RESOURCES FOR BIPOC (BLACK, INDIGINOUS, AND PEOPLE OF COLOR)

The sexual assault awareness movement began in the early 1900’s, championed by Black Women and Women of Color. However, it wasn’t until the 1940’s and 50’s that the movement, coupled with the civil rights movement, gained momentum. The civil rights movement actually emerged out of Black women demanding control over their bodies and lives, Black men being killed for protecting Black women, or ultimately, the fight for Black women's bodies and agency and against white supremacist rape and assault. Rosa Parks, a key leader in the civil rights movement, advocated for justice for survivors of sexual assault and worked with the NAACP investigating cases of rape of Black women prior to her role in the Montgomery bus boycotts. Rosa Parks’ work was fundamental in propelling activism around sexual assault.

Decades later and BIPOC are still harassed, assaulted, and raped. Additionally, BIPOC women are more vulnerable to sexual violence due to systematic oppression due to race and gender. Many times BIPOC women are not believed or supported by the court system and never receive justice.

HOW TO SUPPORT BIPOC SURVIVORS

- Listen
- Validate their feelings / Believe them
- Express concern
- Become an informed ally
- Do not ask details about their experience
- Don’t make assumptions

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PREVENTION AND ACTION

- Become an informed ally
- Center BIPOC women in your research and advocacy
- Support organizations that work on behalf of BIPOC women in your community
- Implement prevention approaches that promote healthy relationships and include all gender identities, sexual orientations, race, and culture
- Believe survivors and connect them to culturally appropriate and accessible resources

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- TransWomen of Color Collective
- A Long Walk Home
- Incite
- Ujima: National Center for Violence Against Women in the Black Community
- The National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault
- Sasha Center
- Girls for Gender Equity
- Rights4Girls
- Black Women’s Blueprint
- The Loveland Foundation
- Black Lives Matter
- Black Women and Sexual Violence
- Sexual Violence Resources for students who identify as Women of Color
- The Boris Lawrence Henson Foundation
- The Unplug Collective
- Therapy for Black Girls