violence borne out of deep misogyny and communalism”

—SUMANGALA DAMODARAN (ARTIST AND ACADEMIC),
DELHI, INDIA

“By using various art forms to build love, respect and solidarity among people and different sections, OBR is demonstrating that people can not only counter violence but build alternative culture of peace and social cohesion”

—ANUJA GUPTA (FOUNDER, RAHI FOUNDATION),
DELHI, INDIA

“I danced in the hope that we would eliminate violence against women and build a society where all women are respected. I felt the togetherness of being connected with the women who share the same feelings around the world. It was joyous!”

—OBR JAPAN

“The power from my core has come up and spread out. This is EMPOWERMENT.”

—OBR JAPAN



CREATIVE RESISTANCE HIGHLIGHTS OF RISINGS

SOUTH AFRICA

Ran self defense sessions along with dance and music events. Engaged popular song-writer and singer who wrote an original songs for OBR and held a Rising concert

JAMAICA

Held drumming events in communities for empowerment

Held safe space circles for communities to hear survivor stories

Held listening spaces for elders to share their visions and strategies

Created sacred ceremonies for 8 days prioritizing peace, dignity and justice

INDIA

Risings across the nation had multiple artistic expressions – theatre, dance, music, poetry, graffiti art, film.

Students from multiple campuses held Youth Risings, putting their bodies on the line in the face of state violence.

Some highlights of local campaigns:

OBR Calcutta: celebrated with various religious leaders

OBR Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh: theme was “Your Lips Are Free, Speak Fearlessly”

OBR Bangalore: led by sex workers, factory workers and members of the trans community – where they built colorful tents with different themes (love, peace, on poetry and stories, etc). The title was “A Courtyard of Peace”

OBR Delhi: danced the Chilean women anthem and tied it to OBR

NIGERIA

Held information dissemination campaigns using OBR songs – for women and children in internally displaced camps – highlighting issues of war, terrorism, sexual and other forms of violence.

They also engaged local governments and local agencies.

Also held Youth Risings in schools, with OBR campaigns and counseling – through storytelling, drama and music.

FIJI

Danced OBR at local parks, malls and at the World Stops concert.

ZIMBABWE

Held an artistic rising at the Zimbabwe College of Music with thousands of students – to preserve the power of dance and rising. Because of the political climate and dictatorial rule, as well as cases of abduction, risings have been in colleges with creative messages.

CROATIA

Held a huge risings event with drummer and artists reading women’s testimonies, LGBTQI+ band singing revolutionary songs, police involvement in “Break The Chain” dancing – with OBR workshops given beforehand.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO:

Risings focused on testimonies and speeches. Marches were also held with calicos and singing songs to denounce violence towards women and girls. Risings involved local authorities, police and security agents who also took part.

ZAMBIA

Children took the lead with a petition on child marriage and defilement. This propelled the minister to address the issue. Women's and children's groups used the theme: "If a girl child is destroyed today, there will be no women of tomorrow".

Risings were infused with traditional songs and dances which made the local communities accept the message against child marriage, which is normally seen as a foreign idea.

ITALY

OBR coordinators from 100 towns and cities created their own artistic ideas in terms of creatives for each of their events – from poster making, t-shirt designs, paper flowers, ribbons, flyers, visuals, pins, gadgets). This created unity but also unique creative expressions in each place.

DENMARK

Held a 2 week art exhibition on the subject of "Glitter Breasts – where an artist made casts of women's breasts and put glitter on them.

Main rising event was a Rising spoken word and open mic evening with POC word artists and poets.

UNITED KINGDOM

All across the UK, local community groups, many in rural areas, held OBR events – and danced in their town squares. In London, risings were led by domestic and migrant worker groups who used OBR dancing, forums and artistic actions to highlight issues of forced migration, modern day slavery, and the plight of refugees.

GHANA

Presence of the Deputy Minister ensured full coverage of their Rising event from all media houses – which focused on children rising in solidarity through dance and their original choreography.

HONG KONG

Because Covid 19 had already hit HK on and leading up to February 14th, OBR HK – led by domestic migrant workers, did multiple risings (instead of their traditional one big event) in 15 areas around HK – already holding OBR HK "Watch parties" on FB to share the event and maximize the rising on social media. Even without their usual mass gatherings, OBR HK continued to run organizing and education campaigns to raise awareness.

In addition to multiple risings, they also developed "Dance of Descriptions" – a local initiative to create online participation through self videos of movements using different parts of one's body expressing one's thoughts and ideas about violence against women.



BYRON BAY, AUSTRALIA

Every year, risings begin before sunrise by the beach, as the community dance OBR and then head straight to the water naked

MYANMAR

Huge youth risings in more than 20 colleges across the country, danced to their original choreography of the new OBR song “We Are Rising”



TILBURG, NETHERLANDS

Incredible youth rising led by Fonty's Dance Academy students every year, performing their original OBR song “We Are Beautiful” now in the city square with thousands of people. The song has become a hit across the Netherlands, with other colleges dancing to it every February.

POLAND

All actions in Poland carried out the same OBR slogan which was of huge local importance.

All groups were provided information on the subject, and received graphic design materials, posters and flyers ready for printing.

All groups also received meme designs on the subject which they can use for local media communications.

They also have a singular online base where all OBR materials in their language, as well as OBR graphics, dance lessons and music can be accessed.

Used local Zumba clubs to prepare communities for the Rising events

Held a special OBR actions during their largest open-air music festival in the country – the “Pol and Rock Festival”.

SWAZILAND

Held numerous pre Rising events - made up of street marches in all 4 regions. These were led by domestic workers, street vendors, children, youth and men. A big Rising was held to commemorate Street Vendors day – with a march and dialogue – and graced by member of parliament, mayor and civil society organizations.

Main Rising was led by the youth with a huge march and artistic event – with a lot of dancing and singing. Highlight was the youth dancing the new OBR song “We Are Rising” with their own choreography.

CAMBODIA

Camped at rural areas for youth risings and held public events on the themes: “Public perception of gender issues and victim blaming in Cambodia”. They involved government officials from the Ministry of Women’s Affairs to join their panel discussions in the communities.

Held training programs on gender sensitivity, engagement in organizing and ending discrimination.

Created their own choreography using the OBR songs.

BANGLADESH

Organized a special OBR event with adolescents (age 16 – 19) where a discussion was held regarding causes of contemporary thinking of violence against women. The 5 young panel speakers were from different areas and backgrounds such as indigenous community, a Trans girl, under privileged student, a student from an English medium school, and a village girl from the rural areas. After the young speakers, a panel with senior speakers also took place, comprised of a teacher, a clinical psychologist, an activist, a Trans woman, writer/publisher and a representative of differently abled people. Theme was on “Possible ways to reduce the number of VAW on adolescent people”.

Another main rising was a “Raise The Vibration, Rise for Revolution” artistic cultural events with many artists, singers, dancers, poets, writers, and activists.



JAPAN

Partnered with the Advocated for Flowers demo (which is a popular initiative in Japan where flowers are held during events), as well as using the popular song “The One And Only Flower In The World” – recorded by a famous Japanese band.

MALI

Artistic risings included performance by high school girls on local songs for women. Risings also included a dramatic performance by young artists on the issues of femicide – where they invited audiences and artists to rise against the problem.

BHUTAN

Youth from all districts of Bhutan held school risings where they performed short skits, plays, drama and delivered speeches – as well as dancing the OBR songs.

MALAWI

Risings included women police officers encouraging girls to come forward and report when they experience violence. Risings highlighted translating all gender policies into their mother language for easy and better understanding of communities. A highlight was also rising against traditional authorities to try and understand and eliminate patriarchal systems in communities.



PHILIPPINES

Political risings all across the country were highlighted by Youth Risings leading their own versions of the OBR Philippine dance, as well cities everywhere doing a mash up OBR dance version with the 2 original Philippine OBR songs, “Break the Chain” and “We Are Beautiful” from Tilburg, Netherlands – highlighting creative resistance and global solidarity.

MIAMI, USA

OBR Miami spoke at over 100 events in less than a year, as resource speakers on VAW.

MEXICO

Held massive artistic dance risings all across the country – and launched the Spanish version of the OBR song “Like A Woman”.

THAILAND

Rising was a huge LGBTQI Pride March in Chiangmai, as well as many risings around the country, led by LGBTQI, ethnic minority and indigenous groups.

NEW YORK

A Women Workers Rising action was held in NYC on February 3rd - rising to demand One Fair Wage (a full minimum wage with tips on top), Rising for dignity, equity and respect - and for safe and dignified work spaces. The action was also a mass public self-defence training event.

**EXAMPLES OF HOW
RISINGS
ELEVATED AND
DEEPENED
THE CONVERSATION
AND ACTIONS TOWARDS
SOCIAL
TRANSFORMATION**

ZAMBIA

A clearer realization that the fight against child marriage and defilement is every single person's responsibility – which developed local ownership amongst members of the community and government

To end child marriage, communities are working more closely now with “gatekeepers” such as religious leaders, teachers, youth political movements, women's groups as well as law enforcement mechanisms.

CAMEROON

Risings initiated conversations that affect religious, cultural and institutional reforms that will look deeper into oppression towards women. OBR is being used to design and implement sustainable innovations to overcome persistent barriers that limit women and girls' liberation.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Because of broad and strategized sensitization campaigns by City of Joy staff and members in and outside COJ, clubs of pupils were formed in schools to watch any forms of violence against girls and to denounce it.

-Civil society youth clubs were also formed to fight insecurity, consumption of drugs by young people, prostitution as well as other ills that perpetuate violence against women and girls.

SWAZILAND

More participation from companies this year – from public and private sectors.

Men became more involved. The Deputy Prime Minister of Swaziland called on all men and together pledged to treat women with respect and stand against violence towards women.

Country is realizing that if men are left out of the conversation, they will be reluctant to see themselves as part of the solution. Because of this more male driven organizations supported the campaign and played a big part in the Risings.

MALI

Community and religious leaders addressed the issue of femicide for the first time, which deepened the conversation and consciousness around it, as well as brought in a lot of men into the campaign.

POLAND

The constant focus of OBR towards the issue of consent to intimate contact, improved the public's understanding of the issue. This brought in increasing numbers of organizations and groups taking up the issue of consent.



HONG KONG

OBR maximizes engagement of the youth who have continued to see it as the safest political space to express their collective rage against gender based violence.

Because of OBR, issues of the Lumad/indigenous people, farmworkers, migrant workers, women workers, urban poor women are put firmly at the forefront of people's consciousness



PHILIPPINES

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INDIA

OBR is able to bring in so many social justice movements, and is also able to hold very loudly and powerfully, the multiple calls of unity, solidarity, diversity, inclusiveness, justice. As well as bringing in the calls against discrimination of so many marginalized and oppressed communities – like Dalits, Muslim women, sex workers, factory workers and transgender people.



SOUTH AFRICA

The OBR SA theme of “If They Can’t Protect Us, We Will Start Protecting Ourselves” led to many communities and NGO’s adopting the same call and theme. Because of this the Safety and Protection of Women and Children is being spoken of in the media as a priority issue. It has been quoted more frequently than any other issue in civil society service/

Local governments have now been tasked to have GBV (gender based violence) programs in all departments as part of their service delivery.

MIAMI, USA

OBR Miami was instrumental in creating the space for the revolutionary survivor-led messaging and billboard campaign for The Official Sex Trafficking Campaign of the Miami Super Bowl Host Committee with the State Attorney’s office and Women’s Fund Miami-Dade. Massive impact with both national and global reach.

ITALY

After 8 years, OBR is perceived as a floating island, like an umbrella movement – where all women can refer to in order to connect and fight for their basic rights still denied by the government.



GHANA

The support of ten major media houses where they ran stories on OBR, caused many social debates on various issues raised and discussing during their Rising. OBR Ghana message was hugely supported by the Deputy Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection.



MEXICO

OBR actions have put pressure on government to take actions to reform the penal code.

The campaign has also made visible the need to include Domestic Workers rights in the Mexican constitution



JAPAN

OBR has given opportunity to talk about how women are mistreated on all fronts of society in Japan -which is very difficult to within the country. It has also brought in many sectors that were indifferent to this issue before

CAMBODIA

OBR has enabled a closer introspection on how people see injustice in Cambodian society based on class privilege. It has opened consciousness and discussion on the issue of power bias and how this disproportionately disadvantages women coming from marginalized and grassroots communities.

CROATIA

OBR has synergized many social justice movements together. Croatian women's NGO's, civic initiatives and activists have been more active and "loud" on the issue of victims of sexual violence. As pressure was put on government, it has said it would set aside another 9.3 million euros to provide shelters for women victims of violence, and by the end of the year will work to finish six safe houses in counties that do not have them. The government has also admitted it is acting on the clear voice of the public – the women's groups in particular.

FIJI

OBR brought young women from minority ethnic groups to the forefront and in public spaces who are generally shunned by their communities on being visible (especially through dancing) in public spaces. It also provided opportunities and a safe space for Muslim women to participate, especially in the climate of strong Islamophobia in Fiji. From the beginning, OBR has been able to provide spaces to young women who generally would not participate in any advocacy.

Children and teenagers actively participated with adults, which resulted in deeper conversations around intergenerational feminism and activism.

There was also a huge increase in participation of men who are queer and from minority ethnic groups.

ZIMBABWE

Risings focused on identifying negative norms which promote violence towards women, therefore deeper conversations took place in communities about trying to unlearn behaviors and attitudes to be able to work towards societies that are reforming and embracing the true and ethical value of women and girls.

VANUATU

In Vanuatu, transwomen are not given much space or voice. So having transwomen lead OBR in the country was very empowering for the trans community and helped bring their issues affecting their community to the forefront.



REACTION TO THE ONGOING THEMES OF SOLIDARITY AND REVOLUTION, AND THE CALL TO “RISE, RESIST, UNITE”

“Revolution” makes people understand “Transformation”

They are all the key words that bring people into the campaign

Greatly relevant as it encompasses what “Resistance” means – and that we must unite to make it happen

Themes of Solidarity and Revolution are inseparable

The call to Rise, Resist, Unite awakens people, and invites them to feel for other people’s suffering

The themes and calls bring people the consciousness that we must change old paradigms in order for violence to end

They are timeless because people are in constant need for solidarity and change

They encompass our new slogan: “One For A Billion, A Billion For One” – which is true solidarity

Gives people optimism and helps them understand and embody the power of collective action

Solidarity is the need of the hour

Themes and call provide space for diverse groups and individuals to connect

Reflect the need to build unity and cross bridges among sectors and organizations

Gives recognition that it is an entire system change we need now

Gives the urgency that we must build a robust, more united, stronger women’s global movement

Revolution and solidarity have generated new cultural narratives

Brings the connection and interdependence between national and international solidarity

Revolution and solidarity together have the power to sweep across entire countries, break taboos and stereotypes and challenge hypocrisy

Global solidarity helps all activists in our dark days of political oppression

Themes and call fill a desire and need in all communities for collaboration, connection and action

Revolution and Solidarity are very concrete paths to walk through together

Life affirming

ART AND ACTIVISM AS A METHOD FOR CHANGE WITHIN ONE BILLION RISING

DANCE demands attention **DANCE** is spiritual, cultural and something everyone relates to – a space to express **DANCE** claims spaces **DANCE** is empowerment **DANCE** unifies people **DANCE** brings people together and starts critical conversations **DANCE** is a powerful tool to create, generate and cement solidarity **DANCE** creates awareness **DANCE** gives a greater sense of community **DANCE** is used to sensitize, educate, change mindsets and alert people **DANCE** is an expression of self and of emotions **DANCE** connects people **DANCE** expresses freedom **DANCE** creates images, stories and spreads messages **DANCE** draws people's attentions to issues **DANCE** has become the new trend to pass on valuable information **DANCE** brings relief from separation and silence **DANCE** motivates people to stand up and get engaged

OBR, because of art, creatively highlights our struggle **OBR**, through art, paves the way for more groups to join the movement **OBR** using art, creates broader space to advance and include issues of society **OBR** galvanizes interest in the subject of violence against women and intersecting issues of violence **OBR** creates anti-violence women's networks **OBR** acts as a support group for groups and individual activists **OBR**, because of art, enables local governments to join the movement **OBR** and art allow communities to socially engage while receiving valuable information **OBR** allows communicative expression and not just decorative expression **OBR** and art facilitate communication with people more than talks and conference do **OBR** propagates positive energy – making everyone want to join and take part **OBR** dances and anthems make everyone brave to express themselves

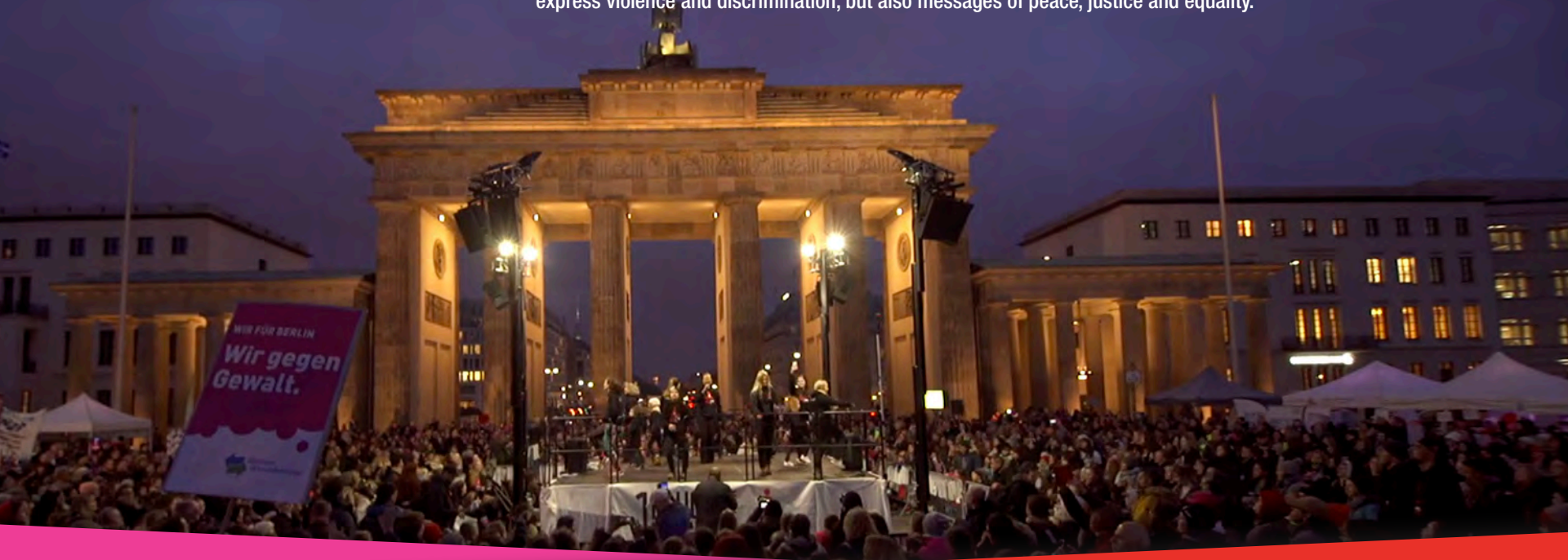
V-CAMPAIGN VOICES

LUCINDA EVANS (SOUTH AFRICA): “Dance for us as a People who lived for years enslaved, means FREEDOM. V-DAY songs resonate with so much that we are facing on a daily basis.

AFIA WALKING TREE (JAMAICA): “For women and girls in Jamaica, the drum has been outlawed, until OBR brought the drum front and center in all the spaces women and girls occupy. To bring back the drum, the dance, and allowing women and girls to enjoy new muscles to express, share and live into their radical self-care is empowerment freedom and change.”

JOAN SALVADOR (PHILIPPINES): “Art and activism, dance in particular, compel the public to look into the most difficult issues and encourages them to participate in taking on these issues through whatever form they can. Since OBR is all year round in the Philippines with GABRIELA and our OBR task force groups, we are able to keep women’s issues in the consciousness of the public, express the inadequacy of our government in addressing these issues or the role of the government in worsening the situation of women, and encouraging people to build alternatives.”

KAMLA BHASIN (INDIA): “OBR brings together a diverse group under one umbrella to strongly raise their collective voice against violence against women. A united banner provides them a large platform that would be very difficult to build individually. OBR platform is a wonderful and necessary space for the amplification of the voices of grassroots communities in the forms of dance, music and theatre. Art enables the marginalized voices to fully express violence and discrimination, but also messages of peace, justice and equality.”





OMONDELE IBITOYE (NIGERIA):

“Africans express emotions through singing and dance. Dancing helps us come into our power. It is a form of freeing oneself from internalized oppressions. OBR has changed the method of activism. It has made our perceived “weaknesses” as our strength – by being bold enough to rage, speak, sing and dance against violence.”

CHIKAKO HAMA (JAPAN):

“For victims of violence, dancing brings the liberation of minds. Liberation and solidarity are powerful. Dancing exceeds words and just allows us to be inside the experience.”

CHANDY ENG (CAMBODIA):

“The songs and dances of OBR makes everyone braver to express themselves in public. People begin to reflect on art – and whether they end or reinforce strong cultures of gender discrimination. The OBR songs have helped the youth stop supporting other art or artists who de-value women. OBR dancing makes us all participants feel empowered. One participant mentioned that “when I dance, I feel like I am flying towards the sky. And there I feel I am not just one, but I feel in solidarity with a billion other fighters in the world.”

ABHA BHAIYA (INDIA):

“OBR has allowed us to see and experience that art and culture make considerable and necessary contributions to the well-being of communities – specially to express dissent. and art have given us possibilities to transform ways of thinking and acting, to create public dialogues, to contribute to the development of community’s creative learning, and to building healthy communities capable of action. OBR has also provided powerful tools for community mobilization and activism, and help build community capacity and leadership. Also, every year with OBR, we witness new talents who never thought of themselves as artists.”

“OBR has shown us that art is an essential form of activism. It ignites imagination and expressions to dream of a world differently. It has shown us that social change cannot happen without art because we need the heart to imagine a future that is different from the one we are in. In India, OBR has been so successful in creating awareness by addressing issues through art, music and dance – which have always been the heartbeat of the movements for liberation and freedom.”

RAISING THE VIBRATION TO RISE IN SOLIDARITY

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY IS...

Women Rising together
Creating enabling environments and spaces for each other
Standing in support with women all over the world
Seeing every society as part of a bigger whole
Protecting our sisters in time of need
Connecting with sisters for liberation
The sea of our collective Red Fist in the air
A collective empowered space
Love and respect for Mother Earth
Global unity and interdependence
Knowledge of the world and our meaningful response
The resounding power of empathy and connection into action

REVOLUTION IS...

NOW
Urgent transformation for societies and cultures
Holding hands against attacks
Changing the narratives
Freedom
Complete annihilation of all oppressive structures
Everyone coming together for everyone
The turning point
The connection with systems of life that are stronger than violence
“LOVE” and “EVOLUTION”

RAISING THE VIBRATION IS...

Increasing momentum and energy
Building support
Bigger and stronger and amplifying efforts
Young women at the top of the mountain screaming while dancing!
Rising from corner to corner
365 days of Joy. 365 days of Raising pain to power
A manifestation of positivity, light and love by the rising of collective consciousness
The collective efforts of everyone used to amplify the voices of the oppressed
Freedom from fear of violence
Sharing the joy that the world can be changed
Compassion and support
A shared world-wide culture of respect toward human life and the earth
Remembering the state of and power of LOVE

TO RISE FOR REVOLUTION

One Billion
Rising Poland

NAZY
WAM się
MILIA-
RD

Światowa
akcja przeciw
PRZEMOCY
seksualnej
wobec
Kobiet

14 lutego 2020
g. 12⁰⁰ ZORY
Rynek Miastek

Zatęń! Zaspiewaj! Protestuj!



**SOLIDARITY
RISING
COVID-19 CRISIS**

**OUR MOVEMENT
MEETS
THIS MOMENT**
#SolidarityRising
#LoveInTheTimeOfCorona

#1BillionRising
#UntilTheViolenceStops

(VRAY) 1 BILLION RISING

OUR MOVEMENT MEETS THIS MOMENT

SOLIDARY RISING BLOG

As the world faces the Covid-19 pandemic, V-Day is thinking about our activists, artists, survivors, youth, and supporters around the world and how the virus will impact our communities, our work, our future. The pandemic has spotlighted and amplified the inequities in our existing systems. Our movement is global, with activists in every country. While many are staying at home to help flatten the curve, elderly and marginalized communities are without food, medicine, access to clean water, and other critical resources needed to protect from exposure. For so many survivors, home is not a safe place. Advocates worldwide are providing shelter as well as posting information and resources online to provide them with support.

The Solidarity Rising Blog Series was created to provide a platform for activists worldwide, as our movement meets this moment and we draw inspiration, ideas, hope, and love from one another.

Launched on 24 March with a post was from Luisa Rizzitelli, OBR Coordinator in Italy, writing about the Italian experience under quarantine and the necessity of early, decisive action and collective solidarity.

onebillionrising.org/solidarityrising



#PROTECTNURSES

Early on in the crisis, V reached out to National Nurses United to see how V-Day/OBR could help with the massive shortage of personal protective equipment.

Due to the national shortage of face masks and personal protection equipment, the CDC downgraded its guidelines and recommended that nurses use bandanas and scarves as makeshift masks. In response, V-Day launched a virtual campaign asking everyone to post a selfie wearing a bandana or something similar to expose the lack of protection to call on the CDC and Congress to protect frontline nurses immediately.



LEVÁNTATE POR LAS CAMPESINAS EN PRIMERA LÍNEA DE LA PANDEMIA DE COVID-19

NECESITAMOS PROTEGER A LAS QUE NOS SOSTIENEN.

LAS CAMPESINAS ESTÁN ARRIESGANDO SUS VIDAS PARA PONER COMIDA EN NUESTRAS MESAS MIENTRAS NO PUEDEN ALIMENTAR A SUS PROPIAS FAMILIAS, OBTENER ACCESO A EQUIPOS DE PROTECCIÓN NI AL DISTANCIAMIENTO SOCIAL, NI ACCEDER A LAS PROTECCIONES FINANCIERAS PRESENTADAS POR EL GOBIERNO FEDERAL.

ALIANZA
NACIONAL DE
CAMPESINAS

(V-DAY)

1 BILLION
RISING

city of JOY

CAMPESINAS are risking their lives to put food on our tables while they struggle to feed their own families, lack access to protective equipment and are unable to practice social distancing. The vast majority cannot access financial protections put forth by the federal government. The rapid spread of coronavirus across the globe has revealed what has always been a glaring truth for so many of the essential workers who are the backbone of our society: inequity. From the people who pick our food to the people who deliver our packages, it is the working class and poor who are most vulnerable to the virus and the economic disaster that Covid-19 has laid bare.

V-Day and One Billion Rising have partnered with Alianza Nacional De Campesinas / National Farmworkers Womens Alliance for many years on our intersectional work to end violence against all women and girls, and our Women Workers Rising initiatives. Let us RISE in support of Alianza and farmworkers as they face unprecedented risks in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic.

While many are staying at home to help flatten the curve, for so many women, home is not a safe place. Many are trapped at home with their abusers, while some are able to seek help elsewhere. Domestic violence advocates are tirelessly working to support survivors; providing shelter, placing daily check in calls, and posting information and resources online to provide urgent, virtual support. Domestic violence advocates are working to meet this moment with creative solutions, such as requisitioning private hotel rooms to serve as quarantine shelters, working with pharmacies to create code words so domestic violence survivors can discreetly ask for help, expanding and creating emotional safety plans, incorporating tele-advocacy and remote intakes, and more.

V-Day organizers in the US and worldwide are in direct relationship with the Domestic Violence shelters in their communities, who have been beneficiaries of the *The Vagina Monologues*, *Raise the Vibration*, and other artistic works.

Organizers are reaching out to the shelters so that we can share both their needs and their strategies for how best to support survivors during this pandemic.

**WHEN
HOME
IS NOT A
SAFE
PLACE**



WOMEN WORKERS RISING



A TOWN HALL DISCUSSION:
ESSENTIAL WOMEN ON THE FRONTLINES

HOSTED BY CONGRESSWOMAN PRAMILA JAYAPAL
& EVE ENSLER

TUESDAY, APRIL 21
7:00-8:00PM ET

VIA ZOOM + FACEBOOK LIVE

WomenWorkersRising.org/TownHall



WOMEN WORKERS RISING TOWN HALL SERIES

The rapid spread of Coronavirus across the globe has revealed what has always been a glaring truth for so many of the essential workers who are the backbone of our society: the most essential are least valued, are treated as most expendable. It is the working class and poor who are most vulnerable to the virus and the economic disaster that Covid-19 has laid bare. And often it is women who are holding the frontline.

To respond to this crisis, Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal and Eve Ensler hosted two virtual WOMEN WORKERS RISING Town Halls. The first featured Bonnie Castillo, RN and Executive Director of National Nurses United, Mily Trevino-Saucedo, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, and Sandra Jackson, MSW, LICSW, LCSW-C, Executive Director of House of Ruth. The second will feature Sara Jayamaran of One Fair Wage, Ai-jen Poo of National Domestic Workers Alliance and Sue Wilmot of UFCW 21.

How do you live on the edge of what's over?
Is precarious the only country?
Is falling the new language?
Are you sure you have it?
Has it always been there?
Does it make you want to shop
Or clean
Or count the dead?
Do you notice how often microbe creeps into the conversation?
Do you know where you fit in the hierarchy of the disposable?
Would you change places?
Really?
Are preexisting conditions equal to systemic oppression?
How do you shelter in place without place?
Have you ashamedly caught yourself comforted by thinking that it's
mainly the old who will die
and then remembered you are old?
What does it mean to be a carrier?
Who will you become at a distance?
Is choosing sickness or hunger a choice?
Who haven't you noticed before?
Are they currently keeping you alive?
Will you remember them after?
Is mutiny possible in a quarantine?

EVE
ENSLER

RISING IN THE TIME OF CORONA EMERGENCY FUND

The rapid spread of Coronavirus across the globe has revealed what has always been a glaring truth for so many of the essential workers who are the backbone of our society: inequity. From the people who pick our food to the people who deliver our packages, it is the working class and poor who are most vulnerable to the virus and the economic disaster that COVID-19 has laid bare. So often these frontline workers are women. Many of them are activists, young leaders, and women who are part of our movement.

From Kenya to India, Guatemala to Thailand, we are hearing about great need from across our vast global network. While some are struggling with isolation and increased proximity to potentially violence situations within their homes, others are struggling with making rent, feeding their families and accessing masks and protective gear to keep themselves and their loved ones safe.

At the City of Joy in Congo and the V-Day Safe House for the Girls in Kenya, there is increased need as leaders mobilize to support their graduates and the surrounding community. In Congo, young women are making masks and taking leadership in their communities. City of Joy leadership is mobilizing internationally for necessary personal protection equipment for nearby Panzi Hospital. In Kenya, V-Day Safe House girls studying at boarding school took unexpected but necessary refuge at the safe house due to the virus.

In response to these increasing needs, V-Day is launching the RISING IN THE TIME OF CORONA EMERGENCY FUND to support grassroots activists leading their communities' response to Covid-19. We will use funds to rapidly respond to needs on the ground

RISING FOR A POST COVID-19 WORLD

The Covid-19 virus has in a short time blown open and revealed the destructive veins of neo-liberal capitalist racist patriarchy. With each day, we see that the majority of people who are dying are those who have been historically exploited, oppressed and marginalized by poverty, racism, xenophobia. The virus is revealing the violent, broken, greed and growth systems that we have been both tolerating and forced to live with for far too long.

As we envision a post Covid-19 world, we now **MUST ASK** ourselves; “what is essential”, “who is essential”, “what would it mean to live with just what is essential”, and “how would we value, protect and uplift those who are doing the essential work”?

The Earth, most essential to all life, is the most violated. Indigenous people of the earth have taught, embodied and been calling for the true alignment of humanity and the earth.

Across the planet, the majority of front line workers, health care workers, home care workers, domestic workers, farmworkers – are women. As with the EARTH, they are the least valued, underpaid and least protected. Health workers without necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) despite putting themselves at risk every day, food and agricultural workers providing the food on our tables while they cannot feed their own families, the list goes on.

Now is the moment for our movement and movements across the planet to open the window to a new world, to refuse to go back to a “normal” that was never fair or functional for the majority of people.

It is up to us to envision and demand this future as we collectively rise in global solidarity and organized creative resistance.

Because neo-liberalism has **FAILED** across the world to take care of the health and well-being of the majority of human beings and the earth:

We need to envision a world where ecology and economy live in alignment. Where the new economy is defined by LOVING CARE of the earth, and of the people.

Because in this pandemic, people are locked down, living in fear and uncertainty – it has become fertile ground for governments to control people, to curtail democratic human rights, to erode freedom of the press, and to exploit people and resources –for these forces to take root in the name of health and safety:

We need to Rise for a world no longer defined by political or religious totalitarianism, hatred, violence against women, violence to the earth and to people, tyranny, fascism, patriarchy, misogyny, racism, ableism and capitalism.

Because the violence of hatred, greed, separation and destruction has chronically disabled our ability to have empathy:

We need to create a world where community, trust, care and love are at its core. We need art, poetry, music, dance to inspire, connect and awaken us.

Because we have continued to take without permission from the Earth – which has led to her destruction: **We need to re-imagine and manifest a new way of living – one that recognizes we are not separate or apart from the earth. We need to honor and respect nature and all of LIFE and not take more than our share.**

Because it has been ingrained in us to operate within divisions – “us” and “them,” to believe that some people matter and others don’t, **We need to build even stronger global solidarity to connect, in ways deeper than before, in order to dissolve hierarchy and come into our inclusive humanity.**

WILL YOU BUILD, RE-IMAGINE, CREATE, MANIFEST THIS NEW WORLD, AND TOGETHER RISE WITH US?