



7.3.2013 – Violence against women is one of the most deadly and widespread violations of women's rights across the world. When a prominent dissident is arrested in China, newspapers do front-page articles; when 100,000 girls are kidnapped and trafficked into brothels, it's not considered news.

Imagine a Boeing 747 full of pregnant women crashing every day. That's how many women die in childbirth, every day. It's a silent statistic that should make headlines, but doesn't.

It is estimated that 60-107 million women are missing today. They have been aborted, killed after birth or neglected to death. In India, for example, girls are less likely to be vaccinated than boys and are taken to the hospital only when they are sicker. A result is that girls in India from 1 to 5 years of age are 50 percent more likely to die than boys their age.

The global statistics on the abuse of girls are numbing. More girls and women are now missing from the planet, only because they are female, than all men killed on the battlefield in all the wars of the 20th century combined. The number of victims of this routine "gendercide" far exceeds the number of people who were slaughtered in all the genocides of the 20th century. Violence against women and girls is a problem of pandemic proportions. In the United States, one-third of women murdered each year are killed by intimate partners. In South Africa, a woman is killed every 6 hours by an intimate partner. In India, 22 women were killed each day in

dowry-related murders in 2007. In Guatemala, two women are murdered, on average, each day. The Nordic countries pride themselves of being at the top of gender equality and equal rights for women. However, women are not safe up north either, although the danger occurs later in life for them compared to their southern sisters.

In Finland, for instance, domestic violence resulted in 135 women being killed by their partners between the years 2005-2010. In Sweden, 17 women each year meet the same fate. In Iceland, there are no numbers, as there is no such statistical category – according to the minister of the interior when asked about it in parliament.

The time has come to say No More.