

Executive Proclamation

Rapid City, South Dakota

Office of the Mayor

Whereas, dating violence is a reality for many youth, and an issue that many are unaware of; and

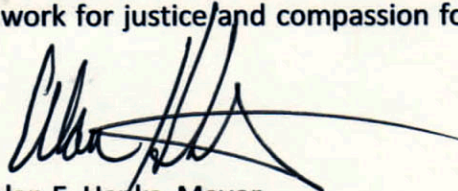
Whereas, One in three young people are affected by physical, sexual or verbal dating violence, with one in five in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and

Whereas, Young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and

Whereas, Elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations, and communities; and

Whereas, Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims.

Now Therefore, I, Alan E. Hanks, Mayor of Rapid City, South Dakota do hereby proclaim February 2010 as DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH in Rapid City and encourage all citizens to recognize and continue to work for justice and compassion for all victims of dating violence.



Alan E. Hanks, Mayor
Mayor of Rapid City, South Dakota