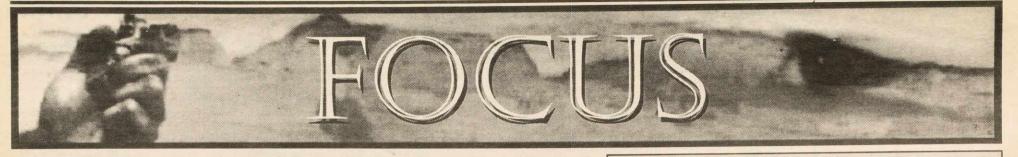


THE GAZETTE

December 3, 1998



White Ribbon group dances to raise awareness and cash

BY PATRICK KERKHOVEN

MONTREAL (CUP) - The first nation-wide dance party to raise awareness about violence against women will take place on Thursday.

Organized by members of the White Ribbon Campaign - which is dedicated to ending male violence against women - the dances will take place in Montreal and Vancouver to raise funds for various women's groups across the country.

Called Namaste, the dances are meant to attract younger men to the movement against male violence

"Namaste is an Eastern word meaning peace within," said Bob Salomon, 27, a member of the White Ribbon Campaign board of directors.

"There is work to be done with people our age. The Namaste dance event is a hands-on approach to targeting this important demographic.'

Formed in 1991 in response to the Dec. 6, 1989 massacre of 14 women at the École Polytechnique in Montreal, the White Ribbon Campaign is one of the largest registered charities in the world of men dedicated to ending violence against women.

Relying on volunteer support

and financial contributions from individuals and companies, a handful of men from Quebec and Ontario decided that violence against women wasn't just a women's issue.

The group encourages men to wear white ribbons as a symbol of their opposition to male violence against women.

"We want to help foster a violence-free society for women," says group publicist Eva Jando.

This year, the group hopes to raise between \$50,000 and \$75,000. And if the dance fundraisers are successful, the group may expand them into New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco next year.

Archbishop Tutu rewarded by Bishop's

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people. All youth need affirming, and someone to believe in them. Continue to dream and whatever you imagine, you can accomplish. When we are not supernatural, we are subhuman," he said.

The Anglican archbishop also credited many people, including former Prime Minister F.W. DeKlerk and President Nelson Mandela, for the progress South Africa has made since 1990, when apartheid was ended.

Tutu also thanked people from other countries who participated in

the fight against apartheid.

"Our victory is your victory," he said. "We wouldn't have made it without you. Without your help, we would not be where we are today."

Bringing Tutu to Lennoxville was a gratifying experience for Bishop's University, officials said at the ceremony.

"It was Desmond Tutu's leadership, backed by his church, that inspired millions inside and outside South Africa to oppose oppression," Bishop's Chancellor Dr. Alex K. Paterson said.



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