

White Ribbon March November 28th 2015

On Saturday, Lesley, Donna and I represented SI Adelaide at the White Ribbon March from Victoria Square to Parliament House.

The ABC is reporting that over 200 people attended the march in perfect weather.

This event was organised by the local FADVAN (Family and Domestic Violence Advocacy Network), which is a gathering of service providers and interested parties.



Prior to the commencement of the event, participants were given black and white balloons to carry...colours of White Ribbon.



Soroptimists marched behind the Walk the Talk banner, which is featured this morning on the ABC website. There were many community groups, including SAPOL and Uniting Communities and a wide diversity of people.



When we arrived at Parliament House, many of us sat on the stairs and others stood under the trees in the shade to listen to the speakers.

The speakers at Parliament House were excellent and represented a wide range of connections to DV. Heather Margrison a survivor, Zoe Bettison representing the Premier, John Gardner MP representing Steven Marshall, along with former AFL footballer Gavin Wanganeen and Joe Szakacs from SA Unions. Both Gavin and Joe spoke as young dads, acknowledging their parental responsibilities.

Brad Chilcott representing Anglicare, led us in taking the new White Ribbon oath

I will stand up, speak out and act to prevent men's violence against women.

The crowd repeated it with determination and commitment to making change in our nation.

Terrific morning and I was pleased Soroptimist International were participants.

Pleasing too that we received some media attention.

Interesting to note that the banner photo was taken well before the march started. The media interview we did at the end of the march, was well after most people had left. Is there a message there? Come early? Don't rush off?

Perhaps you'll consider becoming a White Ribbon advocate.

<http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/advocates>