

# HONOREE: CAMPAIGN TO END SEXUAL ASSAULT ON THE NIGHT SHIFT

**W**orksafe is proud to recognize the Campaign to End Sexual Assault on the Night Shift—a group that includes the immigrant women workers whose stories were told in the documentary *Rape on the Night Shift*, the filmmakers and reporters who helped share their stories, and SEIU-USWW members and organizers who fought for change.



Together, this group uncovered abuses faced by women in the janitorial industry, lifted up stories of resilience, and fought to protect workers from violence and harassment on the job. This dynamic campaign exemplifies the profound importance of brave and creative collaborations in the struggle for worker health, safety, and dignity.

*Rape on the Night Shift* is an award-winning documentary co-produced by **Daffodil Altan** that highlights the injustice of sexual harassment and violence in the janitorial services industry. Immigrant women in the janitorial sector are particularly vulnerable to assault because they often work alone at night in isolated settings. They are also often more vulnerable to retaliation threats due to their employment precarity. Many face the impossible choice between reporting their assault and feeding their family.

**Sasha Khokha**, host of *The California Report* on KQED, collaborated with other investigative journalists to uncover these abuses and bring these stories to the public. The reporting highlighted the emotional consequences of workplace sexual violence and described the barriers women face

when coming forward to expose their abusive employers. **Georgina Hernandez** and **Leticia Soto** are two of the women who came forward to share their stories. Both survived sexual violence at work and faced significant barriers on the road towards justice. By sharing their stories, Georgina and Leticia helped expose the problem of sexual abuse at janitorial companies across the nation.

Under the leadership of President **David Huerta**, Service Employees International Union United Service Workers West (SEIU-USWW) pursued systemic change and fought to secure passage of AB 1978 (Gonzalez). This bill addresses regulatory gaps that leave many janitorial workers vulnerable to sexual violence and other violations of their basic rights. The legislation requires all janitorial contractors in the state to register with the Labor Commissioner, mandates training on sexual harassment and violence for all supervisors and employees, and provides avenues to enforce these provisions.

Even after the law passed in 2016, the campaign continues its steadfast work to ensure that the most vulnerable among us are guaranteed basic dignity in the workplace. On behalf of your friends at Worksafe, we thank you for speaking out and shedding light on this issue; for being pioneers in the campaign to end sexual assault on the night shift; and for your commitment to justice for immigrant women in the janitorial sector.