Dear Tostan Friends and Supporters,

I’m overjoyed to announce that in the past two weeks, hundreds of communities in two regions of Senegal where Tostan works have publicly declared their abandonment of female genital cutting (FGC) and child/forced marriage!

The first declaration occurred in the department of Kolda in southern Senegal on November 28th where over 700 communities pledged their commitment to the rights of women and girls through a vibrant celebration featuring music, dance, and theater. Tostan Executive Assistant, Caitlin Snyder, took part in the declaration and wrote about the event and her conversations with community members. Click here to read her report.

This significant event was followed by a declaration by 91 villages in Kaolack, Senegal on December 5th.

These public declarations represent the tangible results of Tostan's Community Empowerment Program (CEP)—most notably the possibility for lasting social change when...
Happy Holidays!

Molly Melching
Executive Director, Tostan

Support Tostan This Holiday Season!

A generous donor has agreed to match as much as $250,000 in donations that we receive before the New Year! Don't let this incredible opportunity to support our work in Africa pass you by! Also, if you make a donation in the name of a loved one, you can pick one of our beautiful greeting cards to send to them along with a personal message.

Give the gift of empowerment this holiday season! Click here to donate!

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton Praises Tostan

Tostan Volunteer in The Gambia Shares Excitement of Village Visit

Check out Tostan's blog for the second installment of Tostan volunteer Katie Seward's travelogue! Katie blogged about her experiences visiting three Mandinka villages in The Gambia where Tostan's CEP is scheduled to begin. In the second installment, Katie describes her journey to Touba Wuli, where villagers shared not only their hospitality, but their hopes for a better future through education and economic opportunity.

Click here to read her account!

Tostan's Approach to Social Change Featured in Not My Life

One final note, please consider donating to Tostan this season to help us reach even more communities in 2011! Scroll down to read how your donation before January 1st will be doubled!!

Happy Holidays!

Molly Melching
Executive Director, Tostan
In a message on November 25th, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Secretary Clinton emphasized the importance of involving men in global efforts to eliminate gender based violence and discrimination. Clinton cited Tostan's program as exemplary in its method of involving the whole community in discussions of health and human rights, leading to community-led decisions to end harmful practices and protect women's rights.

Click here to read the full statement!

Tostan is featured in Not My Life, a documentary film about modern human trafficking set to premier in early 2011!

Click here to read more about Tostan's involvement in the film.

Click here to watch the trailer.

Get the latest stories on our blog and check out our pages on Twitter, Facebook, MySpace, Flickr, and YouTube.

DONATE NOW

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To find out more about upcoming events and ongoing projects, please visit our website.

Tostan is a US 501(c)(3) nongovernmental organization based in Senegal, West Africa.

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