



**By wearing the white ribbon, men commit to end violence against women.**

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Messages from White Ribbon Ambassadors – Campaign Switzerland  
Conference: Thursday, 25 November 2010 - Geneva

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## Message from Mr Pierre Maudet

Administrative Councilor for the City of Geneva

“Violence against women is an insidious harm, because it exists everywhere, by developing itself in the intimacy of a couple as well as in professional relationships disguised as banal appearances.

Fighting it is an everyday commitment and should concern everyone. By wearing today the white ribbon pin, we reaffirm our refusal of all forms of violence, should they be verbal or physical.” *(free translation from the French)*

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## Message from Mr René Longet

Administrative Councilor for the City of Onex, President of the Geneva Socialist Party

“Violence perpetrated against individuals is always abhorrent. Violence perpetrated against women is particularly abhorrent. It reflects a thousand year old habit of domination, disrespect, and subordination. In this sense it is the expression and the reflection of an acute phenomenon of chronic violence, which can be qualified as structural violence, which translate into numerous forms of humiliation and inequality in the world, as well as here in Switzerland. Brutal physical violence and latent structural violence, equally harmful and mutually reinforcing, must both be identified, denounced, and overcome. Equality among human beings is indivisible, and so is human dignity. Anyone who harms another harms him(her)self as well. A fairer and more respectful society obviously involves justice and the respect between men and women on an equal footing. Therefore, I welcome the initiative led by the White Ribbon – Campaign Switzerland and commit myself to it with conviction.” *(free translation from the French)*

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