

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

- WHEREAS, Research has shown that significant numbers of teens have been involved in a violent relationship or know someone who has been involved in a violent relationship^{1, 2}; and
- WHEREAS, Violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications for victims, who are at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult re-victimization^{3, 4}; and
- WHEREAS, Parents are largely unaware that dating violence is a problem^{5, 6}; and
- WHEREAS, One of the most consistent and strong factors associated with inflicting violence against a dating partner in teen dating relationships is the belief that it is acceptable to use violence^{7, 8}; and
- WHEREAS, Peer influence related to attitudes justifying dating violence has explored whether adolescents follow in their friends' footsteps, and findings indicate that having friends in violent relationships is associated with an adolescent's own experience as both a perpetrator and victim of dating violence^{9, 10, 11, 12}; and
- WHEREAS, The establishment of a "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week" will benefit schools, communities, and families regardless of socioeconomic status, race, or gender^{13, 14}; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies collaborate with local PTAs and PTSAs of Middle, Jr. High and High schools and community organizations to increase awareness of the problem of teen dating violence, and to help educate families, teens, educators, and legislators about responsible relationships and the causes of teen dating violence and strategies for preventing teen dating violence; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA supports a National Teen Dating Violence and Awareness week in February; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA encourages schools, law enforcement, local and state officials and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate activities that promote awareness and prevention of the crime of teen dating violence in our communities; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA supports adequate legislation that applies legal consequences for violence in dating relationships.

(Updates STU 2005-1)

Documentation:

- ¹Teenage Research Unlimited (TRU), “Tween and Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Study”, February 2008, page 5, <http://www.loveisrespect.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/07/tru-tween-teen-study-feb-081.pdf>
- ²Teenage Research Unlimited (TRU), “Tech Abuse in Teen Relationships Study”, January 2007, page 12, <http://www.loveisnotabuse.com/pdf/06-208%20Tech%20Relationship%20Abuse%20TPL.pdf>
- ³Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Understanding Teen Dating Violence Fact Sheet 2008”, page 1, <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/DatingAbuseFactSheet-a.pdf>
- ⁴Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, Violence Prevention webpage, http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/dating_violence.htm
- ⁵Teenage Research Unlimited (TRU), 2008, pages 15-19
- ⁶Teenage Research Unlimited (TRU), 2007, page 13
- ⁷Maura O’Keefe, “Teen Dating Violence: A Review of Risk Factors and Prevention Efforts”, Violence Against Women Network (VAWnet), pages 3-4, http://new.vawnet.org/category/Main_doc.php?docid=409
- ⁸American Bar Association, “Teen Dating Violence Prevention Recommendations”, 2006, page 7, <http://www.abanet.org/unmet/teenabuseguide.pdf>
- ⁹Vangie A. Foshee, PhD, Karl E. Bauman, PhD, Susan T. Ennett, PhD, G. Fletcher Linder, PhD, Thad Benefield, MS and Chirayath Suchindran, PhD, “Assessing the Long-Term Effects of the Safe Dates Program and a Booster in Preventing and Reducing Adolescent Dating Violence Victimization and Perpetration”, American Journal of Public Health, April 2004, vol. 94, No. 4, pages 619-24, <http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/full/94/4/619?maxtoshow=&HITS=10&hits=10&RESULTFORM AT=1&title=dating+violence&andorexacttitle=phrase&andorexacttitleabs=and&andorexactfulltext =and&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&sortspec=relevance&volume=94&resourcetype=HWCIT>
- ¹⁰Maura O’Keefe, page 4
- ¹¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, page 1
- ¹²Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, Violence Prevention webpage
- ¹³Vangie A. Foshee, pages 619-24
- ¹⁴Maura O’Keefe, page 3