Participating in a Tweet Chat

We will be having a number of Tweet Chats for World Eating Disorder Day. Some organizations and individuals will be **running** these chats – that is, addressing specific questions about some aspect of eating disorders. Others are welcome to join in the Tweet Chats by **participating** – that is, either following along without directly engaging with the Tweet Chat leads, or *tweeting* or *retweeting* the information that comes up during the chat.

The way the chats are structured, there will be a series of questions and answers developed by the chat leads. These are pre-determined; so, unlike some other Twitter interactions, the questions will be Tweeted at specific times and those answering the questions will have had time to reflect on their answers or sometimes even prepare their answers in advance. As a participant, you will not have seen the questions ahead of time, but you can still engage. Often, you'll be able to jump in and provide some knowledge from your own experiences and expertise. Other times, you might be curious about something that comes up in the chat and want to ask further questions.

It can be frustrating, during a chat, if your question goes unanswered. Some things to keep in mind:
- Chat leaders have had time to prepare their answers – that means that the question you're asking/their answer to it may be coming up later in the chat, which could lead to them not responding immediately
- Chat leaders have a limited time in which they can provide the answers they have prepared – they may end up answering your question later, when they can step back and see what came up while they were chatting
- Sometimes it can be overwhelming to be on "the other side" of a chat, leading to your question getting missed amongst all of the tweets. Again, leads may answer your questions later, after the chat has officially closed.

As a Tweetchat participant, you are welcome to share your expertise and experiences, but you are not expected to answer every question. If you don't happen to have a response to any given question, please feel free to wait until the next relevant question comes up. This can be a great time to sit back and learn!

One of the best things you can to do help spread information shared in a Tweetchat is to **retweet**. You can either retweet directly or quote the tweet and add a comment. Retweeting in Twitter is covered in the guide to using Twitter: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-FpNj9m9IY1NG04RjFwaGI4QlE/view?usp=sharing and retweeting in TweetChat is covered in the guide to using TweetChat: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-FpNj9m9IY1V2FPS1pubGJYYlE/view?usp=sharing
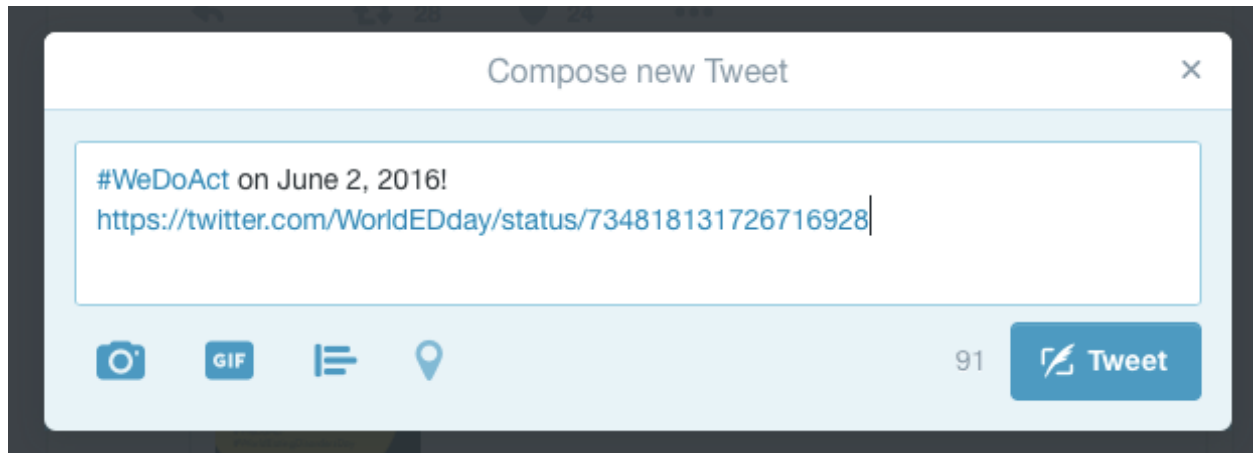
To **quote a Tweet** (in Twitter), click the three dots at the bottom of the Tweet (beside favourite button, the heart):

Click "copy link to Tweet," and you'll get this:
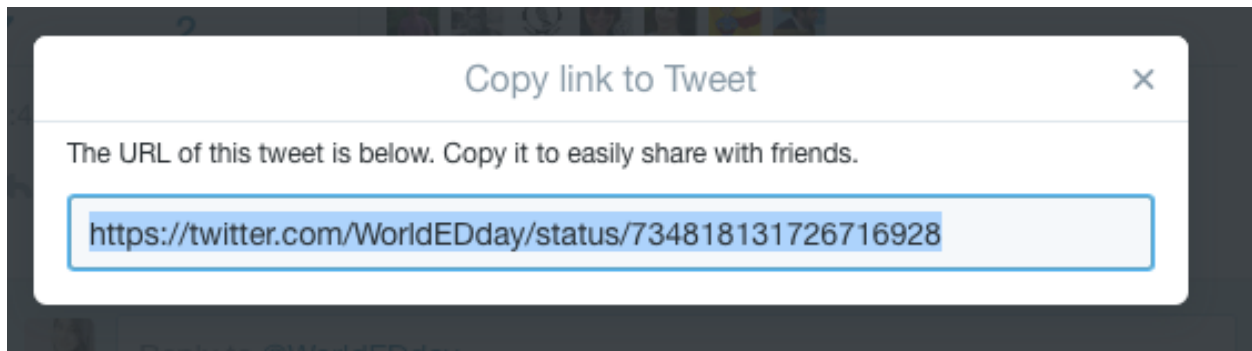
Copy the highlighted text and close this window (by clicking the x). Compose a new tweet (as shown in Twitter guide), and paste this text into the body of the Tweet, preceded by your comment:

Click Tweet, and it will look like this:

This is a nice way of adding your own thoughts while still crediting the original tweeter.

A note about replying to other Tweeters in a Tweet chat: please remember to put a symbol before their @ handle so that others can see the tweet. Please also remember to **use the hashtag #WeDoAct** to make sure your Tweet is included in the mix!

Have fun participating in TweetChats!