

Submissions were invited from interested parties on any relevant issues, particularly the following:

- 1) media images of women which provoke and perpetuate violence against women;
- 2) violence against particular groups of women — immigrant women, disabled women, older women, native women, women living in rural areas, women achievers in non-traditional fields including women in colleges and universities;
- 3) the nature of violence against women including whether there is a relationship between violence against women and the proliferation of firearms and increasingly powerful firearms;
- 4) program models and protocols developed by police, non-governmental organizations and community groups to prevent and respond to violence against women and obstacles to successful responses;
- 5) educational programs and resources developed to foster healthy attitudes toward human sexuality and human dignity;
- 6) models for conflict resolution and successful treatment programs for abusers; and
- 7) the need for a Royal Commission on Violence Against Women and what issues such a commission should include.

Over a five-month period, the Sub-Committee heard and received written submissions from abused women; government officials; a host of non-governmental community-based agencies and organizations which deliver services to abused women, children and abusers; professional organizations and associations which act as educators of and advocates for women victims of violence; and individual experts and commentators.

The testimony is to be found in Issue Nos. 1–13 of the Subcommittee on the Status of Women for the Second Session of the Thirty–Fourth Parliament.

This report is structured as follows. The first section defines violence against women and its incidence in Canadian society. The next section discusses the relationship between the inequality of women in this society and their vulnerability to victimization. The third section of the report describes the human and economic costs of violence against women. The report also sets out the Committee's findings and recommendations on issues it believes are in need of reform.