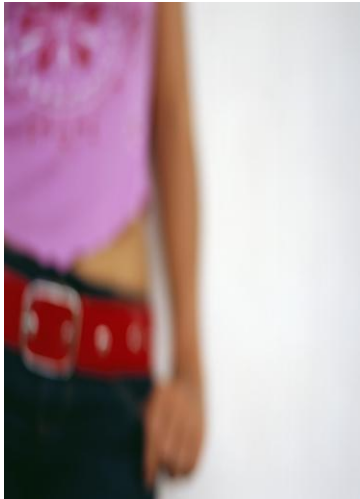


# Victims Assistance Services

*Restoring dignity, advocating for justice and helping to heal*

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In 1992, an 18 year-old woman was raped by her driving instructor in Italy. Seven years later the Italian Supreme Court decision overturned the rape conviction because the victim wore jeans, reasoning she must have helped her attacker remove them, thereby consenting. The ruling sparked great debate throughout the world; and in 1999, Peace Over Violence organized Denim Day USA.



On April 21, 2010, wearing jeans will be an international symbol of protest against the myths and injustices surrounding sexual assault.

**Get organized!** We ask that organizations and businesses designate a point person to coordinate Denim Day in your agency.

- The point person should contact Michele Laaksonen at Victims Assistance Services (914.345.3113 or [mllaaksonen@westcop.org](mailto:mllaaksonen@westcop.org)) to register the agency.
- On Denim Day, the point person will collect donations from individuals supporting sexual assault awareness through denim on April 21, 2010.
  - We ask for a \$2 donation per college student and \$5 donation per community or agency member.
- Following Denim Day, VAS will recognize all participating agencies at our performance of the Vagina Monologues on April 29, 2010 at the Yonkers Riverfront Library.



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