

To: Interested Callers, Allied Organizations, and State Coalitions

From: Casey Marx, NRC VAWnet/P.E. Assistant
Amy Ortwein, PCADV Public Policy and Information Assistant

Date: February 4, 2002

Re: Valentine's Day Materials

In spite of efforts by state domestic violence coalitions and women's organizations for increased awareness, violence against women persists. Worldwide, the V-Day Campaign has helped to tie violence against women to Valentine's Day through outreach efforts and events. For more information on how to get involved, contact the V-Day Campaign web site www.vday.org. Although we encourage involvement in V-Day events, we felt it might be useful to have community outreach materials at your disposal.

Attached please find:

- Sample Letter to the Editor.
- [Order forms for posters and magnets.](#)
- Sample Valentine's Cards. Please feel free to distribute and/or utilize as an example for other Valentine's Day cards.
- Valentine's Day Posters. Please feel free to copy, display and/or distribute these posters describing healthy relationships.
- Camera-ready "Hands Are For Holding" stickers and bookmarks to take to your local printer.
- Valentine's Day Commitments for Junior High, High School, and College/University levels.
- Web site resource list.
- [Video List highlighting videos available for teen dating violence.](#)

This Valentine's Day, let's remind each other that "Hands Are For Holding."

SAMPLE -- LETTER TO THE EDITOR

[Date]

Letters to the Editor

[Newspaper]

[Address]

To the Editor:

As most of us have noticed by the heart decorations and candy-filled displays everywhere we turn, Valentine's day is rapidly approaching. While Valentine's Day for many couples is filled with romance, affection and passion, for others it is filled with anxiety, fear and violence.

In spite of increased awareness, domestic violence persists in many relationships and the impact on the community is well documented. [Insert statistic from your state coalition or local program.]

Domestic violence is a brutal crime that can be prevented if everyone takes responsibility and becomes part of the solution. Yes, it is difficult. Maybe you feel it is not your business or you don't know what to do to help. Perhaps you fear retaliation. Put yourself in the shoes of those who are experiencing violence in their lives. How do you think they feel?

There is no doubt that we can reverse the statistics of domestic violence if each one of us makes a personal commitment to get involved. To find out how you can help, please contact [program name and phone number]. [Program name] offers such services as [list of services you want to highlight].

This year on Valentine's Day, let us remember that hands are for holding and love shouldn't hurt.

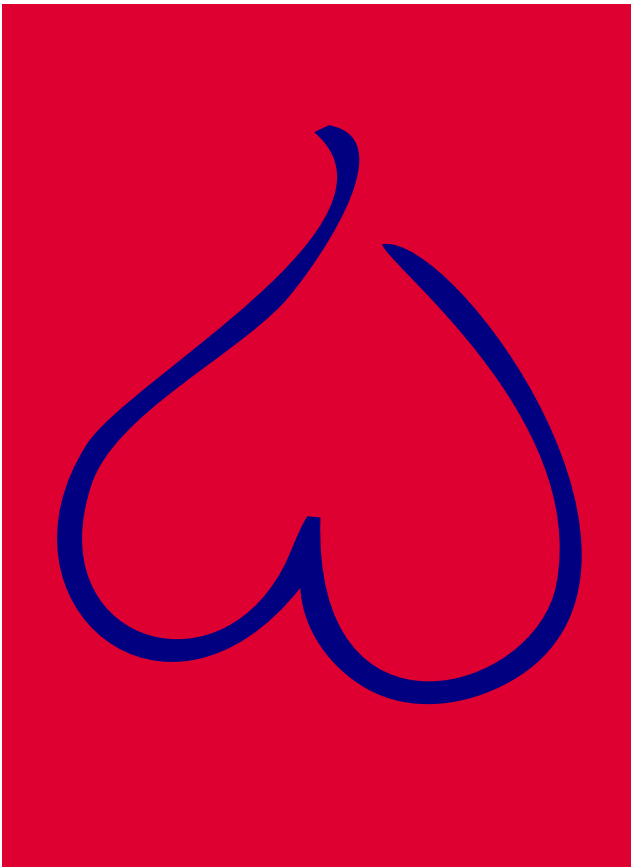
Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title and Program]

[Address]

[Phone number]



National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
(800) 537-2238 ♦ www.VAWhnet.org

To:

*Happy Valentine's
Day ♥*

Love & Respect Always,



National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
(800) 537-2238 ♦ www.VAWnet.org

To:

Love & Respect Always,

Healthy relationships...

are formed through

fairness,

trust,

respect,

support,

honesty,

responsibility,

communication,

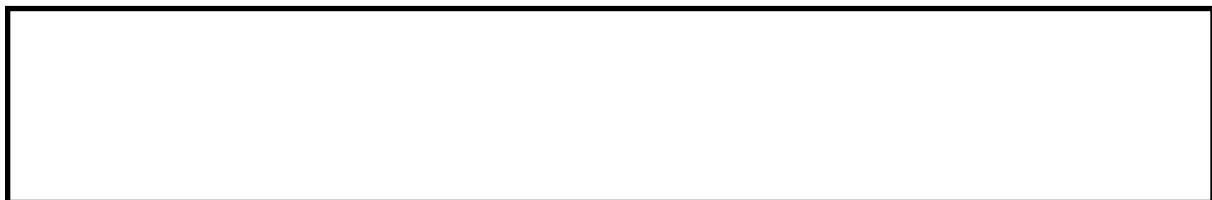
shared freedom,

equality and non-violence.



Hands Are For Holding

**If you feel you are in an abusive relationship,
call your local domestic violence program for FREE and CONFIDENTIAL help.**



**National Resource Center on Domestic Violence ♥ 1-800-537-2238
National Electronic Network on Violence Against Women ♥ www.VAWnet.org**

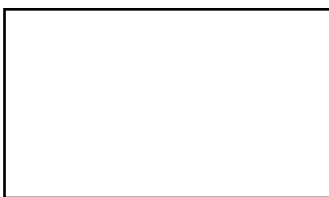


Hands Are For Holding



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HAS NO PLACE IN A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP.

If you feel you are in an abusive relationship, call your local domestic violence program for FREE and CONFIDENTIAL help.

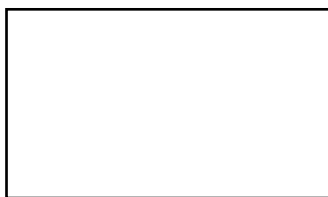


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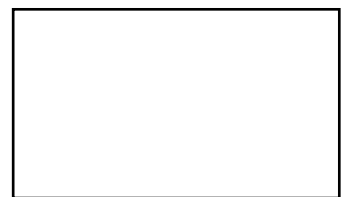


Hands Are For Holding



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HAS NO PLACE IN A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP.

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Valentine's Day Commitment



Whereas, each year, an estimated 3.3 million children are exposed to violence by family members against their mother or female care taker¹; and

Whereas, one in ten teenagers will experience some form of physical abuse in their dating relationships²; and

Whereas, forty percent of teenage girls 14 to 17 report knowing someone their own age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend³; and

Whereas, jealousy and possessiveness are not a sign of love, they are ways for the partner to take control; and

Whereas, healthy relationships are formed through fairness, respect, trust, support, honesty, equality, shared responsibility, freedom, and non-violence by both partners involved; and

Whereas, abusers are not the evil looking people we sometimes imagine they are. They are everyday people who are rich, poor, educated, drop-outs, professional, unemployed, people of all races who live in the city or country and look just like you; and

Whereas, dating abuse is defined as "a pattern of coercive control that one person exercises over another in order to dominate and get her/his way. It is behavior that physically harms, arouses fear, prevents a person from doing what s/he wants or compels her/him to behave in ways s/he does not freely choose"⁴; and

Therefore, let it be that this Junior High School does hereby resolve to promote healthy, non-violent relationships on Valentine's Day and every day by calling upon all faculty, staff and students to create a safe environment for all.

Proclamation compiled by Casey Marx, VAWnet/P.E. Assistant & Amy Ortwein, Public Policy and Information Assistant
Gathered in part from a Proclamation written by Samantha Snell, Project Assistant & MaryAdele Revoy, DVAM Project Coordinator.
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence: 1-800-537-2238

¹Family Violence Prevention Fund

²The Commonwealth Fund Survey of the Health of Adolescent Girls

³Children NOW poll December 1995

⁴Jones and Schechter, 1992. Organizing College Campuses p.3

Valentine's Day Commitment



Whereas, one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence¹; and

Whereas, approximately one in five female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner;² and

Whereas, forty percent of teenage girls 14 to 17 report knowing someone their own age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend³; and

Whereas, jealousy and possessiveness are not a sign of love, they are ways for the partner to take control; and

Whereas, healthy relationships are formed through fairness, respect, trust, support, honesty, equality, shared responsibility, freedom, and non-violence by both partners involved; and

Whereas, abusers are not the evil looking people we sometimes imagine they are. They are everyday people who are rich, poor, educated, drop-outs, professional, unemployed, people of all races who live in the city or country and look just like you; and

Whereas, dating abuse is defined as "a pattern of coercive control that one person exercises over another in order to dominate and get her/his way. It is behavior that physically harms, arouses fear, prevents a person from doing what s/he wants or compels her/him to behave in ways s/he does not freely choose"⁴; and

Therefore, let it be that this High School does hereby resolve to promote healthy, non-violent relationships on Valentine's Day and every day by calling upon all faculty, staff and students to create a safe environment for all.

Proclamation compiled by Casey Marx, VAWnet/P.E. Assistant & Amy Ortwein, Public Policy and Information Assistant
Gathered in part from a Proclamation written by Samantha Snell, Project Assistant & MaryAdele Revoy, DVAM Project Coordinator.
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence: 1-800-537-2238

¹Family Violence Prevention Fund

²Jay G. Silverman, PhD; Anita Raj, PhD; Lorelei A. Mucci, MPH; and Jeanne E. Hathaway, MD, MPH, "Dating Violence Against Adolescent Girls and Associated Substance Use, Unhealthy Weight Control, Sexual Risk Behavior, Pregnancy, and Suicidality," Journal of the American Medical Association, Vol. 286, No. 5, 2001

³Children NOW poll December 1995

⁴Jones and Schechter, 1992. Organizing College Campuses p.3

Valentine's Day Commitment



Whereas, estimates range from 960,000 incidents of violence against a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend per year¹ to three million women who are physically abused by their husband or boyfriend per year²; and

Whereas, one in three Americans have witnessed an incident of domestic violence³; and

Whereas, anyone can be a victim of domestic violence regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or religion⁴; and

Whereas, healthy relationships are formed through fairness, respect, trust, support, honesty, equality, shared responsibility, freedom, and non-violence by both partners involved; and

Whereas, one out of five college students have reported at least one incidence of premarital abuse in their relationship varying from slapping and hitting to more life threatening violence⁵; and

Whereas, dating abuse is defined as "a pattern of coercive control that one person exercises over another in order to dominate and get her/his way. It is behavior that physically harms, arouses fear, prevents a person from doing what s/he wants or compels her/him to behave in ways s/he does not freely choose"⁶; and

Whereas, all young adults have the right to be free of fear, to state her/his opinions and express their feelings, to be treated fairly and honestly, to share equally in decision-making, to decide whether or not do engage in sexual activity, to have privacy and time for themselves, to cultivate friendships of their choice, and to end a relationship⁷; and

Therefore, let it be that this College/University does hereby resolve to promote healthy, non-violent relationships on Valentine's Day and every day by calling upon all faculty, staff and students to create a safe environment for all.

Proclamation compiled by Casey Marx, VAWnet/P.E. Assistant & Amy Ortwein, Public Policy and Information Assistant
Gathered in part from a Proclamation written by Samantha Snell, Project Assistant & MaryAdele Revoy, DVAM Project Coordinator.
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence: 1-800-537-2238

¹U.S. Department of Justice, Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends, March 1998

²The Commonwealth Fund, Health Concerns Across a Woman's Lifespan: 1998 Survey of Women's Health, May 1999

³The Family Violence Prevention Fund

⁴American Bar Association manual on Domestic Violence in the Workplace

⁵Domestic Violence Prevention and Services (www.womenscenter.uconn.edu)

⁶Jones and Schechter, 1992. Organizing College Campuses p.3

⁷Organizing College Campuses, 1999. National Resource Center on Domestic Violence p.54-55.

VALENTINE'S DAY



WEB SITE RESOURCES

V-DAY LINKS

EQUALITY NOW

<http://www.equalitynow.org>

Includes information on the Stop Rape Contest for V-Day 2002. Links to winners of the contest and their action plans for worldwide implementation

HEROINE MAGAZINE

<http://www.heroinemag.com>

Includes V-Day 2001 diary and photo album as well as a full article on Eve Ensler.

IVILLAGE UK, V-DAY INFORMATION

<http://www.ivillage.co.uk/vagina>

Links to the countdown, information, statistics and message boards for V-Day 2002

MARIE CLAIRE'S V-DAY CAMPAIGN

<http://www.marieclaire.women.com/mc/articles/31vday11.htm>

Buy your own V-Day T-shirt to help end violence against women

RANDOM HOUSE, EVE ENSLER - THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES: V-DAY INFORMATION

<http://www.randomhouse.com/features/ensler/vm/vday.html>

Includes information about the author, about the book, questions and answers, testimonials, quotes, scrapbook, reading guide, tour dates and related links.

V-DAY: UNTIL THE VIOLENCE STOPS

<http://www.vday.org>

V-Day is a global movement to end violence against girls and women. It produces cultural events to raise awareness and money for existing organizations. A vital, ongoing process that proclaims Valentine's Day as V-Day, the movement seeks to reinvigorate efforts already underway and commence new initiatives in publicity, education and law.

WHEN LOVE HURTS: A GUIDE ON LOVE, RESPECT AND ABUSE IN RELATIONSHIPS

<http://www.dvirc.org.au/whenlove/>

Includes information on healthy relationships, normal feelings, ideas, safety, laws, services, stories and a quiz for young people.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION COMMISSION

<http://www.abanet.org/domvio/home>

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT/SAFE HOUSE

<http://www.comnet.org/local/orgs/dvp>

FAMILY VIOLENCE AWARENESS PAGE

<http://www.famvi.com>

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUND

<http://www.fvpf.org>

FEMINIST MAJORITY'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

<http://www.feminist.org/other/dv/dvhome>

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

<http://www.fox.nstn.ca/~healthy>

LIZ CLAIBORNE RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE PAGE

<http://www.lizclaiborne.com/lizinc/lizworks/women>

MARIN ABUSED WOMEN'S SERVICES WEB SITE

<http://www.maws.org>

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

<http://www.ndvh.org>

NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

<http://www.ncadv.org>

NEW HOPE FOR WOMEN WEB SITE

<http://www.newhopeforwomen.org>

NEW YORK ASIAN WOMEN'S CENTER

<http://www.nyawc.org>

PENNSYLVANIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WEB SITE

<http://www.pcadv.org>

SAFE HORIZON'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER TOUR AND INFORMATION
WEB SITE

<http://www.dvshelkertour.org>

STOP FAMILY VIOLENCE

<http://www.stopfamilyviolence.org>

SUPPORT NETWORK FOR BATTERED WOMEN

<http://www.snbw.org>

THE CORPORATE ALLIANCE TO END PARTNER VIOLENCE WEB SITE

<http://www.caepv.org>

THE SAFETY ZONE

<http://www.serve.com/zone>

RAPE/VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

AMA VIOLENCE PREVENTION

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama>

ARMING WOMEN AGAINST RAPE AND ENDANGERMENT (AWARE)

<http://www.aware.org>

ASSAULT AND RAPE VICTIMS SUPPORT

<http://www.portup.com/~mseel/rape>

CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

<http://www.cpsdv.org>

COALITION AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN

<http://www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/catw>

COMMUNITIES AGAINST VIOLENCE NETWORK (CAVNET)

<http://www.asksam.com/cavnet>

END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

<http://www.endvaw.org>

"FRIENDS" RAPING FRIENDS: COULD IT HAPPEN TO YOU?

<http://www.cs.utk.edu/~bartley/acquaint/acquaintRape>

JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER

<http://www.ncjrs.org>

MEN CAN STOP RAPE

<http://www.mencanstoprape.org>

MEN STOPPING RAPE

<http://www.daenet.wicip.org/msr>

MEN STOPPING VIOLENCE

<http://www.menstoppingviolence.org>

NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON MARITAL AND DATE RAPE

<http://www.members.aol.com/ncmdr>

NATIONAL ELECTRONIC NETWORK ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
(VAWNET)

<http://www.vawnet.org>

NOW AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

<http://www.now.org>

NOW LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

<http://www.nowldef.org>

NOT VICTIMS

<http://www.smalltime.com/notvictims>

RAPE, ABUSE AND INCEST NATIONAL NETWORK (RAINN)

<http://www.rainn.org>

SPEAKING OUT AGAINST RAPE (SOAR)

<http://www.soar99.org>

U.N. POLICY PAPER ON WOMEN AND VIOLENCE

<http://www.un.org/rights/dpi1772e.htm>

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OFFICE (U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE)

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo>

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (LEGISLATION)

http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo/laws/vawa_summary

WOMEN FOR WOMEN

<http://www.embassy.org/wmn4wmn>

OTHER RESOURCES/LINKS

AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION

<http://www.amerhumane.org>

MINING COMPANY'S ABUSE/INCEST SUPPORT RESOURCES

<http://www.incestabuse.miningco.com>

PANDORA'S BOX

<http://www.preventabuse.com>