

**International Day for the
Elimination of Violence Against Women**

November 25

Commemoration in Memory of

Susan Anne Taylor

We remember Susan Anne Taylor and all the Aboriginal children and young people who have been impacted by sexual assault and whose innocence has been stolen and abused. Susan was brave to speak about sexual abuse and violence and we must do the same. We honour her memory and consider that the human rights abuse of all Aboriginal children and young people must end.



Susan Taylor was a 15 year-old Noongar girl whose tragic death in 1999 revealed the horrific level of sexual abuse being committed upon Aboriginal children and young people of this State. Susan's family called for an Inquest and in 2001 the Coroner concluded that the cause of her death could not be determined. However, the Coroner recognised that prior sexual abuse contributed to her death and that 'There is widespread rape and sexual abuse generally committed against young Aboriginal persons like Susan throughout Western Australia.' In response, the West Australian government established 'The Gordon Inquiry' that led to systemic changes in the way that government agencies address child abuse in Aboriginal communities.

A decade after Susan's passing we come together to remember her and acknowledge that sexual assault of children and young people is a grave human rights violation. We commit to ending this abuse of Aboriginal children and young people and demand justice and healing for all victims.
