



## **Expel Misogyny: No Reconciliation Without Justice**

**By Amina Abawajy and Ellen Taylor**

I'm tired of writing poems to read

At rally's

I'm tired of writing poems about violence

I only feel safe like this

Masked

In the crowd, dressed up in black

Where I know others have my back

You know, as a survivor, I can't

Just be free without thinking about it

I can't just be free without fighting about it

I can't just be free without screaming about it

Survivors don't have that luxury

I only feel safe like this

When the number of missing and murdered aboriginal women

Has reached 1183

And there is still resistance to have a public inquiry

When we further marginalize minorities

And women are at the furthest margins

Experiencing the most poverty

I only feel safe like this

Where I don't have to fear

That the Jian's and Richards

Will know my name

Come to my place

And call me just another crazy bitch

I only feel safe like this

When I have to listen to another

Justice minister, Peter mackay say

We'll never know why 14 women were murdered that day

on December 6th

I only feel safe like this

When rape apology

Becomes the normal response to rape

When names are needed

To legitimize complaints

When we ask victims to come forward

And decide their abuser's fate

Where classmates threaten to hate fuck

To rape us

To take us

And then get nothing recorded

No dismissal or punishment afforded

No 'tough love' or 'these boys asked for it'

No maybe you should have thought twice

About writing your true hatred for women online

And then posting it

No shame on misogynist student's at dalhousie

Just an extension on exams,

And a mandatory process more accurately

Known as reassurance that no one will be

taking accountability

or taking violent issues externally

for the targeted and directed misogyny

That would be cruel you see

I know what that says to me

12 careers are more important than

women's safety

12 careers are more important than you  
and 12 careers are more important than me  
12 careers are more important than  
being able to freely express and make known your sexuality  
12 careers are more important than  
survivors feeling safe, supported and free.

I only feel safe like this

And they say that I'm too feminist  
But its hard speaking out when  
When we can't trust what they say to us  
All puppet heads, crocodile tears  
And stress sweats

As they say nothing about  
Why for so long misogyny has gone unchecked

So lets start to check  
Let them know what its like to have someone  
Breathe down your neck  
Asking too many questions  
All about what you were thinking in your head  
When they said they wanted to  
bang her until she looked dead.  
And all I can think are what are the things  
that they decided to leave unsaid.

I digress,

I only feel safe like this

because the world I live in is being run by  
rapists

and I don't have hope for restorative justice  
that only seeks for visible remorse of the culprits  
Despite the fact that they knew and they know

That if you are at first accused of rape threats  
Deny, deny, deny

But here's the other thing we know

Rapists fucking lie.

Rapists say "I'm not that kind of guy"

They say I just didn't know

And I don't know why

I like to incite violence against women

It must be

The way that women are depicted online

We're just playing out

What's been taught to us

Over and over in my mind

I don't feel safe like this

So we gotta be tough

Gotta seem like we're rough

Standing together

Arm in arm

We can scream out

We've had enough

Enough with granting power to those who mark us

Enough with boys will be boys and gentlemen's clubs

We've had enough

But we've got us

We've got trust

We've got allies

That will take back our lives with us

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