

For immediate release:

Sisters Uncut plan mass memorial march in Central London

- The group's first action since their storming of the 'Suffragette' film premiere
- Over 800 women are expected to attend a visually stunning central London protest.

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On 28th November 2015, feminist direct action group Sisters Uncut will march through central London to commemorate the specialist domestic violence support services that have had to close as a result of George Osborne's austerity measures.

The event is timed in response to the government's spending review on Wednesday 25th November, which will detail further budget cuts. (1) The review coincides with the UN-sponsored International Day to End Violence Against Women. (2)

Domestic violence support services are a vital lifeline for women fleeing domestic violence. Since Osborne's austerity measures in 2010, over 30 domestic violence services have been forced to close. (3) As more services shut down, more women will die.

Specialist services bear the brunt of these cuts, especially those that help black and minority ethnic (BME) women, LGBTQ+ people and disabled women. Disabled women are twice as likely to experience domestic violence. (4) On the 30th October, specialist violence against women charity Eaves was forced to close due to lack of funds. (5) This was the latest in a long list of such closures.

On November 28th, the group has planned a visually stunning funeral procession for these services. More details will be revealed closer to the day.

Cherry Haywell from Sisters Uncut said: "George Osborne will announce further austerity measures on International End Violence Against Women day. This is sickeningly ironic, as his austerity measures are paramount to state violence against women. It really is a case of 'he cuts, we bleed.'"

Sabina Haq who will be marching on the day said: "Austerity is a choice, not a necessity. We demand that the government stop its cuts and provide domestic violence survivors with the support necessary to live in safety."

ENDS

(1) www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-33604811

(2) <http://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

(3)

www.womensaid.org.uk/page.asp?section=0...

(4) www.womensaid.org.uk/domestic-violence-...

(5) www.eavesforwomen.org.uk/news-events/ne...

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