

WE NAA EASE UP!

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION: May 6, 2021

WE NAA EASE UP!

We, the women of Jamaica and beyond, who have signed this Press Release, NAA EASE UP! Today, May 6, 2021, marks one (1) month since Tannisha Singh and Member of Parliament, George Wright, made independent reports of a physical altercation to the Anchovy Police and Ramble Police, respectively. To date, to the best of our knowledge, Mr Wright has not provided any acceptable explanation of the circumstances surrounding this reported physical altercation. Further, his leave from Parliament, WITH PAY, “to attend to unforeseen circumstances” is unacceptable. Taxpayers deserve more! The government needs to honour SDG #5 (gender equality) to which Jamaica is signatory.

Reports of violence against women and children continue. The recent reports of sexual assault of a 13-year old girl and a 5-year old boy in St Ann are abhorrent! We intend to actively push our representatives to be more proactive and to URGENTLY address these human rights violations.

Our activities to bring about change will include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Persisting in our demand for the resignation of George Wright as an MP.
2. Monitoring the tabling of the Constitution (Amendment) (Impeachment) Bill (2011) to ensure that the people’s voices are heard through a Joint Select Committee.
3. Insisting on the signing and ratifying of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (OP-CEDAW) that was set for 2015; along with the ILO C190 to improve work conditions.
4. Pushing for URGENT examination of necessary legislative changes, including legislation to prosecute domestic abusers without the support or direct involvement of survivors, through mechanisms such as “evidence-led prosecutions,” as promised by Prime Minister Holness.
5. Encouraging the establishment of a Special Select Committee, pursuant to s.74 of the Standing Order, to address our Crime and Violence crisis, including violence against women and gender-based violence (GBV), so that the voices of the Jamaican people can be heard in finding solutions to this crisis.
6. Ensuring that Temporary Special Measures (TSMs), in keeping with Article 4(2) of the CEDAW, can be effectively used to address persistent cultural habits/behaviours that perpetuate GBV.
7. Monitoring the many objectives of the *National Policy for Gender Equality (NPGE)* that have not yet been achieved and demanding adequate funding to support the NPGE and the main executing agency the Bureau of Gender Affairs.

We encourage Jamaicans to join the “Thursday in Black” island-wide one-day campaign, May 13, 2021. This is joint action by the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, Regional Coordinating Office, UWI, and the Jamaica Council of Churches, in support of the elimination of GBV. Wear Black; Turn your Headlights on; Stand in front of your parish council office, courthouse, church!! Obey & Adhere to Health Protocols. Only 10 people at any one spot. Police approved!

WE NAA EASE UP!

SIGNATORIES (Total **80: 12 organizations; 68 Individuals**)

Organizations

1. Girls Who Know Jamaica, Antonette Hines, girlswhoknowja@gmail.com ,
2. Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS-RGO), Professor Opal Palmer Adisa, University Director, opal.adisa@uwimona.edu.jm
3. Jamaica Community of Positive Women (JCW+), advocacyhope@gmail.com
4. Jamaica Household Workers Union, Shirley Pryce, union_jhwa@yahoo.com
5. No Nine Day Wonder #N9DW, emsimpson@wencaribbean.org
6. North East Manchester Skilled Women
7. Stand up for Jamaica, Carla Gullotta, carlajamaica51@gmail.com
8. WE-Change Jamaica, wechangeja@gmail.com
9. Woman Inc, Joyce Hewett, womanincpresident@yahoo.com
10. Women's Resource and Outreach Centre (WROC); wrocjamaica@gmail.com
11. Women Entrepreneurs Network of the Caribbean (WENC), Ethnie Miller Simpson, emsimpson@wencaribbean.org
12. Women's Health Network, womenshealthnetworkja@gmail.com,

Individuals

1. Andrea Molnar, Social Media Manager
2. Alissa Trotz, Professor, Canada-Guyana, da.trotz@utoronto.ca;
3. Jody Adewale. Training consultant. Adewale.jody@gmail.com.
4. Aloun Ndombet Assamba, WMW Life Member, alounassamba@gmail.com
5. Andrea Jacque Bennett,
6. Anna Kasafi Perkins PhD, Co-Convenor, Caribbean Women Theologians for Transformation, drperks@gmail.com
7. Cassandra Campbell. CassandraE.Campbell@gmail.com
8. Charlene Dixon, Bless to Bless Foundation. YOutlitificated. Charlenedixon72@gmail.com
9. Danuta Radzik, Human Rights advocate, dmradzik@yahoo.com
10. Diana McCaulay, Environmental activist, diana.mccaulay@gmail.com
11. Diedre Chang
12. Dorothy White, Community Development specialist
13. Donna Morton, Women of Kulture Inc. Tel: womenofkultureinc@gmail.com
14. Emma Lewis; Independent Blogger, <http://petchary.wordpress.com>
15. Grethel Bradford, grets14412@aol.com
16. Helen Atkins, WMW intern / IGDS student, UK, helen.atkins@mymona.uwi.edu
17. Hilary Nicholson, Member WMW Jamaica

WE NAA EASE UP!

18. Honor Ford-Smith, Toronto; Co-founder Sistren Theatre Collective; honormaria@gmail.com
19. Joan French, Women's Rights Activist, Coordinator of the Partnership for Women's Health and Wellness. frenchjaf@gmail.com
20. Imani Duncan-Price, former Senator, Gender and Development Activist, imaniduncan@gmail.com
21. Janet Johnson, janet.travels@hotmail.com
22. Jenny Jones, Sociologist, jennyjones33@gmail.com
23. Joan Grant Cummings. Gender and Development specialist and activist, braceletsofjoy@gmail.com
24. Joan Reidenbaugh. Joan_eb1@gmail.com
25. Karlene Largie, Karlenemlargie@aol.com (for press contact only).
26. [Kodi Reid, Masters Student of Pharmacology, Jamaica Diaspora](#)
27. Indi Mclymont-Lafayette, Managing Director, Change Communications limited, indidlk@yahoo.com
28. Lana Finikin, Convenor Groots Jamaica Co Chair Latin America & Caribbean CoNgo Committee, sistrentheatre@gmail.com
29. Lavern Kitson, lgkitson905@hotmail.com
30. Lenore Kennedy, [Nurse, Jamaica Diaspora](#)
31. Linnette Vassell, Gender Advocate, ldavisvassell@gmail.com
32. Maizelyn McIntoch, Justice of the Peace. Gender Advocate. Member of WMW.
33. Mariama Williams, Social and Economic Development Activist. Email: mariamawill@gmail.com
34. Marcia Swaby, Concerned Citizen standing up for the rights of women
35. Margaux Swaby, Project Manager. Margaux.swaby@gmail.com
36. Mavis Campbell, Housewife
37. Maxine Wright, Health Coordinator, Jamaica Diaspora
38. Mishka Parkins, Marketing Specialist, Jamaica Diaspora
39. Judith Wedderburn, Independent Gender Advocate. wed.jud@gmail.com
40. M. Ann Phillips, annphillipsphd@gmail.com
41. Michelle Golding Hylton, Member WMW Jamaica, michgold67@yahoo.com
42. Nadeen Spence, nadeen.spence@gmail.com
43. Natasha James Wigley, natasha01uk@gmail.com
44. Nicole A. Brown, Environment and Development Specialist, nabrown@btinternet.com
45. Oberlene Smith, DV Trainer and Advocate
46. Olayinke Jacobs Bonnick
47. Patricia Donald Phillips, member WMW Jamaica, patdonaldphillips@gmail.com,
48. Patricia Sheerattan-Bisnauth (Rev). , CEO, Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation. pbisnauth@gmail.com
49. Paulette Bell Kerr, Educator, mental health advocate, paulette.bellkerr@gmail.com
50. Phyllis A. Green PhD, Women's Rights Advocate, studyofreligion12@gmail.com

WE NAA EASE UP!

51. Prachi Chirputkar. Cprachi3291@gmail.com
52. Nicola Ashwood (Rev)
53. Rosalea Hamilton, Human Rights Advocate, rosaleahamilton@gmail.com
54. Rosemarie Thomas, JP, HR Specialist, mental health advocate, rosemarie56@gmail.com
55. Rosemary Francis-Binder, Diaspora, Educator, Human Rights Advocate rosebinder50@t-online.de
56. Rukie Wilson, Rukie.wilson@gmail.com
57. Sandra Bradshaw, Musician, Teacher, Trainer. Bradshaw_sandy@yahoo.com
58. Shanya Garnett, Singer/Marketing. shanyagarnett@gmail.com
59. Sherene H. Razack, Ph.D, Professor, Gender Studies, UCLA,
60. Shirley A. Campbell, Development Specialist/Project Management, sacamp5416@gmail.com
61. Shirnett Bailey, Gender Advocate, Diaspora, shirn1@yahoo.com
62. Sidonie Morrison-Donald DePass, Retired Matron, Spanish Town Hospital, nenesydporus@gmail.com
63. Trish Lehman, Germany. Lovebugs@home-on-net.de
64. Tsarita Nkrumah, CEO TMN Consulting \$ Associates Limited.
65. Vanda Radzik - Women's Rights and Environmental Justice, Guyana vandaradzik@yahoo.com
66. Violet Duncan, Educator, Jamaica Diaspora
67. Wendy A Lee, UK, w1.sevenoaks@gmail.com
68. Winsome Dyer-Anthony, cutiedyer@yahoo.com

#NaaEaseUp #endGBV

END