

Step 1: Taking the Pledge

Taking the Massachusetts White Ribbon Day Pledge is about ...

- 🚫 Making a personal commitment to ending men's violence against women and all gender-based violence.
- 🚫 Promoting respect, dignity, and equality.
- 🚫 Speaking out against attitudes and behaviors that contribute to sexual assault and domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment, and human trafficking.
- 🚫 Realizing that gender violence is a men's issue that affects all of us.
- 🚫 Confronting sexism, homophobia, racism and other forms of oppression.
- 🚫 Finding out how to help someone who may be a victim or offender of sexual assault or domestic violence.

Sample Pledge Script

The White Ribbon Campaign was created by a group of men in 1991 in reaction to one man's massacre of 14 female college students in Montreal specifically because they were women. This effort has mobilized boys and men around the world to take a stand against violence against women. The Massachusetts White Ribbon Day Campaign is an annual day of recognition of the role men can play in stopping violence against women and all gender-based violence.

Today, we will take the White Ribbon Day Pledge together to make a commitment to be a part of the solution in ending this violence, and we will wear white ribbons as signs of our commitment. Taking the pledge means not only promising never to be a perpetrator of violence against women but also promising never to be a silent bystander and to get help when you suspect someone is a victim or offender of sexual assault or domestic violence.

There are bags of ribbons passing around, please take two, one for yourself and another for someone else that you meet today or tomorrow. We need to spread this message to other men that we all know.

As members of our community, we pledge to end domestic violence and sexual assault against women and all gender-based violence. We would never want to hear about someone inflicting pain onto our friends, family members, classmates/colleagues and neighbors. In addition, we believe in healthy masculinity, respect and safety in our own relationships. Let's make a difference in our community and take this pledge together:

"Please stand up and repeat after me the White Ribbon Day pledge...

***I promise to never commit, condone, or remain silent
about men's violence against women.***

***From this day forward, I promise to be part of the solution
in ending violence against women and all gender-based violence."***