

Berlin, 22 October 2018

Dear Zontians of District 27,

Last Saturday I took part in the **Zonta Talk** International President Susanne von Bassewitz announced in the October Newsletter. The subject that Zontians chose was “**Ending Child Marriage**”.



It was a good opportunity to join our worldwide community online and many questions were answered.

For example

- how the money we give will be used (you can find out the answer soon when the recording of the talk is online)
- how UNFPA’s workers persuade families to let their daughters learn instead of being married (you can find out the answer soon when the recording of the talk is online)
- how letting their daughters learn instead of marrying them off can help families



and one point I want to explain a bit further:

- how much of the money we donate goes into administration: Susanne explained Zonta gives all donations to the project. whereas UNFPA needs money for administration. Rachel Steinberg from the UN quantified these administration costs at less than 9%. This money is used for two main purposes: to control and evaluate the projects to assure that the money is spent according to UN and Zonta guidelines and for public relations. If no one knew about the project against child marriage, it would hardly get any donations.

Another aspect came up during the talk: in our European countries there are laws against child marriage. Nevertheless we hear about schoolgirls, who disappear during summer holidays and get married in the home countries of their families. I'm joining notes from our Council of Europe Chair, Anita Schnetzer-Spranger, on this.

As Zontians we should stand up for these young women. Ending Child Marriage shall become our most important project not only on the international level, but also in our communities.

Susanne made it very clear she considers early marriage NOT a "marriage" but violence against young women and girls.

I think we all agree.

You can find out more about this project here:

<https://foundation.zonta.org/EndingChildMarriage>

A recording of the Zonta Talk will be available soon on Zonta.org



Honor and Empower



The talk was a first step from our International President to facilitate communication with all members and I appreciated it a lot. There are several more talks to come this biennium.

Honor and Empower in District 27

This is the motto of this biennium and of our centennial anniversary. Our Zonta, our community wouldn't exist without the women who commit to the cause in the past, the present and the future.

The centennial is a great opportunity to **honor members** who have done and are presently doing a lot for Zonta.

At the District conference we will honor these members.

Please let me know who in your club, area or in the district you want to honor at the District Conference.

Send an e-mail with your suggestions to your President, your Area Director and to me. We will decide on this at the District Board Meeting.

The **Centennial Award** is a great opportunity to give Zonta more visibility. Clubs Areas and the District shall think about women, men or organizations that made crucial efforts to empower women on the local, national or international level. Giving them a prize will increase our visibility in public and carry our mission.

One hundred Centennial Zontians: I want Zontians of our District to talk about their motivation to be in Zonta as testimonials on our webpage and on Facebook. If you want to take part: please send a photo in good resolution and I will get back to you.

Don't miss this wonderful landmark to celebrate in your clubs!



You will find materials and information here: zonta100.org and <https://zonta100.org/celebrate/tools/>



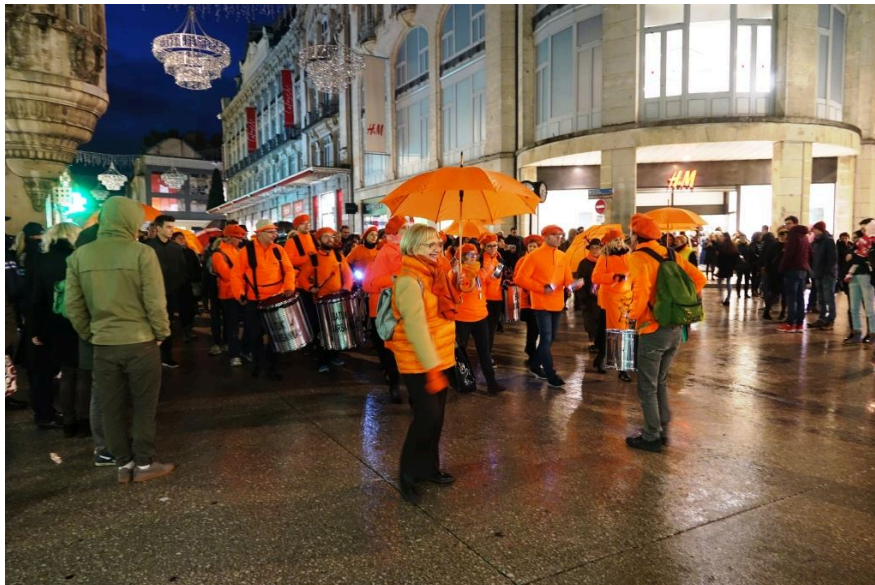
Zonta says No

The 2018 campaign is up and running. From 25th November to 10th December we will have more and more cities illuminated in orange. There are so many ideas to raise awareness. Here are some examples:

- Area 05 and 06 are cooperating with Soroptimist on Orange your city/Orange the world
- In Ghent they will illuminate in orange the Ghelamco football stadium in orange.
- In Kiel they will have one public transport bus decorated all over with Zonta says No



- in Dijon and many other cities Zontians are walking the streets and protesting against violence against women, often together with local or other organizations



- In my hometown Berlin bakeries will sell their bread in paper bags with our “Zonta says No” logo and advice on where to find help.
- Luxemburg has it’s own Zonta says No Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/LetzSayNoToSexistViolence/>



ZONTA SAYS NO
TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Marche orange
contre la violence
Samedi
24 novembre 2018

Départ à 11: 00 heures
au „Glacis“
à Luxembourg-ville

SAVE THE DATE !!
Lèt'z say NO





**Honor
and
Empower**



I encourage you to post your activities and photos on Facebook and on the “Zonta says No” webpage.

If you want to post it on our “Zonta International District 27” Facebook page: send your pictures and a short report to me or to our PR and Communications Chair, Karin Lange: langekarin@t-online.de

More information: <https://zontasaysno.com>

www.facebook.com/ZontaSaysNo/

What comes next:

In my next newsletter I will tell you more about the “Young Zonta Task Force” in our District. There will be some exciting news!

I wish you a successful autumn!

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Régine Deguelle'.

Régine Deguelle

P.S.: Please don't miss the attached farewell newsletter from Past Governor Griet De Prycker. A big Thank You to Griet for all the work she has done for our District 27!