

MINERVA

University of Ottawa Association of Women & the Law



November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women



Photo: UN Women

November 25 is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. In response to the assassination of the Mirabal sisters, the UN General Assembly designated November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in 1999.

In Canada, Indigenous women are disproportionately affected by violence. For instance, from 2001 – 2015, the homicide rate for Indigenous women was nearly six times higher than that for non-Indigenous women. We encourage you to read our new blog posts for more information.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

New Podcast Premiere: Headstrong

University of Ottawa Elephant in the Room (EITR)

Monday, November 1

The EITR will be releasing its first podcast series. Professor Lynda Collins will be featured in their first episode.

Critical Race Theory and the Legal Profession

County of Carleton Law Association

Thursday, November 4

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Register [here](#)

Trans Rights, Trans Justice: A Conversation about Key Trans Legal Issues in Canada

University of Ottawa Public Law Centre

Friday, November 26

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

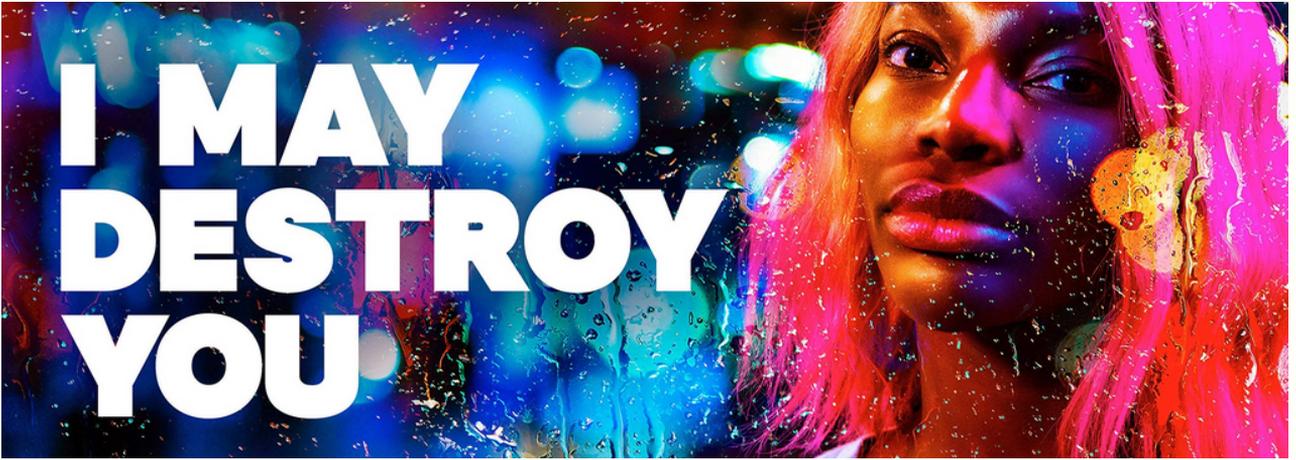
Register [here](#)

FUN HIGHLIGHT

Did you know about the CBA Women Lawyers Madam Justice Project?

It is an ongoing online gallery highlighting women judges across Canada to celebrate diversity on the bench.

TV Series of the Month *By Taylor Bain, 3L*



Trigger warning: sexual assault

Michaela Coel wrote, created, co-directed, and executive produced the 12-episode series “I May Destroy You”. The story follows Coel, who plays the show’s main character Arabella, a London-based writer who throughout the series has to process the trauma of her sexual assault, which at first she tries to brush off as a hazy memory. As [Caroline Franke](#) explains, “Arabella’s journey to [accept that she was sexually assaulted] forces her to reconsider everything about her life: her work, her friends, her family, her attachment to social media, the ways in which she loves and is loved”. The show highlights that the seemingly “grey-area” surrounding some behaviours aren’t so grey, but are in fact sexual assault. The show interrogates the concept of consent, including consent between couples; as a result, the show causes viewers to reflect on their own sexual encounters. While the story’s subject matter can be difficult to watch, in the end, it empowers its viewers to assert their bodily autonomy, which is more than I can say about many other shows.

Women Supporting Women: Share Your Tips, Advice, and Anecdotes (Anonymously)!



By Julia Yunji Chung, 2L

As a racialized woman, and as a first-generation law student navigating the 2L recruitment process, I had the opportunity to reflect on the challenges and barriers I faced. While I was fortunate enough to have several upper-year law students lend me a helping hand through the process, I realized we should have an accessible forum where women can share their experiences. This led us to launch our new initiative, [Women Supporting Women](#).

This initiative is an ongoing Google Form aimed at collecting advice, anecdotes, and tips from women regarding any topic related to law school or the legal profession. Submissions can be provided anonymously. We will amalgamate the submissions, and share them on our blog and newsletters.

The form will be accessible throughout the 2021-22 academic year, so please feel free to share the link with other women! You are encouraged to make several submissions. The more submissions, the merrier!

Link: <https://forms.gle/92G7kS5oN1zAqMLW8>



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