

DIRECT ACTION



Protesting with others about something that you object to and that you want to change can take many forms. Protests can be local or global and take place online or offline. They are often a mixture of both.

In March 2015 young people from across Wales led a piece of direct action to ensure the Welsh Government kept its promise to prioritise education in its prevention measures to address violence against girls and women. Supported by **Citizens Cymru**, over 40 young people delivered personalised **Valentine Cards** to every Welsh Assembly Member which included three hand-written statements collected from over 1000 students in school assemblies on why they needed a real relationships education. The cards were sealed with a lipstick kiss to connect to the **Red My Lips** campaign (a worldwide protest to raise awareness of sexual violence and victim blaming). After the action, a twitter campaign followed. Many Assembly Members from across Wales tweeted their support of the campaign and praised young people's creativity.

Inspired by the **youth-led Valentine Card Activism** in Wales for better healthy relationships education, over 120 children, aged 11-12, from 10 school classes in Oulu, Finland designed their own creative activism. They posted 210 valentine cards to each member of the Finnish Parliament, and included anonymised examples of sexual harassment to let politicians know that the **#MeToo** campaign affected children of their age.

@wegiveconsent was a **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Tumblr** campaign led by two Year 8 students from Toronto, Canada to get the topic of consent in the Ontario Health Education Curriculum.

Girlguiding UK have organised campaigns for a 'better sex education'. Find out how you can get involved to **take action**.

OBJECT campaigns for better representation of women and girls in the media.

Read about other change-making protests around the world.

What is an abusive relationship?

What if we treated all consent like society treats sexual consent?

What does consent in sex and relationships look like in a modern, digital world?

YOUTH GROUPS



Youth groups have a long history of **engaging in awareness raising and change-making activities**.

The **Voices Over Silence** campaign to raise awareness about FGM was created as a partnership project between BAWSO and NSPCC Cymru/Wales. BAWSO youth group worked with girls and young women who met fortnightly for over 6 months. Check out their video and read more about their story [here](#).

Children from a local valleys youth group travelled by bus to Cardiff city centre to celebrate 100 years of female suffrage with thousands of others. They waved their hand-made flags with messages for 'peace', 'freedom', 'strength' and 'girl power' to passers by all the way there.



Find out about how Feminist Webs support youth groups. **Feministwebs.com** is a 'women and girls work space' that acts as an archive and a resource for practitioners, volunteers and young women involved in youth and community work with young women.

