



Submission to FEWO on Subject Matter of Anti- Feminist Ideology

**Written submission to the House of
Commons Standing Committee on the
Status of Women (FEWO) on anti-feminist
ideology and its targeted harms for Black
women and gender-diverse survivors.**

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Submitted by: Project Agape

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Introduction

Project Agape is a non-profit organization in Canada that supports Black women and gender-diverse individuals affected by gender-based violence. Project Agape employs trauma-informed and culturally affirming practices that emphasize healing and community care. By emphasizing the effects of misogyny and anti-feminist language on the safety and equity of Black survivors, the organization seeks to influence policy through the integration of lived experiences and firsthand knowledge.

Context

Anti-feminist ideology manifests itself in everyday environments that survivors navigate, including online spaces, workplaces, housing and immigration systems, schools, and even in the small decisions that shape their safety. For Black women and gender-diverse people, these narratives collide with anti-Black racism and become misogynoir, punishing them for being visible, vocal, or simply setting boundaries. The rise of digital misogyny, the ease with which survivor-blaming spreads, and the rapid circulation of extremist gender narratives have created conditions where Black survivors are facing more harassment, more threats, and more economic vulnerability, often without meaningful protection. Current national strategies on gender-based violence, extremism, and online harm do not yet address the deeply targeted and racialized nature of this harm.

Recommendations

- 1. The government formally recognizes anti-feminist ideology, misogyny, and misogynoir as forms of hate within national strategies on extremism, online harm, and gender-based violence.**

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Anti-feminist ideology works by denying gender inequality, dismissing survivors' experiences, and framing feminist progress as a threat to social order. When these narratives collide with anti-Black racism, they create misogynoir, which targets Black women's safety, credibility, and sense of personhood in specific and harmful ways. Federal frameworks acknowledge misogyny but rarely speak to how it is experienced differently by Black women and gender-diverse people. Without explicitly naming misogynoir, the violence Black survivors face remains overlooked and unaddressed. Clear recognition is necessary for national strategies to respond to the real conditions shaping this harm, particularly online where Black women are frequently targeted through harassment, doxxing, coordinated hate campaigns, and other forms of digital abuse¹.

2. The government invests in Black-led, survivor-led, and community-based organizations with long-term, stable funding to counter anti-feminist narratives through culturally grounded prevention, education, digital safety, and economic security initiatives.

Black survivors are navigating systemic barriers to care, financial instability, and increasing exposure to hate and harassment online². Community-based organizations like Project Agape offer culturally specific and trauma-informed support that general services often cannot provide.

Despite this essential role, Black-led and survivor-led organizations remain chronically underfunded and rely on short-term grants that limit their ability to build long-term safety structures that support the needs of racialized communities. . Anti-feminist ideology gains

¹ #ToxicTwitter: Violence and abuse against women online. (2018, March 21). Amnesty International. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act30/8070/2018/en/>; Bailey, M. (2021). *Misogynoir transformed: Black women's digital resistance*. New York University Press.

² Canadian Centre for Women's Empowerment. (2023, March 2). *Silenced and stripped: Confronting the racial wealth gap and gender-based violence against Black women in Canada*. <https://ccfwe.org/2023/03/02/silenced-and-stripped-confronting-the-racial-wealth-gap-and-gender-based-violence-against-black-women-in-canada/>; Canadian Women's Foundation. (2025). *Challenging gendered digital harm: Research report on impacts and solutions to digital harm facing women, gender-diverse people, and gender equality organizations*. Canadian Women's Foundation.; Essue, B. M., Chadambuka, C., Arruda-Caycho, I., Ravanera, C., Perez-Brummer, A., Balasa, R., & Kaplan, S. (2023). *Beyond surviving: Examining inequities in access to gender-based violence support services for racialized women*. Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation and the Institute for Gender and the Economy. <https://www.gendereconomy.org/intersectional-analysis-of-gender-based-violence>



strength in environments where resources are scarce and survivors have limited access to reliable, culturally grounded prevention and support. Stable and sustained investment makes it

possible to offer crisis response, digital safety education, economic empowerment programs, and prevention strategies that reflect how violence actually impacts the lives of Black survivors.

3. The government strengthens national data collection on anti-feminist violence and digital misogyny with disaggregated metrics by race, gender identity, sexuality, age, and immigration status.

Black individuals who have experienced gender-based violence and identify as youth, immigrants, and refugees, are all harmed by anti-feminist ideology, yet Canada still lacks consistent and intersectional data that reflects these realities. Without disaggregated data, policies continue to treat misogyny as a universal experience and overlook the specific risks faced by Black survivors. This gap influences federal accountability mechanisms, safety planning, and the way funding is allocated. Strengthening data collection on digital hate, who is most targeted and vulnerable to extremist narratives, and trends in gender-based violence reporting would allow Canada to respond with accuracy rather than broad assumptions. Intersectional data is essential for building policies that meet the needs of those most targeted by anti-feminist and anti-Black violence.

4. The government embeds gender equity, racial equity, age-inclusive practices and survivor representation requirements in federal governance, advisory councils, funding decisions, and public leadership bodies.

Black survivors, particularly Black youth who identify as survivors rarely hold decision-making power and are rarely consulted in the systems that are created to serve them. When survivors are left out of public discourse, funding frameworks, policy, and digital safety standards, anti-feminist ideology becomes more powerful. Consultation alone is not sufficient for meaningful representation. Gender-diverse individuals, Black women and Black youth who identify as survivors must be present at the tables where institutional priorities, budgets, and strategies are decided. Federal levers such as transfers, partnership agreements, program criteria,



and GBA+³ mechanisms can embed representation and accountability so that survivors are not left out of decisions about their own safety.

The Need for Immediate Federal Action

Anti-feminist ideology intensifies barriers that Black survivors face in housing, occupation, justice, and mental health. Ignoring this reality deepens inequality and increases harm⁴. Project Agape urges the federal government to respond with urgency. Recognizing misogynoir, funding Black, survivor-led organizations, improving intersectional data, and ensuring survivor and youth leadership in policy-making are essential steps.

About Project Agape

Project Agape is a Black-led, Black-serving, Black-mandated and survivor-centered nonprofit organization, founded in 2019 with a mission to support and promote wellness, care, and safety for Black women and Black gender-diverse individuals who have experienced gender-based violence across Canada.

³ GBA+ (Gender-Based Analysis Plus) is a government analytical framework that examines how policies and programs affect different groups of people based on gender and intersecting identity factors, such as race, age, ethnicity, ability, and class.

⁴ Bailey, M. (2021). *Misogynoir transformed: Black women's digital resistance*. New York University Press.