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End Violence Against Women Now

Written by @Loud, on Wednesday, 13 December 2006
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UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, commemorated **International Day to End Violence Against Women** at Clarke Quay on Saturday, 25 November 2006 with a concert put together by top local bands.

Anna Belle Francis was the emcee at the this event, and artistes like **Nadya Hutagalung**, **Aaron Aziz** and **Desmond** showed their support. Nadya related how she was abused twice in the past by two of her ex-boyfriends, whilst Aaron and Desmond voiced their ardent love and support for the women in their lives.



Sarah Marvina, accounting professor at INSEAD and one of the pillars of www.aidha.com, arrests attention with a short but powerful speech.



"Respect for a woman is not about not hitting her," she said. A firm believer of empowerment via acquisition of skills, she proceeds to elaborate that respect for a woman is about loving and treasuring her



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for the daily things she does to support her family's living. Aidha is an organisation committed to help women learn skills, offering courses on financial training and also counselling for self-esteem issues.

All of them adopted a flower each.



Here, passersby and donors could adopt a flower at S\$3 apiece to raise funds for women at shelter homes, and many even tied an encouraging note to the adopted flower.



The authors of the notes urged the receiver not to give up hope, with one of them even quoting verbatim a verse from the Bible. One of these shelter homes is the **Star shelter**, and another, the **Humanitarian Organisation for Migrant Economics (HOME)**.

As a side note, there was also a bazaar happening at the same time, where **Youth.SG** spotted **Summer Fly**, the accessories shop set up by Ng Yi Lian, former Cleo feature writer!



If you missed the concert, there are still ways you can donate to the various shelters. Check out their websites for more details.

- <http://www.unifemsingapore.org.sg>
- <http://www.home.org.sg>
- <http://www.scwo.org.sg>

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