

SPECTRUM

The Wimmin's Room

Some sobering facts on violence against women

REMEMBERING! *The women who have been killed and the fact that the violence is getting worse.*

On December 6, 1989, 14 women at an engineering school in Montreal were gunned down by a man shouting he hated women. We remember them.

- Genevieve Bergeron
- Helen Colgan
- Nathalie Croteau
- Barbara Daignault
- Anne-Marie Edward
- Maud Haviernick
- Maryse Laganier
- Maryse Leclair
- Anne Marie Lemay
- Sonia Pelletier
- Michele Richard
- Annie St. Arneault
- Annie Turcotte
- Barbara Klucznick Widajewicz

We also remember those who have been killed since. The following names were in stories filed from Canada's largest cities during the first week of May, 1992 on the Canadian newswire.

May 1: Dead: Elizabeth Bain, 21-years-old. Body never found; only the blood-stained car.
Charged: her ex-boyfriend

May 1: Dead: Selina Lian Shen, 28-years-old. Dismembered.
Charged: Her ex-boyfriend.

May 3: Survived: Laurie Cormier, 47-year-old business woman. Stabbed in the back and left for dead.
Charged: Her ex-boyfriend.

May 4: Dead: Carol Scolah, 30-years-old. Vancouver, British Columbia. Also killed were her mother, Gladys Biyak and 15-year-old brother Derek.
Charged: Her estranged husband.

May 5: Dead: Margaret Mills—mother of two. Sydney, Nova Scotia.
Charged: Her estranged husband.

May 5: Dead: Helen Martin. Delaware, Ontario.

Charged: Her estranged husband.

May 5: Dead: Airi Makinen. Beaten to death with a hammer in front of her neighbors and her 10-year-old son. Toronto, Ontario.

Charged: Her estranged husband.

That was just one week of news from Canada's major cities.

In a study done of spousal slayings in Montreal between 1982 and 1985, it was found that 29 of 44 men charged with murdering their wives were convicted of the lesser charge of manslaughter. The study found that only eight of the men were labelled murderers even though the killings were among the most violent - men who strangled women with their bare hands, stabbed them repeatedly and sexually mutilated them. None of the men were convicted of first-degree murder.

*Remember,
the violence
did not
stop on
December
6, 1989. It
just got
worse.*

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