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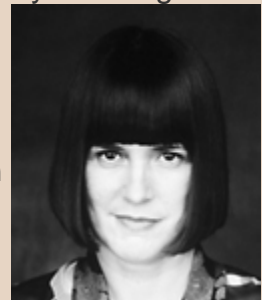
Congo Teach-in
1:00 pm Sunday,
February 15, 2009

**Sanctuary of the Conejo Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship,
3327 Old Conejo Road, Newbury Park, CA**

Facilitators: Tricia Bevan and Gordon Clint

A free “teach-in” about what is happening in the Democratic Republic of the Congo will be held at the Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. The Video, slides and discussion will be presented to help improve understanding about a country where over 5 million people have died in a war that many people know very little about. The program is part of the V-Day 2009 International Movement to stop violence against women and girls. (See background: <http://newsite.vday.org/>)

Besides drawing attention to the horrific brutality in the Congo, much of which is specifically aimed at women, we will point out actions and ways that Americans can help towards ending the violence and suffering. The first step is to be acquainted with the realities in this part of Africa previously known as Zaire (previously the Belgian Congo). The Inspiration for this Congo teach-in comes from Eve Ensler. She is the playwright of *The Vagina Monologues* and founder of V-Day, the global movement to end violence against women and girls. V-Day is working with UNICEF and Congo women in the campaign: **Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource, Power to Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of the Congo**. Ms. Ensler calls the atrocities committed against women and girls in the Eastern part of the Congo “nothing short of femicide - the systematic destruction of the Congolese female population.”



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