

Anna

Violence against women
in space and time

The Framework:

Over the years, the YWCA of Greece has been actively advocating a safe and just world for all women, young women and children. In October 2019 the organization launched a two year program on Violence against Women aiming in advocating, supporting and empowering women, on the following axes:

- The sensitization, education and training of its volunteers on the subject of gender - based violence.
- The sensitization, education and empowerment of women of all ages, so that they can better comprehend the phenomenon, its causes and the mechanisms that recreate it, so that they can protect not only themselves, but other women around them.
- Synergy with institutions and other organizations, so that incidents of gender-based violence are acknowledged as such and are treated effectively through the making and implementation of appropriate policy on the part of the government.



Why now?

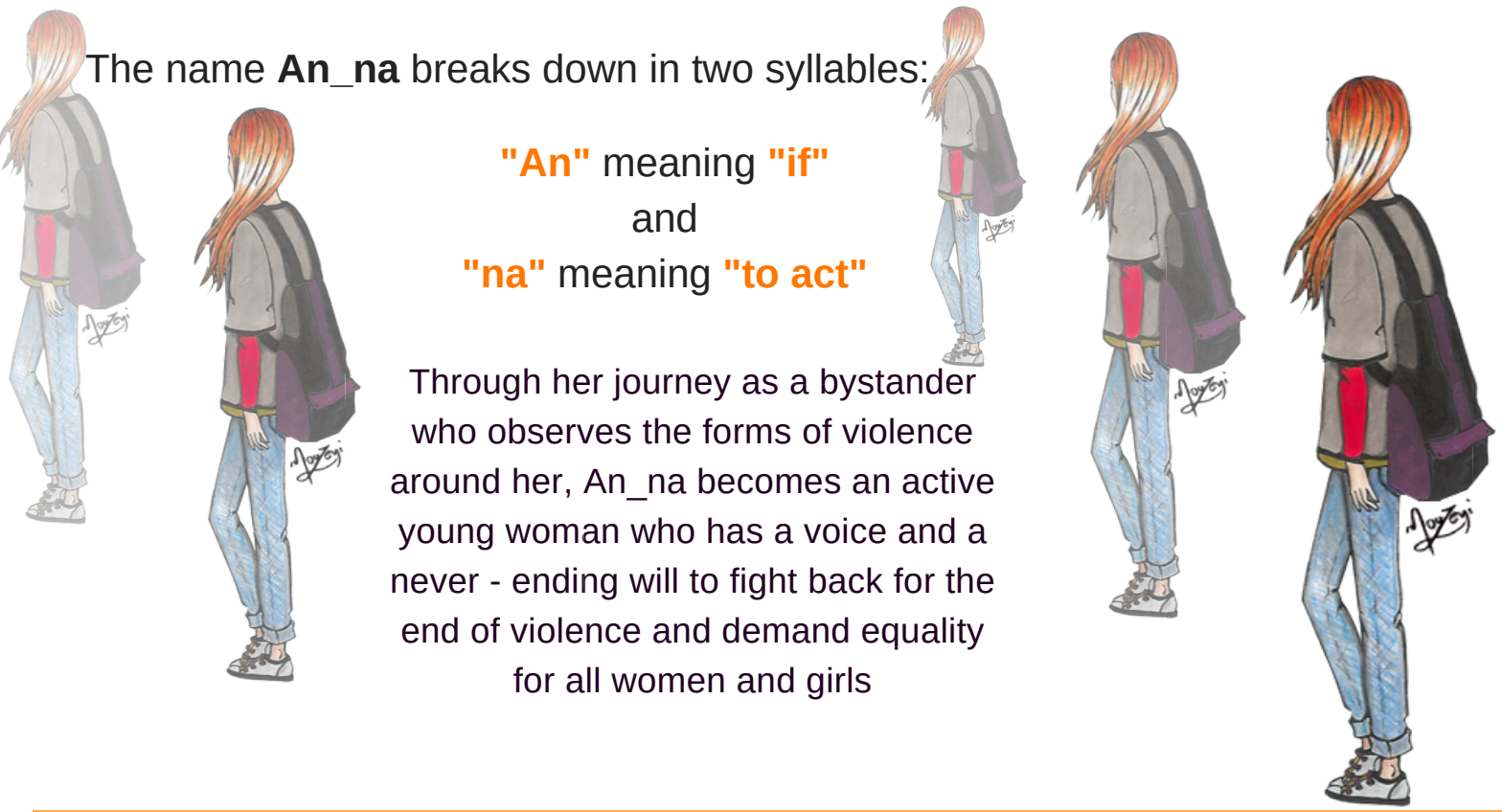


Throughout the world violence against women continues to exist beyond borders, class, tribe, place of origin, culture and the incidents are increasing. Simultaneously, the women's movement globally increases its power and reaction.

The YWCA of Greece with this program contributes to:

- the global effort of the women's and feminist movements to end violence against women, in all forms (sexual, physical, psychological, customary, traditional, legal).
- the change of stereotypical perceptions that lead to violence, having as a goal the redefinition of the relationship among genders.
- the successful implementation of the laws and regulations of the Istanbul Convention (ratified in Greece last year). Our national two-year program comes as a continuation to our advocacy efforts for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention for the violence against women and domestic violence.





The name **An_na** breaks down in two syllables:

"An" meaning **"if"**
and
"na" meaning **"to act"**

Through her journey as a bystander who observes the forms of violence around her, An_na becomes an active young woman who has a voice and a never - ending will to fight back for the end of violence and demand equality for all women and girls

Actions:

In order to achieve our goals:

- we planned out and approved the framework of the program
- we started by pointing out the phenomenon through a series of interviews from women in the academic and social sphere
- we created educational material in order to better understand the extend and depth of the phenomenon.
- we created communication material , so as to make the program and the organization visible nationally through common activities
- we created the character of 'An_na", a 15 year-old girl, who is going to be the central character, around which we will develop our action at the national and local levels and bring together our collective power.

Following steps:

The YWCA of Greece plans to lead volunteers and society overall to join forces, so as to recognize all forms of violence as a blatant violation of women's human rights and to fight against all causes that create and retain it. The long term goal is for society as a whole to act towards transforming power structures in their communities.

In order to achieve this goal, the YWCA of Greece will use:

- its reputation, history, know-how and the human resources of the organization at the global, national and local level.
- milestone dates for the Organization and the women's movement (i.e. week without violence, 16 days of activism, International Women's Day, World YWCA Day).



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