More resources:

For more information on street harassment, please see:

www.streetharassmentproject.org

www.tolerance.org

www.rohan.sdsu.edu/~gwick/rapeculture.html

www.umich.edu/~handbook/violence/streetharass/html

www.filmfatale.net

www.loolwa.com

www.hollabacknyc.blogspot.com

www.mencanstoprape.org

Chicago Rape Crisis Hotline:
1-888-293-2080

Thursday, May 4th
Citywide Day of Action Against Street Harassment!

Sponsored by the Rogers Park Young Women’s Action Team.

All artwork in this handout was created by Eric Drooker. Please visit www.drooker.com to see more.
Street Harassment is another tool of the Rape Culture that permeates our society!

Street harassment is sexual intimidation on the street. It can include whistling, sexual remarks, offensive stares, groping, threats, and physical and sexual attacks. It involves a person affirming his right to intrude on another person’s space, forcing him or her to interact with the perpetrator as a sexual object. (www.umich.edu/~handbook/violence/streetharass/html)

“Rape culture is a term used to denote a culture in which rape and other sexual violence is common and in which prevalent attitudes, norms, practices and media condone, normalize excuse or encourage rape and other violence against women.” (www.wikipedia.com) Living in a rape culture is harmful for both men and women.

Street harassment perpetuates the idea that women are pliant sex objects here for nothing that more than men’s pleasure. If a man says, “Smile, baby,” chances are the woman will smile because she fears the violence that might ensue if she refuses. And any rate, why is it okay to expect a smile? When did it become her job to make you happy?

Street harassment makes the world a less safe place for everyone. Working together, we have the power to end this problem. Are you ready to join our fight?

How can you fight the Rape Culture and Street Harassment?

- When someone says no to talking with you, dancing with you, being touched by you, knowing you, taking a drink from you, or having sex with you, accept the answer and walk away.
- Do not encroach on a woman’s personal space. Just because you don’t think you are being offensive, doesn’t mean that you are not.
- Notice ads that portray women in a sexually submissive style. Do not purchase from those companies.
- Do not be silent or laugh politely when sexist jokes are told. Tell people why the jokes are not funny.
- Read and discuss Transforming a Rape Culture, by Emilie Buchwald.
- Support your local rape crisis organization.
- Do not look at rape as a “woman’s problem.” It affects everyone!
- Ask yourself why so much sports news involves violence against women.
- Hold your friends to high standards. Would you feel comfortable with them dating your sister?
- When someone says she/he was raped, believe him/her.
- Stop using the word rape lightly. The guy you are playing video games with did not “rape you” when he beat you in the game.
- Research sexual assault within the United States military. Go to http://hometown.aol.com/milesfdn/myhomepage to learn what’s going on.
- Women are angry for a reason. And we are entitled to it.
- Learn, listen, become allies in our fight.

The Roger’s Park Young Women’s Action Team will be sponsoring a Community March To Support Girl’s Safety on May 4th, 2006, at 5:30 PM. It will start at Loyola Park (1230 West Greenleaf Ave.) and end at the Morse El.