

#YesAllWomen is an important hashtag. But why stop there?

#YesAllWomen's stories are important. Sharing them, listening and learning and talking are big steps for us. Let's not let things end there. We can use our anger, sorrow and frustration to take further steps. I'm not an expert but I have a few ideas about how we can move beyond the hashtag and make this a movement. If you agree, please share this post. Reprint it, flyer-ize it, whatever. And please share ideas for how we can take it further with me on Twitter @Mari_Kurisato.

1. Everyone: Read women's stories. Share them. Listen. The hashtags #YesAllWhiteWomen and #CisGaze have so much to add to the movement. Women of Color and Trans* women have so much to say, and they need all our support. We're all in this together.

2. Gentlemen: Ok, first, understand, #YesAllWomen are frustrated to hell and back with the misogyny they experience at the hands of men. Please understand that the women in your life probably don't mean YOU when they voice their frustrations using this tag. You're not a misogynist. But some men are. And we need you gentlemen to start doing your part beyond saying "Not me, I would never!" First, gather up your courage and read this short simple post on how to approach women without looking creepy:

<http://bit.ly/GentlemenPlsRead>

2A. Gentlemen, please do us ladies the favor and stand up to sexism WHEREVER you see it. In real life, in League of Legends, in WoW, Eve Online. If you see a dudebro making a sexist joke, just say "That's not cool, man. That's not funny." You can take it further than that, if you want, but even that much, from their peers, can get guys to rethink acceptable behaviour. Erica Friedman inspired this idea and has more to say on it here:

<http://bit.ly/DudeNotCool>

3 Everyone: Of course if you see sexual harassment, abuse, assault, or worse in Real Life, report it to police. Intervene if you feel safe doing so. Some local women's shelters in your area may have training tips on how to best intervene, but the gist is this:

If you see someone in danger of being assaulted

*Step in and offer assistance. Ask if the person needs help. NOTE: Before stepping in, make sure to evaluate the risk. If it means putting yourself in danger, call 911 instead.

*Don't leave. If you remain at the scene and are a witness, the perpetrator is less likely to do anything.

*If you know the perpetrator, tell him or her that you do not approve of what s/he is doing. Ask him or her to leave the potential victim alone.

Taken from RAINN: more tips here: <http://bit.ly/StepInAndSpeakUp>

3. Everyone: Donate time and or money to local nonprofits that help fight misogyny in your area. You can donate to RAINN here:
<http://donate.rainn.org/>

Also: <http://bit.ly/HelpStopViolence> has more resources.