

MUSIC



Music, with or without lyrics, has long been drawn upon as a tool for political expression and the promotion of social and cultural change, from anti-war anthems to protest raps.

Combining song and film, a group of teenagers made an anti female genital mutilation (FGM) music video. **'My Clitoris'** was made by young people from the charity Integrate UK. The song makes it very clear that no form of FGM is acceptable, as well as reclaims the word 'clitoris' and women's ownership over their own bodies.

Three passionate feminist mums started up a feminist choir for 10-16 year olds, called **#SHARP!** Singing songs throughout the summer months that were fun, current and had positive and inspiring messages for women and girls. They also mixed up the singing with a bit of body percussion!



16 musicians who have challenged **sexism** in the music industry.

Five teen girls are fighting against sexual assault at music gigs – @girlsagainst.

Find out more about how music plays a role to speak out about injustice with **Justice Through Music**, **Campaign Choirs** and **Girls Rock Camp Alliance**.

Rewind-Reframe is an online platform and campaign, supported by **End Violence Against Women (EVAW)**, **Imkaan** and **OBJECT**, for young women to identify and challenge racism and sexism in music videos.

POETRY



Poetry is any written or spoken word that has pattern and rhythm. Poems can be as creative as you make them, from slam poetry to word art. Poems and activism have enjoyed a long and close relationship, especially in anti-discrimination movements.

"Poetry is the way we help give name to the nameless so it can be thought. The farthest horizons of our hopes and fears are cobbled by our poems, carved from the rock experiences of our daily lives" **Audre Lorde**

High school students from across north and south Wales take part in **Poetry Slam Cymru** every year. Check out the poems **Sticks and Stones** and **Blue for a Boy, Pink for a Girl** which raise awareness of sexist and sexual cyber-harassment, and the pressures of gender stereotyping.

'I am not sugar and spice and everything nice. I am music, I am art, I am a story ...' An anonymous 8 year old's feminist poem was posted by her teacher online and went viral on Twitter, especially the final line: "I am a rich pie strong with knowledge. I will not be eaten".

Read more about it **here**. **#Iwillnotbeaten** **#richpie**

View one young women's poetry slam **Pretty** on societal beauty standards.

Listen to Madiha Bhatti's spoken-word poem, **MU(SICK)**, on **misogyny** in the music industry.

World Poetry Day
is 21 March.

For more on the power of poetry, poetry slams and the spoken word see the **young people's laureate website**, **@litwales**, **The Young Poets Network**, and **@youngpoetsnet**

Find out **how to write slam poetry**.

