



P.O. Box 78005
1755 East Broadway
Vancouver, BC
V5N 5W1

For Immediate Release

Joint Effort fully supports the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies in their complaint before the Canada Human Rights Commission that the Government of Canada and the Correctional Services of Canada discriminates against women in prison on the basis of gender, race, and disability.

We agree that there is not only enough documentation to substantiate this complaint, but that the Government of Canada is not willing to remedy these discriminatory practices on its own. There have been numerous investigations and commissions of inquiry into the treatment of federally sentenced women, each coming with a set of recommendations designed to improve conditions. Neither the government nor the Correctional Service of Canada has shown good faith in implementing these recommendations in the spirit they were intended.

We add our voice to that of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies and all other equality seeking organizations who call for the Canadian Human Rights Commission to investigate the systemic discrimination of women in prison. Furthermore we support all recommendations and remedies put forward by these organizations concerning this complaint, and call on the Canadian Government to implement these remedies without delay.

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Phyllis Iverson
Co-ordinator Joint Effort
604-872-5592