



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 female teens in a dating relationship have feared for their physical safety; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 2 teens in serious relationships have compromised their beliefs to please their partner; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 in 5 teens who have been in a serious relationship said their boyfriend or girlfriend would threaten to hurt themselves or their partner if there was a break-up; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 5 teens in a serious relationship report they have been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner; and

WHEREAS, more than 1 in 4 teens have been in a relationship where their partner verbally abuses them; and

WHEREAS, 13 percent of girls who have been in a relationship said they have been pressured to have sex or engage in sex they did not want; and

WHEREAS, 29 percent of girls who have been in a relationship said they have been pressured to have sex or engage in sex they did not want; and

WHEREAS, nearly 50 percent of girls worry that their partner would break up with them if they did not agree to engage in sex; and

WHEREAS, Native American women experience higher rates of interpersonal violence than any other population group; 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 revictimization; and

WHEREAS, the severity of violence among intimate partners has been shown to increase if the pattern has been established in adolescence; and

WHEREAS, 81 percent of parents surveyed either believe dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is an issue; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week will benefit schools, communities, and families regardless of socio-economic status, race, or sex;

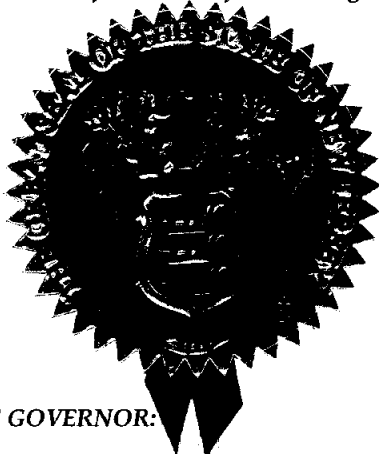
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JON S. CORZINE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim

FEBRUARY 5 THROUGH 9, 2007

AS

NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK

in New Jersey, and urge our high schools, state and local officials and interested groups, to observe National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week with appropriate programs and activities that promote awareness and prevention of the crime of teen dating violence in their communities.



BY THE GOVERNOR:

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fifth day of February in the year two thousand seven, the two hundred thirty-first year of the Independence of the United States.

GOVERNOR

Nina Mitchell Wells

NINA MITCHELL WELLS
SECRETARY OF STATE