



www.reclaimthenightleeds.org.uk

**Asserting women's right to feel free
from the fear of rape and sexual violence**

**Saturday 3rd December 2011
5.30pm from outside Leeds Art Gallery**

Women of Leeds are invited to meet outside Leeds Art Gallery at 5.30pm for a 6.30pm start to march through the centre of Leeds.

The main march is open to women only. Supporters are invited to join the march at the bottom end of Briggate at approx. 7pm

There will be a mixed reception with speakers and stalls. Children are welcome.



Leeds 16 days of
Action 

Women's Health Matters will be delivering a drop in for all women and girls covering healthy relationships and keeping safe. Please see overleaf for details.

Reclaim the Night Leeds is trans friendly

Why reclaim the night?

Research suggests that as few as 10% of rape and sexual assaults are reported to the police. Of these few only around **8% result in a conviction (8.3% in West Yorkshire)**. Evidence suggests this may be because there is a general sense that a woman is partly responsible if she is out alone, had a drink or dressed attractively.

Reclaim the Night Leeds asserts our right, as women, to challenge and feel free from the fear of rape and sexual violence wherever we are, by reclaiming areas around Leeds. Come and join us and put your feet on the street to make a stand and Reclaim The Night for you, your friends, daughters, sisters, mothers, grandmothers and partners.

DROP IN:

Women's Health Matters, who deliver domestic violence support and educational work across Leeds, will be delivering a drop in and information stalls for all women and girls covering healthy relationships and keeping safe.

There will be a chance to make banners during the workshop.

The drop - in is to be held at Arts@Trinity on Boar Lane from 3pm to 5pm.

for more information please email reclaimthenightleeds@googlemail.com

Myth: Rape does not happen very often. Fact: At least 47,000 women are raped every year in the UK; that's around one every 34 minutes. This is as many women as live in Maidstone, Basingstoke or Bath.

Myth: Most rapes are committed by strangers Fact: The majority of rapists are known to the victim. In two thirds of recorded cases, the suspect was known by the victim.

Myth: If I got raped, there would be a rape crisis centre to support me. Fact: Three out of every four local authority areas have no services for victims of rape, and up to half of the remaining rape crisis centres face closure because of severe funding problems. This means that the vast majority of women who are raped do not have a rape crisis centre in their area.

Myth: If a woman is drunk, wears revealing clothing or flirts with a man, she is partly to blame for being raped. Fact: Someone's dress or behaviour, or the fact that they have been drinking, does not somehow make it ok to assault them.

Myth: Rape is impossible to prove, because it's a case of one person's word against another's. Fact: There is supporting evidence in 86.7% of charged cases of rape. This could include forensic evidence, previous convictions or witnesses to events surrounding the rape. More could be done to gather effective evidence in rape cases.