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Letter to the Editor | April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. In the Virgin Islands, We Still Have a Long Way to Go.

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Staff Consortium **April 23, 2020**

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Dear Editor,

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This month is dedicated to the awareness and prevention of sexual assault, harassment and abuse. While the #MeToo Movement has increased the amount of reported sexual assaults in the Virgin Islands and the United States, we still have a long way to go to guarantee protections for all victims/survivors.

The COVID-19 pandemic, and the changes we are making to the way we live, work and socialize, has forced many victims to stay at home, in isolation with their abusers. This has made a situation that was already challenging, a nightmare and unsafe for victims/survivors.

We believe victims and we are dedicated to ensuring their safety, regardless of their ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity. The Women's Coalition of St. Croix is here to provide assistance to victims who are isolated with their abusers.

We are not providing in-person services at our offices at this time, due to "stay-at-home" and "sheltering-in-place" measures to keep our community safe. Please contact us by phone at 340-773-9272, via our website - wcstx.org, or on any of our social channels: Facebook - [wcstx](https://www.facebook.com/wcstx), Instagram - [@wcstxvi](https://www.instagram.com/wcstxvi), Twitter - [@WCSTX](https://twitter.com/WCSTX) or YouTube - [wcstx](https://www.youtube.com/wcstx). Providing support to victims, survivors and families in need does not stop in the face of this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Clema S. Lewis

Executive Director, Women's Coalition of St. Croix

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