

Proclamation

- Whereas,** February 2018 is proclaimed as National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. During this month, we call upon all residents to support efforts in their communities and schools, and in their own families, to empower young people to develop healthy relationships throughout their lives and to engage in activities that prevent and respond to teen dating violence; and
- Whereas,** one in three girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence; and
- Whereas,** girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence, almost triple the national average; and
- Whereas,** high school students who experience physical violence in a dating relationship are more likely to engage in risky sexual behavior, use drugs and alcohol, carry patterns of abuse into future relationships, and are at a greater risk of suicide; and
- Whereas,** nearly half of teens who experience dating violence report that incidents of abuse took place in a school building or on school grounds; and
- Whereas,** two-thirds of teens who are in an abusive relationship never tell anyone about the abuse; and
- Whereas,** although 82% of parents feel confident that they could recognize the signs if their child was experiencing dating abuse, a majority of parents (58%) could not correctly identify all the warning signs of abuse; and
- Whereas,** by educating young people about healthy relationships and relationship skills, and by changing attitudes that support violence, we recognize that dating violence can be prevented; and
- Whereas,** everyone has the right to a safe and healthy relationship and to be free from abuse. If you or someone you know is involved in an abusive relationship of any kind, you can get immediate and confidential support by calling 1-866-331-9474, texting "Loveis" to 22522, or visiting LoveIsRespect.org.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Trish Herrera Spencer, Mayor of the City of Alameda, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as

Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month

in the City of Alameda. I encourage Alameda residents to help end teen dating violence.



Trish Herrera Spencer
Mayor