

Sponsored by:
Linda Bridges & Vivian Doering
Palomar District Domestic Violence Prevention Co-Chairmen 2008-10

ADOPTED

**Palomar District Executive Board Meeting
October 15, 2009
Julian, California**

RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF TEEN DATING VIOLENCE EDUCATION

WHEREAS Teen dating abuse is defined as the act or threat of abuse—physical, sexual, or emotional—by one partner in a dating relationship toward the other partner; and,

WHEREAS- Lack of dating experience allows teens to be more vulnerable to dating violence where they are less likely to recognize the abuse; and,

WHEREAS one in four students in grades 8-9 reported having experienced some type of relationship abuse. One in four female students in grades 9-12 reported being physically or sexually abused by someone they have dated. The cycle of violence is not limited to a single relationship, but travels from one relationship to the next, from one generation to the next; and,

WHEREAS Girls and women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence and of the young murdered each year between the ages of 15 to 19 thirty percent are killed by their boyfriend or husband; and,

WHEREAS - 81% of parents surveyed either believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it's an issue and a majority of parents (54%) admit they have not spoken to their child about dating violence; and,

WHEREAS - Except for parents, teachers probably have more contact with young people than any other adult. Teachers have relationships with their students in the classroom and are seen as trusted adults who can give advice about important topics; and,

WHEREAS - Schools should make sure that educators—teachers and administrators—know about relationship issues and dating abuse, are aware of warning signs and are available to help young people; and

Sources

www.loveisnotabuse.org; www.loveisnotabuse.org/made/ (Lindsay Ann Burke Act (approved by the Rhode Island General Assembly on July 3, 2007) ; www.choosererespect.org; www.giverespect.org; www.ndvh.org,

*CFWC Palomar District
Diana Smith, President 2008-10*

WHEREAS -Schools should include curriculums that stress the importance of self-respect and respecting others. Research shows that reaching young people early with positive messages—even before they begin to date—is a good way to help prevent dating abuse; and,

WHEREAS Education is the best mechanism to stop teen dating violence and is crucial to create a culture of intolerance for teen dating abuse:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CFWC PALOMAR DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD;

1. Encourages the State of California to:

- a. Work with local school districts to devise and implement teen dating violence education policies;
- b. Urge school districts to incorporate positive dating behavior education into health education curriculums in middle and or high school;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Executive Board recommends that these policies include a mission statement emphasizing that dating violence is unacceptable and will not be tolerated as well as the establishment of procedures, guidelines and discipline procedures to respond to incidents taking place at school or on school grounds.

Sources

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