

PROCLAMATION

**DATING VIOLENCE AWARENES AND PREVENTION MONTH
FEBRUARY, 2010**

WHEREAS, females between the ages 16-24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group at a rate almost triple the national average; and

WHEREAS, one in three adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence affecting youth; and

WHEREAS, high school students who experience physical violence in a dating relationship are more likely to use drugs and alcohol, are at a greater risk of suicide, and are much more likely to carry patterns of abuse into future relationships; and

WHEREAS, only 33% of teens who were in an abusive relationship ever told anyone about the abuse, and 81% of parents surveyed either believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is one; and

WHEREAS, by providing young people with education about healthy relationships, and by changing attitudes that support violence, we recognize that dating violence can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit teens, their families, schools, and communities regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or gender.

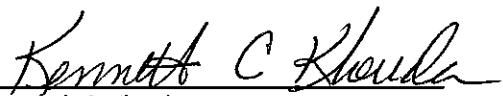
NOW, THEREFORE, I, KENNETH C. KLOUDA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RAWLINS, CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING do hereby proclaim February 2010 as

DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

in Wyoming and urge all to respond to and work toward ending teen dating violence by supporting their communities' efforts to empower teens to develop healthier relationships and assist victims in finding and accessing the resources they need, creating policies in schools, and by engaging in discussions with family members and peers to promote awareness and prevention of the quiet but heinous crimes of teen dating violence in their communities.

IN WHITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the City of Rawlins to be affixed this 16th day of February, 2010.

CITY OF RAWLINS, a Wyoming
municipal corporation


Kenneth C. Klouda, Mayor

ATTEST:


Marla K. Brown, City Clerk



StopDatingViolence.org

PO Box 340

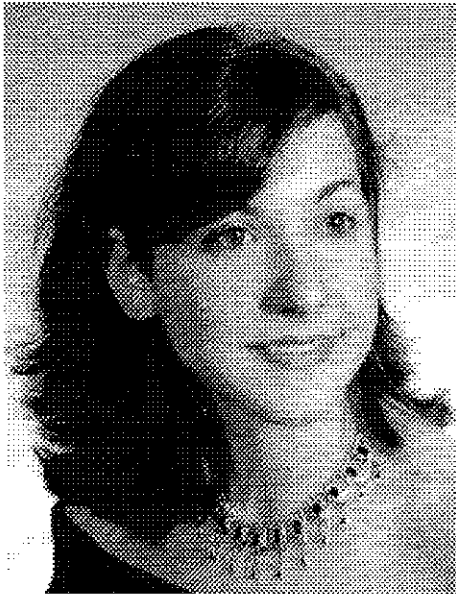
Roosevelt, NJ 08555-0340

bob@StopDatingViolence.org

609-462-9248

Dear Mayor,

Please join Governor Dave Freudenthal, the US Congress (S. Res. 373) and Governors and Mayors across the nation in issuing a proclamation for **Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month**. Although most people are unaware, dating abuse is a serious issue - over 30% of young people report having been physically, verbally, emotionally or sexually abused in a relationship! **Your participation in this campaign can help raise local and national awareness about this serious issue.**



When our 19 year old daughter Emily was murdered at college 10 months ago by her ex-boyfriend, it turned our lives completely upside down. Emily was an honors student who touched many lives with her compassion and passion for a better world. At college, she grew into an active leader, inspiring and organizing other students to get involved in community service. We started The Emily Fund (EmilyFund.org) to continue her legacy. At the same time, I feel driven to do all that I can to help raise awareness about the serious issue of dating abuse and launched StopDatingViolence.org. In preparation for this month's observance of Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month, I have mailed out over **250,000 FREE wallet-sized Dating Pledge Cards** (in English and Spanish) to high schools, colleges, and domestic violence agencies in all 50 states. The feedback has been tremendous. School counselors, health teachers and domestic violence advocates who present to schools are finding the cards to be a valuable tool in helping them to begin a conversation and raise awareness about dating abuse and healthy relationships in their work with young people.

I hope you will consider my request to issue a proclamation and mail or email me a copy so I can post it on the website. I'll also forward it on to the schools and agencies in your area that are planning activities during the month. Thank you for helping to stop dating violence and for helping me to honor my daughter, Emily.

Sincerely,

Robert Alan Silverstein

Sample Proclamation for Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month

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

Whereas, 1 in 3 young people are affected by physical, sexual or verbal dating violence, with 1 in 5 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 & 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 be it, Resolved, That I, _____, do hereby proclaim the month of February, 2010, as Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month in _____.

GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS, females between the ages 16-24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group at a rate almost triple the national average; and

WHEREAS, one in three adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence affecting youth; and

WHEREAS, high school students who experience physical violence in a dating relationship are more likely to use drugs and alcohol, are at greater risk of suicide, and are much more likely to carry patterns of abuse into future relationships; and

WHEREAS, only 33% of teens who were in an abusive relationship ever told anyone about the abuse, and 81% of parents surveyed either believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is one; and

WHEREAS, by providing young people with education about healthy relationships, and by changing attitudes that support violence, we recognize that dating violence can be prevented; and

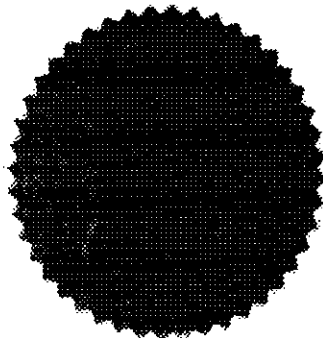
WHEREAS, the establishment of Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit teens, their families, schools, and communities regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or gender;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DAVE FREUDENTHAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF WYOMING, do hereby proclaim February 2010 as

DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

in Wyoming and urge all to respond to and work toward ending teen dating violence by supporting their communities' efforts to empower teens to develop healthier relationships and assist victims in finding and accessing the resources they need, creating policies in schools, and by engaging in discussions with family members and peers to promote awareness and prevention of the quiet but heinous crime of teen dating violence in their communities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 7th day of February, 2010.



Dave Freudenthal
Governor