

A thick black L-shaped frame is positioned around the text. It starts at the top left, goes right, then down, then right again, and finally down to the bottom right corner.

GENDER VIOLENCE AND RELIGION

Questions for the week

- What do we mean by gender violence?
- What is rape culture and how is it related to gender violence?
- To what extent are religions complicit in perpetuating rape culture and gender violence?

What is gender violence?

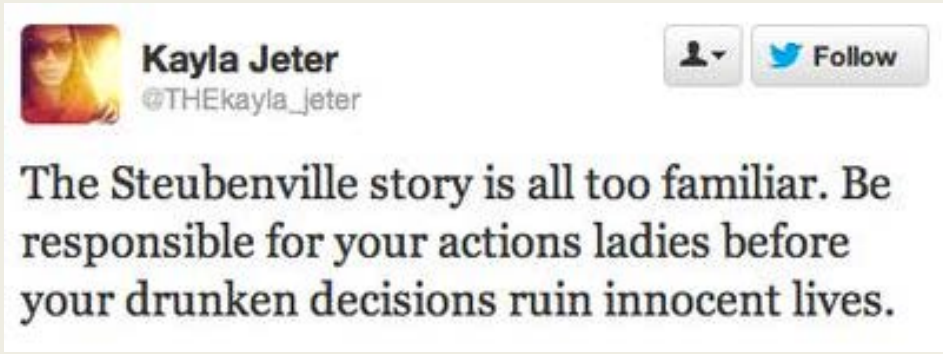
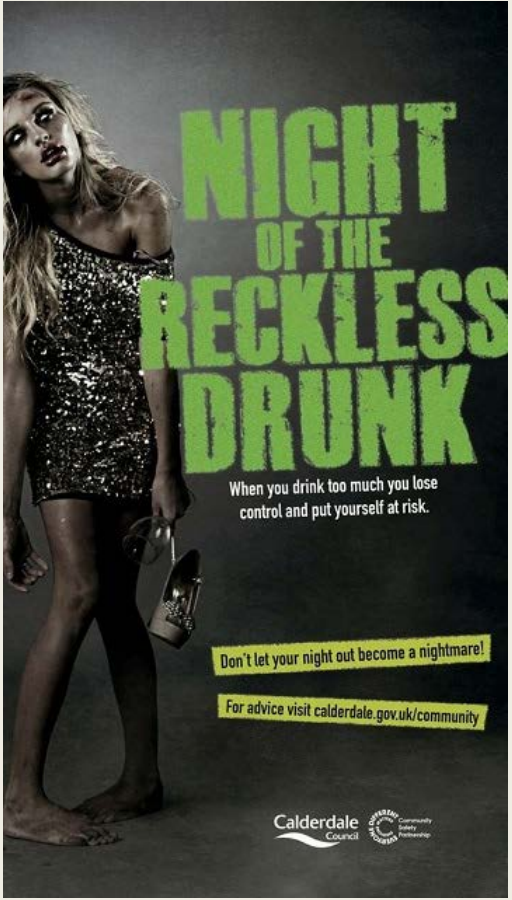
- Violence that arises from normative gender roles and expectations within a given society, which result in unequal power relationships between different gender groups.
- Gender intersects with other identity markers (e.g. race, sexuality, age, ability, class) to create multiple sites where people are marginalized, disempowered, and vulnerable to violence.
- Gender violence influences *and* is influenced by these power relationships – it can serve to maintain structural gender inequalities.
 - *Subjective violence*
 - *Symbolic violence*
 - *Structural/systemic violence*

Rape culture and gender violence

- A culture in which rape and other forms of gender violence are pervasive and normalized, legitimized, denied, or trivialized due to societal attitudes about gender and sexuality.
- In rape cultures, we see many, everyday sociocultural practices that excuse or tolerate gender violence.
- Rape cultures perpetuate subjective, symbolic *and* structural violence:
 - *Symbolic and structural gender violence serve to normalize and legitimize subjective violence.*
 - *In New Zealand, only about **10 out of 100** sexual abuse crimes are reported and **3** of those get to court. Only **one** of those is likely to get a conviction.*

Rape myths

- (S)he was asking for it.
- It is/was the victim's responsibility not to be raped.
- Men can't help themselves.
- Women play hard to get – but 'no' means 'yes'.
- Rape is 'just sex'.
- Rape victims are 'defiled' or 'damaged goods'.
- Rapes are committed by strangers.
- Women lie about being raped.
- A person cannot rape their spouse.
- Sex workers cannot be raped.





Caroline Blyth
@CazBlyth

Following

"Were you saying no but not meaning no?"
Rape culture is alive and well in NZ judiciary



'Were you saying no but not meaning no?': On the tactics of Scott Kuggelei...
Regardless of today's verdict, the assumptions made and line of questioning
pursued by Kuggeleijn's lawyer Philip Morgan over the course of two trials were e...
thespinoff.co.nz



The Shiloh Project
@ProjShiloh

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"This was a couple of daft boys" - defence
lawyer drawing on 'boys will be boys' rhetoric
to excuse sexual assault



UK woman speaks out after man sexually assaulted her while live-streamin...
A UK teenager was sexually assaulted with a sweeping brush as she slept at a
party. Tracie Aldridge, then 19, slept through the attack by Jordan Binnie, but w...
nzherald.co.nz



The Shiloh Project
@ProjShiloh

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Cricketer Scott Kuggeleijn tells court alleged
victim was 'provocatively dressed', as if that's
an excuse for rape.



Cricket rape trial: Scott Kuggeleijn tells court alleged victim was 'provocati...
An alleged rape victim wearing a skirt and singlet was
nzherald.co.nz



Vicky Walker
@vicky_walker

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Hey @Schofe & @hollywills how about 'Are
men socialised to feel entitled to women's
bodies?' instead of this?
#thismorning



RETWEETS
114

LIKES
169



Farrah Khan
@farrah_khan



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rape culture is when father of convicted rapist
#BrockTurner characterizes the assault as "20
mins of action".



Michele Dauber @midauber

#brockturner father: son not "violent" only got "20 mins of action"
shouldn't have to go to prison. @thehuntingground

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Sexual harassment claims could have sunk
Casey Affleck. Instead, he soared



Sexual harassment claims could have sunk Casey Affleck. Instead, he soared
The treatment of Ben Affleck's artsy kid brother – now basking in praise for
Manchester by the Sea – stands in striking contrast to other cases. Why?
theguardian.com

‘If every man s
to live.’

‘As the gentle
“no”’.

‘Are you sure y

‘You were out



much less exciting place

judge in rape trial, 1996

doesn't always mean

jury in a rape trial, 1990

ted their assaults, 2006.

Hidden agendas

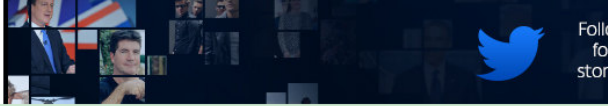
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Migrant rape fears spread across Europe: Women told not to go out at night alone after assaults carried out in Sweden, Finland, Germany, Austria and Switzerland amid warnings gangs are co-ordinating attacks

- Sweden has issued warnings to women to be wary of potential attacks
- 15 young women have reported being groped by men in Kalmar, Sweden
- Austrian police have come under fire after claims attacks were covered-up
- Finnish police say they have information that the attacks are co-ordinated
- Vienna's police chief advises women not to go out on the streets alone
- Cologne police chief Wolfgang Albers relieved of his duties over handling of New Year's Eve sex attacks

By TOM WYKE and JAY AKBAR FOR MAILONLINE and ULF ANDERSSON IN SWEDEN FOR MAILONLINE and NICK FAGGE AND SARA MALM IN COLOGNE FOR MAILONLINE
PUBLISHED: 03:16 +11:00, 9 January 2016 | UPDATED: 15:52 +11:00, 1 February 2016

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Security authorities are growing increasingly concerned by the rising number of sex

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Migrant women are being forced to become €10-a-time prostitutes at German asylum camps where sexual assaults are now 'an everyday event' and violent clashes frequently break out

- Spike in violence as country braces for around a million migrants this year
- Female cleaner at one camp was 'sexually assaulted every day for 10 days'
- There have also been reports of six rapes at another German refugee camp
- Police union chief: 'You cannot make light of what is happening here'

By SIMON TOMLINSON FOR MAILONLINE
PUBLISHED: 02:24 +11:00, 17 October 2015 | UPDATED: 07:26 +11:00, 17 October 2015

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Migrant women are being forced to become €10-a-time prostitutes in German refugee camps, it has been reported.

The country – which is braced for around one million asylum seekers this year – has seen a spike in violence at registration centres in recent weeks as conditions deteriorate and tempers boil over.

Sex attacks are now said to be an 'everyday event' while in one state alone there are understood to have been 100 cases of violence in just the last three months.

Daily Mail

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Jill Meagher 'should have been home in bed' on the night she was brutally raped and murdered: Priest's comment at a primary school triggers outrage... and an apology

- A priest made controversial comments at a primary school on Friday
- The comments related to the death of Melbourne woman Jill Meagher
- He said if her faith had been stronger she may not have been killed
- She should have been 'home in bed' instead of 'walking the street', he said
- A Church official has been forced to apologise for the heinous comments
- 'We do not share the sentiment of the homily this morning and we certainly apologise for the hurt that this homily may have caused today'

Samoan church deacon's comments cause uproar from Pacific women

Indira Moala
Updated 21 Nov 2013, 7:58am

A Samoan church deacon has called on women to leave a "mark" on sexual predators, fuelling criticism from Pacific women all over the world.

In a recent interview published by the Samoan Observer, the Chairman of the National Council of Churches, Deacon Kasiano Le'aupepe, urged women to bite men who sexually assault them.

Deacon Le'aupepe added that failure to do so could be interpreted as girls enjoying or agreeing to the attack.

The deacon told young girls and women to fight against rape by biting a perpetrator's stomach, so that the skin would be torn, adding that failing to resist hard enough was a reason to the increase in sex attacks.

Acclaimed author, blogger and Pacific female advocate, Lani Young Wendt, has published a blog post criticising the deacon's comments, which has fuelled support from Pacific females around the world.

Ms Wendt has told Radio Australia's *Pacific Beat* the comments were disturbing coming from someone who was in a position of leadership and influence within their community.

"He's very much a product of a rape culture that does exist," she said.

"It's not just Samoa, but there's rape culture across all socio-economic boundaries and cultures.




PHOTO: Deacon Kasiano Le'aupepe

MAP: Samoa



Stop the oppression of women in
the Islamic world: www.ishr.org



Rape culture, gender violence, and religion

Religion intersects with other sociocultural factors – race, gender, class, sexuality, socio-economic status, etc. – to create multiple sites of oppression and vulnerability to gender violence within rape cultures.

- ‘Religion and secularism can both be if not the cause, then at least the legitimation, of violence.’

■ Janet Jakobsen, p. 125

ROTHERHAM WITNESS SAYS POLICE COVERED UP CHILD ABUSE BY MUSLIM MEN

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TWEET



Christopher Furlong/Getty Images

See article by Slavoj Žižek

Religion as roadblock *and* resource for helping survivors of GBV



Rape myths

- (S)he was asking for it.
- It is/was the victim's responsibility not to be raped.
- Men can't help themselves.
- Women play hard to get – but 'no' means 'yes'.
- Rape is 'just sex'.
- Rape victims are 'defiled' or 'damaged goods'.
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Religious tradition – or (mis)interpretation?

- Purity and modesty culture
- Notions of the ‘ideal’ gender roles – masculinity and femininity.
- Complementarianism = female submission and male headship.
- Male ‘ownership’ of women, e.g. through marriage
- Heteronormativity and stigmatization of LGBTI+ communities
- Policing women’s bodies and silencing women’s voices

Tradition or (mis)interpretation?

Qur'an 4:34: "Men are appointed the guardians over women... so virtuous women are obedient and safeguard, with Allah's help, matters the knowledge of which is shared by them with their husbands. Admonish those of them on whose part you apprehend disobedience, and leave them alone in their beds and chastise [beat?] them".

Ephesians 5:22, "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord."

1 Corinthians 7:4 "The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does."



ISIS Enshrines a Theology of Rape

Claiming the Quran's support, the Islamic State codifies sex slavery in conquered regions of Iraq and Syria and uses the practice as a recruiting tool.

Written by RUKMINI CALLIMACHI; Photographs by MAURICIO LIMA AUG. 13, 2015

Questions about the article, 'Isis enshrines a theology of rape'.

- Is the rape of Yazidi women by members of ISIS 'religious violence' or cultural violence, or both? Do you agree with the author that this is a 'theology of rape'?
- The use of rape by ISIS – a religious tradition, or (mis)interpretation?
- What rape myths do you see being drawn upon in this story?
- Cultural relativism – or colonizing other cultures? How should scholars of religion respond to this story?

BIBLICAL GENDER ROLES

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<https://biblicalgenderroles.com/2015/10/03/7-ways-to-discipline-your-wife/>

Questions about the 'Biblical Gender Roles' website

- Is this website promoting a 'theology of rape'? A theology of domestic abuse?
- Is the author relying on religious tradition, or (mis)interpretation?
- What rape myths and gender stereotypes do you see being drawn upon in this story?
- Cultural relativism – or colonizing other cultures? How should scholars of religion respond to this website?