



## Economic and Social Council

### Commission on the Status of Women Fifty-Seventh Session

5 March 2013

### General Discussion

H.E. Ms. Inga Mårte Thorkildsen  
Minister of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion

Chair,

In the course of the French Revolution the political activist and feminist Mme Olympe de

Gouges had the courage to work for the rights of women.

[The following text is heavily redacted with black bars.]

Violence against women: what is it?

*[The following text is heavily obscured by horizontal black bars and is largely illegible.]*

ethnicity and regardless of wealth.

It is the leading cause of deaths and disabilities among women of all ages. Causing more

*[The following text is heavily obscured by horizontal black bars and is largely illegible.]*

Chair,

Women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights is by some thought to be too controversial and difficult to talk about. But how can we **not** talk about it when an estimated 150 million girls under 18 suffered from sexual violence in 2012 alone? When teen

pregnancies is the number one cause of mortality for girls between 15 and 19? When women

So much of the violence women and girls experience is