



ženska soba

WOMEN'S ROOM

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 2005

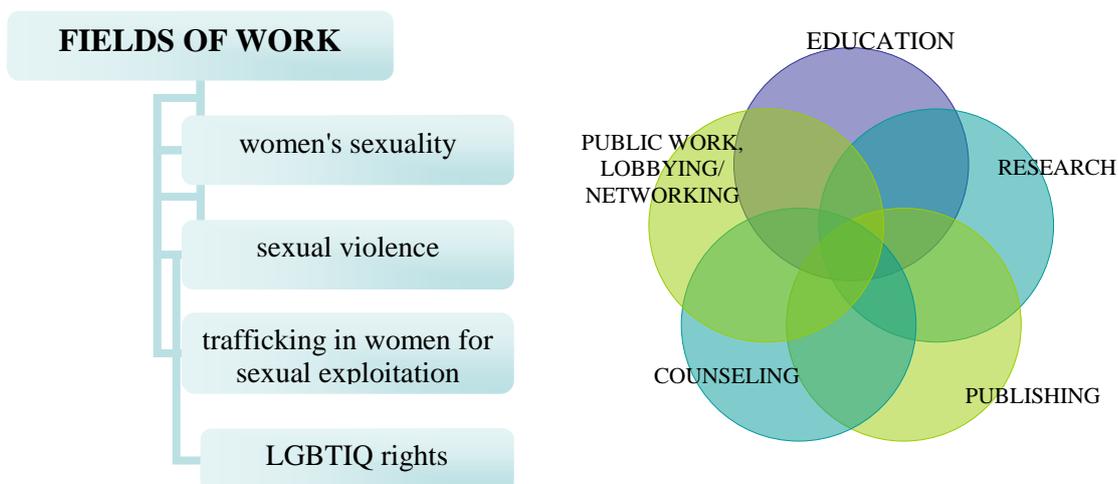
W H O

Women's Room is a non-governmental feminist organization working to raise the awareness of women, institutions and the public about women's sexuality and sexual rights, through education, research and public work. It is located in Zagreb, Croatia and works on the local and national levels as well as throughout the region.

Women's Room was founded in order to achieve the following aims:

- raise the awareness of women about their basic human rights;
- diminish all forms of sex and gender discrimination;
- diminish all forms of discrimination based on gender expression and/or gender identity, sexual orientation, and intersex characteristics
- raise public awareness about the problem of sexual violence against women and the LGBTIQ population;
- prevent of sexual violence against women;
- promote interdisciplinary research about the prevalence and effects of sexual violence;
- promote positive attitudes about women's sexuality, sexual health and freedom of choice;
- empower the LGBTIQ population in the achievement of their basic human rights;
- build capacity of governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations in order for them to develop quality cooperation and ensure an efficient and multidisciplinary approach in the development of prevention programs against sexual violence and for the treatment of women survivors;
- actively support society and relevant institutions in changing attitudes toward women who have survived sexual violence.

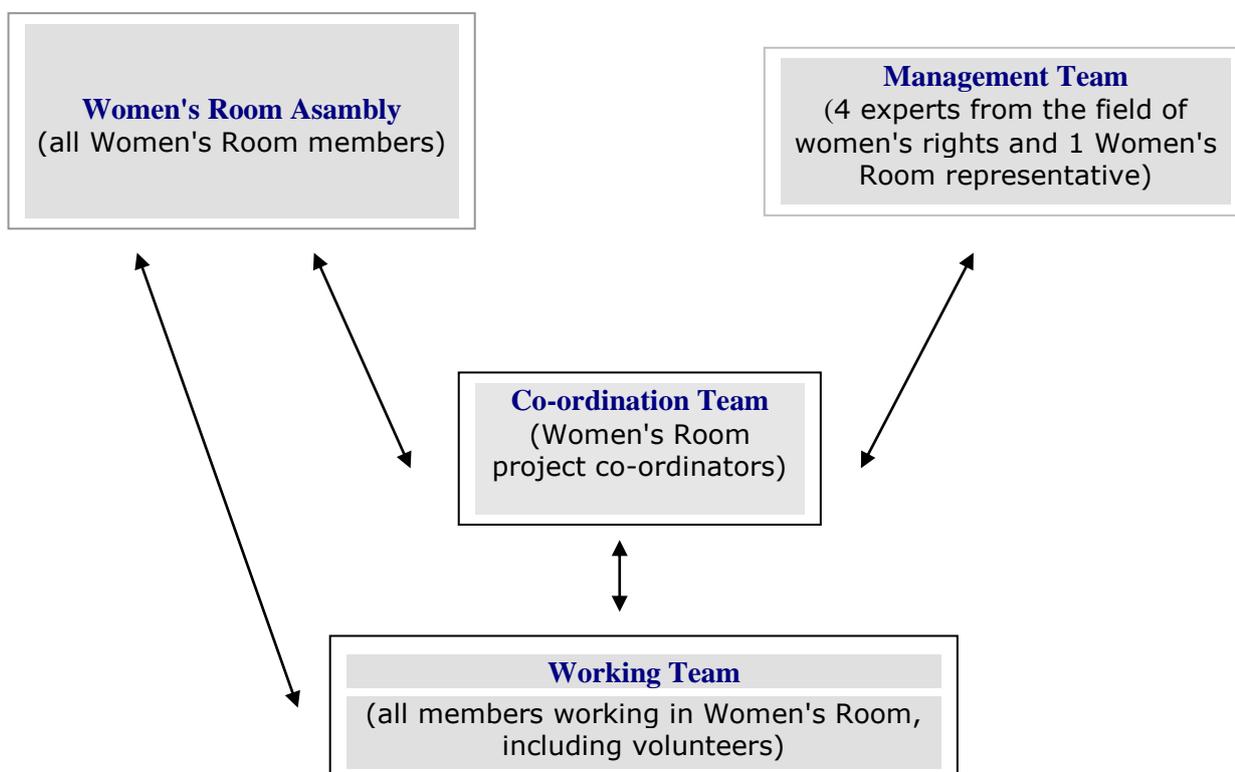
ACTIVITIES



The Women's Room team during 2005 consisted of **Maja Mamula** (Coordinator), **Nera Komarić** (Coordinator), **Jelena Poštić** (Coordinator of LGBTIQ Programs), **Voljana Kapelina** (Office and Financial Coordinator) and **Dunja Bonacci Skenderović** (Project Assistant). **Ivana Dijanić Plašč** worked with us as a part time volunteer for the last three months of 2005. Also, we had **32** external associates who worked on a variety of Women's Room projects.

Besides the Women's Room team mentioned above, **19** volunteers participated in our work and all our activities and actions, contributing to the development of Women's Room with their energy and dedication. During the year 2005 **1230** volunteer hours were realized (please see Attachment no. 1).

Women's Room Structure:



During 2005, Women's Room members devoted their efforts to obtaining the goals set, but also to the development of the organization, evaluation of their work and achievements, and planning for further organizational development. Despite only three years of existence, Women's Room has earned the status of one of the more prominent feminist organizations on the civil scene, and among institutions in the field of work relevant to the issues Women's Room deals with. This is best seen through our publications, numerous workshops and seminars, as well as through media presence. (**Women's Room activities – Review**, Attachment no. 2)

“We don't know who we are until we see what we can do. “

W H Y

Our work is predominantly based on the consciousness of the unequal position of, and discrimination against, women in society, with an emphasis on certain specific groups such as women survivors of violence and the LGBTIQ population. Moreover, our work focuses on discrimination on the basis of gender expression. Unfortunately, among all existing and continuing forms of discrimination, it is typical in our society that numerous actions and campaigns contributing to inequality, initiated by the state, political parties, church and other institutions, are also encountered.

Sexual education

Despite the efforts of involved persons from NGOs, state institutions and the Initiative for implementation of sexual education in schools, the educational program *"Human sexuality and quality of life"* was rejected. It can be expected that the Government of the Republic of Croatia will invite tenders for Health Education, which already exists and includes, in a small degree, education about sexuality. At the same time the TeenSTAR program that is stained with catholic attitudes is still wide spread in Croatian high schools, and their **relation** towards the program *Human sexuality and quality of life* could be seen from their text:

Respected citizens,

This kind of family holiday idyll is beautiful, but if we don't pull ourselves from this hibernation most probably our children will from next fall in their fifth grade learn about "normalization of masturbation" and about difference between "sex" and "gender": By that they will be subdued to homosexual torture at the very beginning of puberty. (They'll learn that our "sex" is determined only by our reproductive organs but our "gender" we can choose by ourselves, for example: "Why not say – 'I am a man with vagina!' "). In seventh grade they will learn about their "right to sexual pleasure" and how to put a condom. As far as the marriage is concerned, they will learn that it is "restraint of sexuality".

Student's Catholics Center – Palma; <http://www.skac.hr/index.php?Zastava=opsirnije&NovostID=769>

"...The authors of the "Human sexuality and the quality of living" program, between others med. doctor Jureša and Ph. d. Štulhofer, want to destroy natural womanhood and manhood because if a young man is neither man nor a woman it will be easier for him to adopt homosexuality or bisexuality...."

TeenSTAR - Sexuality Teaching in the context of Adult Responsibility; <http://www.teenstar.hr/>

“The question that’s being asked from TeenSTAR is: Do Croatian parents and society want that homosexual and feminist organizations force their view and approach to sexual education on them, and by doing that make all other different choices impossible?”

Let’s remind ourselves, the Board of Ministry of Science, Education and Sport (MZOS) which is considering models of sexual education in schools, has to make a final decision by the first of April. According to the information’s provided so far, the members of the Board are divided between two proposals. First one is that the sexual education will be learnt as a part of already existing subjects and according to second, sexual education should be introduced as a separate school subject.

In front of the Board are analyses of two programs of sexual education which are for the time being undergoing in schools, TeenSTAR which is greeted by Catholic Church in about seventy schools and the prevention program called MEMO AIDS, and also there is an analysis of the new program which was proposed by a group of experts led by sociologist Ph.D. Aleksandar Štulhofer.”

Slobodna dalmacija 17.03.2005; <http://www.slobodnadalmacija.hr/20050317/novosti04.asp>

Abortion

The Catholic Church together with central and conservative parliamentary parties, are attempting an abortion ban a few times each year. Medical doctors in hospitals that have license for legally induced abortion have a “morning” problems with their conscience.

It is true that around ten of 33 licensed facilities don’t carry out abortions. Some physicians have specific ‘morning’ conscientious objector, says minister of health Neven Ljubičić.

“You want an abortion? We don’t do them legally in here, but you can contact the physician in afternoon shift –said the nurse in General hospital in Pakrac to activist of the Women’s Network of Croatia, which was conducting a survey of state of female reproductive rights or in other words approachability of having an abortion in licensed hospitals in Croatia.”

Jutarnji list; February 4th 2005

“In Croatian public health system 12 of 33 licensed facilities for conducting legal abortions or 36% of them don’t carry them out.”

Croatian Women’s Network; <http://www.zenska-mreza.hr/aktivnosti.htm>

... ‘Yes, female reproductive rights are endangered, among other things by the fact that the rights as an issue are being questioned in general. From the letters it is visible that we need sexual education in schools and that there is not just rights in question but the very health of women....’

Gordana Lukač Koritnik, Ombudswoman for Gender Equality, comment related to the Croatian Women’s Network open

Economic position and unemployment

Existing women's inequality is additionally influenced by economic instability and unemployment. Unfortunately the situation has not gotten any better during 2005:

"In February 2005, by data from Croatian Employment Biro there were 330.183 registered unemployed persons and 58% of that number was women.

Through communication with female users of web portal www.posao.hr and knowledge obtained from media and statistics on government level, on web portal Posao.hr it has been noted that women are endangered population on work market from many points of view: employment, promotions and equality of rights and wages."

www.posao.hr

Domestic violence against women

In spite of changes to the law, adoption of the Family Law and Protocol of Procedure in Case of Family Violence adopted on September 22nd 2005, violence against women remains an exceptional societal problem. There are problems concerning the number of cases as well the as negative attitudes in society and institutions toward women and violence against them.

Triple homicide in Petrinja, murderer surrenders to the police

"Thirty-seven year old male, ex-cop, killed three women in Petrinja, one of them was his spouse (39). The reasons of tragedy are unknown."



Index portal, March 21st 2005 (20:49); <http://www.index.hr/clanak.aspx?id=255943>

Rampaged ex-cop killed three women in just one hour



“PETRINJA...In just one hour thirty-seven year old male from Petrinja killed three women with pistol shots...Off the record, the first of the Kihalić victims was his spouse Željka with whom he had two under aged children and she had just, allegedly, recently filed for divorce with support of her two female friends which were also killed on Monday. There is presumption that suspect Kihalić couldn't deal with that so he followed her around for days accusing her of having lovers and threatening her. Allegedly, in the police station he gave a statement that he wanted to kill him too, but ran out of bullets... ”

Vjesnik, March 22nd 2005

Sexual violence against women

According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs data for 2005 (data for the first 11 months), **89 cases of rape** were reported, out of which 66 was referred to the State Attorneys as rape cases, while the others were formulated as “attempt of rape”. Most of the victims of rape are women, adolescent or in the early 20s, while perpetrators are in the 30s and 40s. Unfortunately, police do not have statistics about the relationship between the victim and perpetrator, i.e. they do not have any information of how many reported rapes occurred in marriages. We have to use the legal state mechanisms for lobbying in order for systematic filing of this information to take place. During 2005, the media covered a lot of cases of violence against women, especially those with negative police or juridical procedure:

- sexual violence in Children's home Brezovica (inadequate investigation and cover up of the case by state attorney);
- case of a girl that was kidnapped , driven in the trunk of a car, beaten and raped by her boyfriend and ex-boyfriend (inadequate police reaction);
- Bulj case, rape and murder of a minor A. Bešlić (charges for rape were dropped);
- case of raped juvenile girls by two bus drivers, that are still driving children from Zadar surrounding to school (question of police and state attorney reaction);
- case of American basketball player in Gospić (inadequate investigation and bizarre ruling);
- case of Novica Bogdanović (43), inspector in Traces at police headquarters Zagreb who raped his employee (rejection of district attorney's suggestion to put Bogdanović in custody due to possibility of influencing the witnesses).

WHAT, WHERE AND HOW

In order to achieve planned goals, Women's Room decided on a multidisciplinary approach. In 2005 we have implemented **9** projects incorporated into three programs: sexual rights, sexual violence including trafficking in women for sexual exploitation and LGBTIQ rights.

During 2005, members of Women's Room conducted **13** lectures, workshops and seminars for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) mostly in Croatia, with a total of **231** participants.

We held **19** lectures, workshops and seminars for representatives of different governmental institutions with a total of **585** participants, and **7** public lectures with a total of **342** participants.

We also participated in the work of the Women's Network of Croatia (actively in **4** actions). Furthermore we actively participated in **42** international and national conferences and meetings, mostly as active speakers.

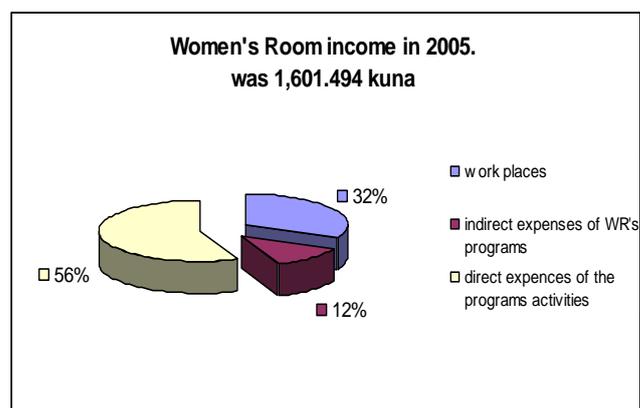
Our texts, commentaries and interviews were published in **16** daily newspapers and/or journals. We gave interviews for **7** television and **5** radio shows.

We actively participated in the work of different networks and/or national bodies: the coordination team of the Feminist Summer School, the National Team Against Trafficking in Human Beings, the Initiative for Implementation of Sexual Education in Schools "Human sexuality and quality of living", and the V-Day organization committee.

Also, our contribution could be seen in a number of different networks that we are part: PETRA Network *Prevention and Education Against Trafficking*; SEEQ Network – regional network of LGBTIQ activists and representatives of 20 LGBT

organizations from Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, Kosovo and Macedonia, AWID The Association for Women's Rights in Development; ASTRA network - Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights; ACTA – Anti-corruption anti-trafficking action and ILGA – International Lesbian and Gay Association.

In 2005 Women's Room funds amounted to 1,601.494 KN or **216,418 EUR**. From that sum **32%** was allocated for salaries and honoraria, **12%** for indirect program costs and **56%** for direct programs costs.



Projects and Programs in 2005¹

Reality of Women's Sexual Rights in Croatia

A research project on women's sexual rights in Croatia was conducted during 2005. A total sample of **1491** women were included, from all parts of Croatia. Project goals were to examine the status of women's sexual rights in Croatia and to examine the prevalence of different forms of sexual violence against women. Results are published in a brochure "*Reality of Women's Sexual Rights in Croatia*."

¹ for all additional information about particular activities, projects and programs, please ask Women's Room directly.

research results” with the main idea that the results should be accessible to all interested parties. Also we will be using the research results to apply pressure on relevant governmental institutions regarding the problem of sexual violence against women to become recognized as a main form of gender based violence, and to develop the national action plan with clear prevention program and intervention models. We think that this research, the first of its kind in Croatia, could be used to systematically inform women’s groups, governmental institutions and the general public on women’s sexual rights and the prevalence of sexual violence against women in Croatia, as a first step to develop the educational programs on sexuality and prevention programs on sexual violence against women.

(Funded by Kvinna till Kvinna)



4th Feminist Summer School – FLJUŠ 2005

Feminist Summer School is a project of Women’s Network Croatia, organized by four feminist organizations: Women’s Room, Centre for Women’s Studies, Centre for Women ROSA and CESI – Center for Education, Counseling and Research. The 4th Feminist summer school (FLJUŠ) was organized and held in Stubičke Toplice from September 23rd to October 1st, 2005 with total of 29 participants from Women’s NGO’s.

The total number of participants was **29** (14 participants in beginners group, 15 participants in

advanced group), the number of lecturers and workshops was **24** and the number of working hours was **85** (lectures, workshops, small group evaluation). The school program was held as it was planned, in an especially good working atmosphere, establishing strong group cohesion and active participation of all participants. FLJUŠ projects’ overall objectives are: to spread the concept of women’s human rights in the society; to encourage women’s groups to become involved in the democratization processes and to empower participants, their groups and the Women’s Network. We believe the Feminist Summer School project is one of the most important programs of Women’s Network of Croatia, both in terms of education, as well as a way of spreading information and knowledge of women’s human rights. All participants of the FLJUŠ are able to share some basic information obtained at FLJUŠ in their organizations and local community, making an increased number of women and the population in general more aware about the issues. The influence of FLJUŠ on women’s empowerment is apparent from the feedback received, and we can say that FLJUŠ offers new insights and a feminist perspective in analysis of women’s status in society and their activist work. This empowerment could be used in their everyday work as it influences the strength of civil society in local communities, which is connected with a process of democratization.

(Funded by Kvinna till Kvinna)



Creating strategies and policy recommendations for advancing health of LGBTIQ population among therapists, counselors, and health care providers in public health institutions in Croatia

The project has been implemented in partnership with Lesbian Organization Rijeka (LORI). The goal of this project is creating strategies and policy recommendations for advancing health of the LGBTIQ population among therapists, counselors, and health care providers in public health institutions in Croatia. Its overall aim is to decrease discrimination based on gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, and intersex characteristics in health care institutions and create a professional and friendly environment where LGBTIQ individuals can exercise their right to health and have access to quality healthcare.

Within the scope of the project, we held a seminar and a follow-up seminar for psychologists on LGBTIQ rights and psychology, conducted two questionnaires, one with the LGBTIQ population related to experiences and concerns with psycho-social providers and recommendations for improvement of public health, and the other one with psychologists regarding institutional policies and practices as well as their attitudes towards and experience with LGBTIQ individuals. These activities served as a base for identifying priorities to be addressed in the final report which is a rights-

based assessment and analysis of current health issues and legal framework regarding the LGBTIQ population in Croatia. Apart from publishing the report in English and Croatian, we have also translated and published two brochures: Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association's Standards of Care for Gender Identity Disorders (sixth version), and American Psychological Association's Guidelines for Psychotherapy with Lesbians, Gay, and Bisexual Clients.



Furthermore, we have also created a network for the purposes of exchanging information on educational materials and documents and future education which would focus specifically on counseling and psychotherapy within the LGBTIQ population. With the rights-based assessment report produced, we will continue to cooperate and advocate with relevant actors for changes in policies that are in place or creating new ones.

(Funded by Open Society Institute New York.)



Sexual Rights: Future for Equality

The project is aimed at raising awareness, educating, and promoting sexual rights that constitute a basic human right and are key to achieving sex / gender equality. The main objectives of the project are to raise awareness about sexual rights, initiate public discourse, address the complexity of sexual rights by bridging gaps between women's issues, LGBT issues, health issues, and rights issues, to form strategic alliances among mixed human rights, women's groups, LGBT rights activists, and medical professionals, as well as to empower women and LGBT population.

Within the scope of this project we have launched a campaign for sexual rights that included a **radio jingle** (45') which was broadcast on 17 radio stations in Croatia during June 2005 and 10 radio stations in Bosnia and Herzegovina throughout July.

The campaign also consists of a **website with educational texts and materials** and other **educational and promo materials** including: postcards (2100 copies - 3 designs), a brochure (2000 copies), leaflets (1000 copies), stickers (1000 copies) and bookmarks (3000 copies - 11 versions).

In addition to the campaign, the project focused on the education of women's NGOs on sexual rights and women's sexuality (6 workshops), two workshops aimed at creating common ground for sexual rights between women's issues, LGBT issues, health issues, and rights issues, and two steering meetings composed of different medical practitioners and sexual rights advocates.

In order to increase the visibility of the transgender population as well as transgender and intersex rights, we have started an outreach within the scope of the project and the campaign. Apart from including transgender issues and rights into the overall campaign message, educational texts and workshops, we have published texts on transgender Women's center for sexuality and the prevention, research, and the combating of sexual violence – Women's Room 2005

and intersex issues on the campaign website as well as produced a leaflet (enclosed in the appendixes) on gender / sex rights and gender freedoms.

(Funded by the European Commission and Women's World Day of Prayer)



Transgressing Gender Conference: Two is not enough for gender (e)quality

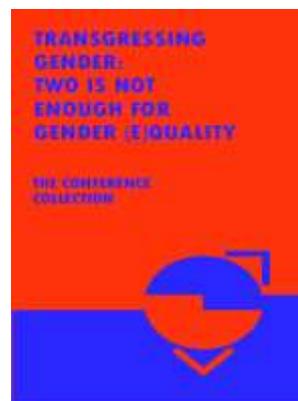
The international conference, *Transgressing Gender: Two is not Enough for Gender (E)quality*, in Zagreb, Croatia successfully brought together activism and academia in the quest to introduce transgender issues and gender equality within feminist debates and to develop a discourse on the meanings and concepts of gender(s) and gender equality. It also fostered dialogue between diverse groups concerned with gender and gender issues. The conference was successfully able to bring together feminists, transgender activists, women's

studies scholars and students, advocates for human rights and women's rights, and LGB and queer activists from the local, regional, and international level. We reached out to these groups in a variety of ways, including a widely diverse program agenda and also keynote speakers who are well known in both in transgender issues and feminism.

The conference was organized in cooperation with CESI from Zagreb, Organization Q from Sarajevo and Cultural Centre DEVE from Belgrade. The conference took place from Oct 7 – 9, 2005, with 184 participants from Croatia (74), Bosnia and Herzegovina (10), Serbia and Montenegro (15), other European countries (Slovenia, Macedonia, Poland, United Kingdom, Greece, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Finland, Sweden, Austria, and Switzerland), Russia (1), the USA (13) and Asia (2 from Kyrgyzstan). The conference lasted three full working days, and included opening addresses by three keynote speakers prominent in the international transgender and feminist movements (Patrick Califia, Judith Halberstam, and Tiina Rosenberg). The conference included the presentation of 28 papers, six workshops, and a round table entitled "Language transgression of the binary: Articulating one's own voice and resisting dominant discourses" with 5 presenters and discussion. Furthermore, the conference program included "Gender (B)ender" films, culture and art programs. After the conference, the conference collection was published (both Croatian and English versions) consisting of most of the papers, workshops and arts and cultural program presented at the conference.

(Funded by HIVOS/COC Netherlands, Mama Cash, Kvinna Till Kvinna, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Croatian Governmental Office For the Equality of the Sexes, Embassy of Australia, The National Women's center for sexuality and the prevention, research, and the combating of sexual violence – Women's Room 2005

Foundation for Civil Society Development, and the Italian Cultural Center. Furthermore, successful cooperation was established with Students Center in Zagreb, Zagreb Tourist Board, ZET and net.culture club MaMa)



Raising Awareness: transgender rights and issues”

This project concerns the development and publishing of a comprehensive brochure on transgender human rights and issues and conducting outreach to the transgender population in Croatia. Goals of the project involve: producing a comprehensive manual on transgender rights and issues, outreach to the transgender community, increasing knowledge about trans existence and issues, and providing information on intersex issues. The publication "Creation of Sex? Gender?" has been published in the scope of this project and 2000 copies will be distributed throughout the region.

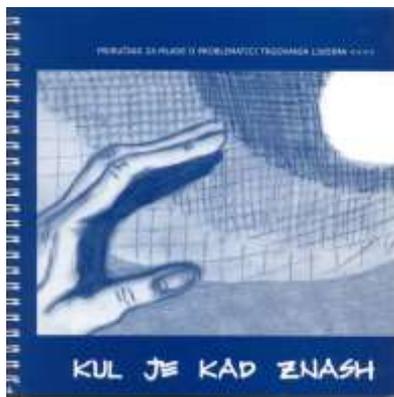
This publication is reader-friendly and interactive, includes exercises, activities, questions, and examples from everyday life that result in discrimination on the basis of sexual identity, gender identity and gender expression, and intersex characteristics.

(Funded by Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice)

Manual for youth about trafficking in human beings “It’s cool when you know”

The project was carried out within the framework of the National strategy of the Republic of Croatia on the suppression of trafficking in human beings, with financial support of Care International B&H, Croatia and as a part of activities of PETRA Network. It was a one year project that started in August 2004. Its main goal was the development and publishing of a manual for young people with information about trafficking and actions that they can do in their communities. The idea for this project came from the fact that young people are the most vulnerable group and often become victims of traffickers. Due to this, it was necessary to involve young people in this project, which in the end turned out to be a great idea. The manual was drafted, developed and named - *It's cool when you know* (Kul je kad znash) by young people who are working with youth on the promotion of human rights and who were interested in working on the issue of trafficking. The manual got high marks not just from youth NGOs but also from different governmental organizations dealing with anti-trafficking.

(Funded by CARE International)



European Women's Lobby (EWL) and Coalition against Trafficking of Women (CATW) Project

This is a joint project between Women’s Room, Centre for Women War Victims- ROSA in co-operation with EWL and CATW. Its aim is to advocate for legal changes in order not to bring charges against persons in prostitution as it is now regulated in Croatian law. Within this project two one-day seminars were organized about the phenomenon of prostitution: one for journalists and one for female politicians. In the seminars the emphasis was put on prostitution as a direct product of patriarchal society and gender inequality and the ways different societies try to regulate prostitution through legislation.

(Funded by European Women's Lobby)

Local civil society development trough multi-level capacity building program

This is an 18 months project that started in March 2005. The idea behind this project is to strengthen the capacity of all organizations within ACTA, and also to strengthen capacities of local NGOs that are dealing or will deal with issues of anti-corruption, anti-trafficking and the protection of human rights. The project is very complex, and is a joint project of four organizations who are members of ACTA (two from Croatia, Partnership for Social Development and Women’s Room, one from Slovenia, Ključ and one from Serbia and Montenegro, ASTRA). It consists of two parts. The first part, was implemented from March until December 2005. It included three five-day trainings for trainers (TOT) on six Institutional–Building TOT: Organizational Assessment and Self-Assessment, Strategic Analysis and Planning, Advocacy and Networking, Project Design,

Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation, Fundraising and Financial Management and four Programmatic TOT: Victim Assistance and Protection, Case Documentation and Monitoring, Building Public Awareness for Anti-Trafficking and Anti-Corruption and Anti-trafficking Education in Schools. During this first part of the project and within the TOT Women's Room developed and conducted TOT on Building Public Awareness. At the first training, held in July 2005, a meeting of the ACTA Secretariat was held on which further steps in work and communication between Secretariats members were arranged. Also during the same training participants from all ACTA Network organizations worked together on the drafting of a victim assistance protocol. The second part of this project consists of adapting and translating Institution-building training manuals, delivering trainings on mentioned topics to local NGOs on a national level and project evaluation. Implementation of the second part of the project will take place during 2006.

(Founded by the European Commission CARDS Regional Programme 2003 Democratic Stabilization)

Seminar for health workers

This project was funded by USAID and the Government of the Republic of Croatia Office for Human Rights. It was composed of two 2 and a half days seminars; the first for medical doctors and the second for nurses, held in Opatija in October and November of 2005. These seminars were the continuation of the education of medical workers from different fields concerning the assistance and protection of human trafficking victims in which medical workers are the unavoidable link in the national strategy for suppression of trafficking in human beings (THB). The lectures were given by Women's center for sexuality and the prevention, research, and the combating of sexual violence – Women's Room 2005

experts in victim assistance and protection from Croatia, France and Serbia and Montenegro.

(Funded by World Learning and Office for Human Rights of the Government of the Republic of Croatia)

Other activities:

Translation of the book «Surviving Sexual Violence» - Liz Kelly

Women's Room has translated Liz Kelly's book *Surviving Sexual Violence*. In this book, author, feminist researcher and activist from the UK and one of the most prominent experts from the field of sexual violence argues that sexual violence must be seen on a continuum and that it is necessary to focus on how women define their experiences and how they develop strategies to resist, cope, and survive sexual violence. Women's Room is still in a process of securing funds for publishing.

(Founded by Open Society Croatia, Ministry of Culture)

V-day

This was a second time since its founding that Women's Room organized V-Day events. This time we decided to do something different, so instead of a classical performance in the theatre we booked a night club and organized a "women only" party. V-Day was held on the 7th of March with the idea of celebrating the 8th of March, Women's International Day. The program consisted of a performance of The Vagina Monologues, musical performances and speeches. At the entrance each guest received a complementary drink and exactly at midnight we handed out flowers. During the event we also made an unofficial promotion of our book Sexual violence – theory and practice and sold V-Day memorabilia.

Women's Network Croatia (WNC)–joint actions

Sexual education

Women's Network Croatia with Kontra and Iskorak organized an information campaign for young people concerning their right to comprehensive sexuality education. This is a lifelong process from birth throughout the life cycle and should involve all social institutions. This right implies that sexual information should be based upon scientific inquiry and should be generated through the process of unencumbered and ethical inquiry, and disseminated in appropriate ways at all societal levels.

Action included distribution in a few Croatian high schools of mouse-pads with the text: “Sexual education in schools not only on porno sites” . Reactions of some schools principals were astonishment:

“Ljilja Vokić stood on a school entrance and took mouse – pads from all school students, because activists do not have a right to distribute any materials to students without school permission. (Večernji list online March 23, 2005)”



March 8 2005

Women's Room was a part of a WNC action for March 8 International Women's day. We celebrated that day by attending the presentation of the

journalist award “Nagrada Maja Miles” for gender sensitive journalism. Also, we were part of a demonstration in front of Croatian parliament concerning the status of women's human rights.



Magaš case and Gospić case

Women's Room wrote an open letter concerning two cases from Croatian newspapers.

The Magaš case letter can be seen on a WNC web site <http://www.zenska-mreza.hr/Izjave/magas.htm>.

The case was about a young woman that killed her husband after he attacked her. It was very specific for Croatia and its legal system that the trial was extremely short (only 6 months) and she was sentenced for 9 years. All evidence that she was attacked were not taken into the trial as relevant.

We also wrote an open letter concerning the Gospić case of a raped basketball player Ilisha Jarrett, who was attacked by hotel manager Mraović. There were numerous procedural mistakes done by police and the attorney's office. The ruling from Gospić County Court judge Branko Milanović, that Mraović did not rape Jarrett, despite having forced his finger into her anus, was shocking. Furthermore, when the media released his absurd substantiation, in which he ruled that there was no rape as neither the finger nor the anus are sex organs and thereby equated this act with shaking hands, it became clear that the Gospić County Court employs a man with suspicious judicial credibility, whose ability to judge clearly is seriously questionable.

Mistakes are the usual bridge between inexperience and wisdom

Phyllis Theroux

WHERE WE ARE GOING

The purpose of our existence as an organization has not changed, it has only become broader. The main purpose is the same, to help support the development of Croatian society as a society of equal rights regardless of gender, sex, age, religion, ethnicity, nationality, and sexual orientation. Given that, we devote ourselves to systematic lobbying through formal and informal contacts with institutions, politicians and public figures. The accent in 2006 is to establish within Women's Room a counseling section/department for women's sexual rights. We are planning to continue with work on the survey "Women's sexual rights in Croatia" that we conducted last year. Furthermore, the plan for the coming year is to organize lectures, trainings, and conferences on subjects concerning women's and LGBTIQ sexual rights as well as to attend events, so we can present the research results of last year's survey on sexual rights in Croatia. In view of the that fact, we are still trying to influence the changes in political attitudes, which directly form the mechanisms that enable or disable the implementation of women's rights, especially when all forms of sexual violence and LGBTIQ population rights are in question.

Our aim when we take into consideration the relationship between governmental institutions and NGOs is, to have NGOs co-operating on an equal basis with relevant governmental institutions.

In the year 2006, Women's Room will continue with its work, in line with identified societal needs, visions and organizational capacities and with the basic propositions of our work, which are based on systematic approaches, commitment, quality and devotion.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Women's Room activities – Review

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: List of volunteers in Women's Room and number of working hours in 2005

| Name and surname | Number of volunteer working hours |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Ivana Dijanić Plašč | 240 |
| 2. Jakob Hero | 200 |
| 3. Jelena Levak | 95,5 |
| 4. Lada Bonacci | 70 |
| 5. Marija Vidić | 50 |
| 6. Dalibor Stanić | 40 |
| 7. Sanja Kolarić | 34,5 |
| 8. Petra Čus | 30 |
| 9. Miroslava Đuretek | 30 |
| 10. Kristina Grgić | 20 |
| 11. Sandra Brumen | 20 |
| 12. Igor Marković | 20 |
| 13. Maša Milošević | 10 |
| 14. Jana Tanodi | 10 |
| 15. Martina Ptiček | 10 |
| 16. Tajana Tolić | 10 |
| 17. Maja Kolega | 10 |
| 18. Koraljka Vlajo | 10 |
| 19. Slobodanka Poštić | 10 |
| 20. Jasna Belamarić | 10 |
| number of volunteers who supported us during Transgressing Gender Conference | 300 |
| Total: | 1230 |

Also, we would like to thank to everyone who is not mentioned here, but supported us in a number of our projects and were willing to give us their time and energy.

Attachment 2: Women's Room activities 2005

1. Education of non-governmental organizations: lectures, workshops, seminars

| Where | For whom | Topic | Term | Number of participants |
|------------------|---|--|------------------|------------------------|
| Poland, Krakow | Campaign against homophobia – Conference Sexual minorities: pride and exclusion - lecture | - Transgender | 21.04. | 40 |
| | | - Queer Balkans | 22.04. | 40 |
| Poland | Campaign against homophobia - Culture for Tolerance- workshop | - Sex/gender | 23.04. | 20 |
| Vukovar | Women's organization Vukovar – workshops | - Sexual rights | 28.06. | 9 |
| Grožnjan | SEE Q net / ReLAP project – LGBTIQ activists from ex-YU | - Transgender and intersexuality, new perspectives and human rights | 22.05. | 20 |
| Slavonski Brod | Women's group BROD, GONG – workshop | Sexual rights | 29.06. | 9 |
| Pakrac | Delfin - workshop | Sexual rights | 30.06. | 6 |
| Split | Domine – workshop | Sexual rights | 07.07. | 6 |
| Poreč | CGI + their supporters – workshop | Sexual rights | 01.09. | 10 |
| Zagreb | Women's Room | Organization of network NGO-s about sexual rights | 13.09. | 5 |
| Zagreb | Iskorak – Summer school about sexuality | Sexuality and sexual rights | 14.09. | 3 |
| Zagreb | Women's Room | Organization of network NGO-s about sexual rights | 20.09. | 5 |
| Stubičke toplice | FLJUŠ(feminist summer school) – lectures, workshops | 1. Body 2. Women body 3. Sexual rights 4. Woman's sexuality 5. Sexual and gender minorities 6. Prostitution | 23.09– 01.10. | 38 |
| Stubičke toplice | ACTA - Development of civil society trough empowerment of capacity | Public campaigns | 9.12. | 20 |
| TOTAL | 13 | | | 231 |

2. Education of relevant institutions - lectures, workshops, seminars, conferences

| Where | For who | Topic | Term | Number of participants |
|---|---|--|-----------------|------------------------|
| Beli Manastir | Office for Gender Equality B.M., police, welfare centers – public panel | Violence against women | 03. -04.02. | 15 |
| Faculty for education and rehabilitation Zagreb | Faculty for education and rehabilitation students - lectures | Sexual violence against women – mechanisms, prevention | 04.05. 2005. | 20 |
| Osijek | World Learning – social workers from Slavonia | Trafficking in Human Beings | 02. and 03. 06. | 25 |
| Opatija | Women's Room and Lori – education of psychologist from entire | LGBTIQ rights and work with them | 17.-19.06. | 16 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------|------------|
| | Croatia | | | |
| Samobor | World Learning –social workers from Zagreb and surrounding counties | Trafficking in Human Beings | 15. - 16.09. | 55 |
| Zagreb, theatre ITD, Student center | Women’s Room, CESI; Organization Q (BIH), DEVE (SICG) our international conference www.tgenderzagreb.com | Transgressing Gender: Two is not enough for gender (e)quality | 07.-09.10. | 184 |
| Zagreb, Novinarski dom | Round table at conference | Language transgression of the binary: articulating one’s own voice and resisting the dominant discourses | 7.10. | 41 |
| Zadar | World Learning – social workers from Istria, Primorje and Dalmatia, workshop | Trafficking in Human Beings | 13.-14.10. | 32 |
| Zagreb | Police academy Zagreb, lecture | Role of NGO in prevention of Trafficking in human beings | 21.10. | 20 |
| Opatija | Women’s Room education of doctors | Trafficking | 28.-30.10. | 20 |
| Rijeka | for Ministry of internal affairs – Rijeka | Role of NGO in prevention of Trafficking in human beings | 04.11. | 15 |
| Opatija | Women’s Room + team: education of nurses | Trafficking in human beings | 11.-13.11. | 20 |
| Zagreb | Women's Room – for doctors | Sexual rights | 26.11. | 4 |
| Rijeka | Women’s Room and Lori – | Follow up for psychologist | 26.11. | 6 |
| Split | Domine – public discussion | Prostitution | 28.11. | 35 |
| Zagreb Tribine grada Zagreba | Women’s Room and Center for women war victims – for journalists | Prostitution | 01.12. | 7 |
| Zagreb Hotel Dubrovnik | Women’s Room and Center for women war victims– for politicians | Prostitution | 02.12. | 35 |
| Osijek | Academy of justice (judges and state lawyers) | Trafficking in human beings | 12.12. | 20 |
| Zagreb | Police academy Zagreb - lectures | Role of NGO in prevention of Trafficking in human beings | 23.12. | 15 |
| TOTAL | 19 | | | 585 |

3. Additional education of Women’s Room staff

| Organized by | Topic | Term | Participant from Women’s Room |
|----------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| SEE Q net / ReLAP project | Training: development of public politics and advocacy | 15 - 17.04. | Jelena Poštić |
| ILGA-Europe | Monitoring and documentary about violation of human rights | 21 – 23.04. | Jelena Poštić |
| SEE Q net / ReLAP project | UN mechanisms / techniques of documentation and monitoring | 20.– 25.05. | Jelena Poštić |
| ICMPD | 1. regional seminar, Capacity empowerment of police in fighting against human trafficking in south-east Europe, training for trainers | 12.-16.06. | Dunja Bonacci |
| ACTA | Financial management and Organizational Assessment | 15.-20. 07 | Dunja Bonacci, Maja Mamula, Nera Komarić, Voljana Kapelina |
| ACTA | Development and writing of projects | 15.-19. 11. | Dunja Bonacci and Ivana Dijanić |
| Amsterdam, COC Netherlands | Peer education o sexuality | 17.– 24.11. | Jelena Poštić |
| ACTA | Advocacy and education in schools on human trafficking | 9.-13. 12. | Dunja Bonacci and Ivana Dijanić |
| TOTAL | | | 8 |

4. Public and other lectures

| Where | For who | Topic | Term | Number from participants |
|--|--|--|-------------|--------------------------|
| Women's Room (sent by high school professor Maja Kolega) | Students and professor from Mesić gymnasium. Lecturers: Nera Komarić and Dunja Bonacci (15-17 h) | Women's Room, sexual violence and Trafficking in human beings | 17.03. | 11 |
| Osijek | 13 th Psychology conference. Lecturer: Maja Mamula | Violence against women | 12. – 15.10 | 200 |
| Rijeka, Italian community | Women's forum of SDP +46 guests. Lecturer: Maja Mamula | Violence against women public discussion | 25.11. | 46 |
| Križevci, city hall | SOS line, HNS Lecturer: Maja Mamula | Sexual violence against women-public discussion | 1.12. | 18 |
| Zagreb, building of SDP | SDP Lecturer: Maja Mamula | Violence against women-violation of human rights – Public discussion | 9.12. | 25 |
| Zagreb's City hall | Office for Gender Equality City of Zagreb Lecturers: Nera Komarić and Dunja Bonacci | Feminization of poverty | 16.12 | 15 |
| Slavonski Brod, | Women's group Brod Lecturer: Nera Komarić | Violence against women-public discussion | 17.12. | 27 |
| TOTAL | 7 | | | 342 |

5. Networking, public actions, conferences, promotions, coalitions

| Where | Organized by | Topic | Term | Participant form Women's Room |
|-----------------------|--|--|---------------------|--|
| Netherlands, Utrecht | ADMIRE | 10 Years of gender based approach to trauma and recovery from sexual and domestic violence in (post)war situations | 27. - 28.01. | Maja Mamula |
| Sarajevo | regional ReLAP project, SEE Q net | Regional project for lobbying, advocating and regulative of public opinion regarding to right of LGBTIQ persons, SEE Q Net meeting | 02.02.- 6.02. 2005. | Jelena Poštić |
| Zagreb | Women's Room | V-day – Party | 07.03. | all |
| Zagreb | ambassadors | 8.march | 08.03. | Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb | Women's network of Croatia | Price award for gender sensitive journalism | 08.03. | Maja Mamula, Dunja Bonacci, Voljana Kapelina |
| Zagreb | Women's network of Croatia | Demonstrations in front of government building | 08.03. | Maja Mamula, Dunja Bonacci, Voljana Kapelina, Nera Komarić |
| Bruxell | | Trafficking in human beings | 04. | Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb | Human rights office | Round table– Sexual harassment (20 representatives of institutions) | 29.04. | Maja Mamula |
| Beograd | SEE Q net | Network meeting | 7.- 8. 05. | Jelena Poštić |
| Zagreb's City council | Center ROSA, Women studies, Women's Room | Prostitution-10 reasons against legalization | 31.05. | Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb, KIC | Center ROSA, Women's studies | Prostitution | 31.05. | Nera Komarić, Dunja Bonacci, |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|-------------------|---|
| | Women's Room | | | Voljana Kapelina, Jelena Poštić |
| Zagreb, Police managers | Ministry of Internal affair | Round table – Family violence (25 representatives of MIA, NGOs, and courts, Ministry of health and social affairs, faculty of law. | 02.06. | Dunja Bonacci and Voljana Kapelina |
| Austria, Stadtschla- ining | ICMPD | 1. regional seminar, Capacity empowerment of police in fighting against human trafficking in south-east Europe | 12.-6.06. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb | EPICRISIS | Zagreb Pride | 10.07. | Jelena Poštić |
| Stubičke toplice | ACTA (PSD and Women's Room) | Training: finances and analysis of the organizational development Development of victim assistance protocol | 14-20.07. | Maja Mamula, Dunja Bonacci, Nera Komarić, Voljana Kapelina |
| Zagreb | SEE Q net | Meeting of SEE Q net | 23.-24.07. | Jelena Poštić |
| Warsaw | ASTRA Network | Strategy planning | 08.-10.09. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb | Initiative by Matija Gubec | Resisting the political discretion | 21.09. | Jelena Poštić |
| Vienna | OSCE | Alliance Expert Coordination team | 28. - 29.09. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Florence | French organization | Human trafficking and NGO-s | 17.-21.10. | Nera Komarić |
| Cavtat | Human rights and OSCE | Stop human trafficking | 18.-20.10. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb | Croatian sociological society | Round table: civil stigmatization of women | 20.10. | Voljana Kapelina |
| Vienna | UNODC and CONGO | Crime prevention forum | 27.- 28.10. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb, GONG | Civil society forum | Strategy of civil society forum | 24.10. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb, Zelena akcija | Civil society forum | Pres conference and meeting | 27.10. | Voljana Kapelina |
| Novi Sad | SEE Q net | Meeting of SEE Q net | 22.-23.10. | Jelena Poštić |
| Paris | ILGA-Europe | Annual conference | 26.-30.10. | Jelena Poštić |
| Priština | ICMPD | Trafficking | 31.10.- 02.11. | Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb, School museum | CESI | Exhibition: "You have got 100% to non-violence" | 04.11. | Maja Mamula, Voljana Kapelina |
| Vienna | TransX | First meeting of transgender European council | 03.-06.11. | Jelena Poštić |
| Vienna | OSCE | Alliance Expert Coordination team | 06.-08.11. | Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb, Novinarski dom | Ombudswomen for gender equality | Gender perspective in public and official communication | 10.11. | Jelena Poštić |
| Zagreb, Mimara | Foundation for development of civil society | Decentralization | 14.11. | Maja Mamula, Dunja Bonacci |
| Ohrid | ICMPD | Guidelines finalizing (chairwomen of whole day) | 20-23.11. | Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb | Babe, AŽKZ, Center for women war victims, Women's Room | Street action «Sexual violence» regarding 25.11. | 25.11. | Dunja Bonacci, Jelena L, Nera Komarić |
| Zagreb, | Law university, Zagreb | Coordinating the RH Law with EU Laws in terms of gender | 25.11. | Ivana D. |
| Zagreb, Cvjetni trg | Human rights office | Celebration of International day of human rights | 10.12. | Nera Komarić and Voljana Kapelina |
| Zagreb, Center for women ROSA | CESI | Filming a documentary | December | Nera Komarić |

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|------------|---------------|
| Stubičke toplice | ACTA | Training for trainer, public campaigns, advocacy, lobbying | 09.-13.12. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb | IOM | Meeting with Petra network | 12.12. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Zagreb | CARE | Meeting with Petra network | 12.12. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Rijeka, | Women's Room and LORI | Work meeting | 12.-14.12. | Jelena Poštić |
| TOTAL | | | | 42 |

6: Media presence during 2005.

| Media and journalist | Topic | Term | author/ interviewee |
|--|---|---|--|
| Novi list | With Vagina monologues against sexual violence | 10.03 | Women's Room mentioned |
| Glorija | Day of brave women | 11.03. | Women's Room mentioned |
| Vjesnik (journalist: Antonija Jurica) | Gender roles: differences between female and male magazines | 28.03. published: 06.04. | Maja Mamula |
| Večernji list (journalist: Ivana Vodigažec) | Violence against women – sexual and gender prejudice | 05.04. Published: | Maja Mamula |
| Večernji list (journalist: Milena Zajović) | Transgender | 09.04. | Jelena Poštić |
| Večernji list (journalist: Ivana Vodigažec) | Violence against women in working place | 18.04. Published: | Maja Mamula |
| Večernji list (journalist: Jolanda Rak Šajn) | Sexual violence – article on promotion of our book «Sexual violence» | 27.04. | Maja Mamula |
| Vukovarski Vjesnik | Sexual rights and sexual violence | 28.06. | Maja Mamula, Jelena Poštić |
| VIVA women's magazine | Sexuality | 27.07. | Maja Mamula |
| Zagreb News | Summer school of sexuality held | 07.09 | Women's Room mentioned |
| Samobor's herald | How to recognize a slave and how to help-seminar on Protection of victims of human trafficking | 19.09. | Text was provided by Ljiljana Varga, mentioning Women's Room |
| Feral (journalist: Nataša Govedić) | Sexual violence and sexuality | 21.10. | Maja Mamula |
| Novi List | Opatija hosted three day seminar: Suppression of Human trafficking | 29.10. | Women's Room mentioned |
| Večernji list (journalist: Dijana Jurasić) | Comment on video material about sexual relation of under aged girls which was distributed around school | 07.11. | Maja Mamula |
| Vjesnik | Comment on incest and sexual violence for Sunday addendum | 22.11. published | Maja Mamula |
| Slobodna Dalmacija | Round table: "Prostitution –violence against women" Kunst left alone | 29.11. | Women's Room mentioned |
| TV | | | |
| Znanstvena petica (journalist: Vanja Ratković) | Psychical violence | 25.01. broadcast. | Maja Mamula |
| Sanja Show RTL | Sexual violence | filmed 24.02. broadcasted: 17.03. | Maja Mamula |
| Reporters HTV 1 (journalist: Mirjana Rakić) | Violence against women - Pakistan | filmed 22.04. broadcasted 23.04. | Maja Mamula |
| Z1 | Promotion of our book «Sexual violence» - interview about sexual violence | 26.04. | Maja Mamula |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Sanja Show RTL | Human trafficking | Filmed 27.09. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Maja Show | Sexual violence | filmed: 21.10. broadcasted: 16.11. | Maja Mamula, Kristina |
| Otvoreno, HRT 1 (journalist: Hloverka Novak Srzić) | Sexual violence against women | 24.11. | Maja Mamula |
| RADIO | | | |
| 101 (journalist :Aleksandar Pešić) | Sexual violence | 17.03. 2005. | Maja Mamula |
| Hrvatski radio 1 | Human trafficking | 07.06. | Dunja Bonacci |
| Radio Vukovar | Sexual rights and sexual violence | 28.06. | Jelena Poštić and Maja Mamula |
| HRT 2 (journalist: Morana Panjkota) | Sexuality, women's sexuality and sexual violence | filmed 19.09. broadcasted 24.09. u 22 h 01.09. and 08.09. | Maja Mamula |
| Radio Brod (journalist: Anita Krpan) | Violence against women | filmed 23.11. broadcasted 25.11. | Maja Mamula |
| TOTAL | 28 | | |

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