



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Teenagers are at a crossroads in the journey of life; they are without the life experience necessary to adequately handle all situations they may face, yet are often capable of making responsible decisions with appropriate support and guidance. Teenagers and their parents or guardians must be especially vigilant when teenagers begin dating. Dating aggression and outright violence have serious consequences, among them, an inevitable feeling of vulnerability, fear, anger, and in some cases, devastation that can last throughout adulthood. Often devastating as well is the impact on family members, friends, and others who care, as they seek to assist in ensuing days.

Teenagers from all walks of life can become victims of dating violence. As a caring society, we embrace the right of all Texans to feel safe and be actually free from harm. Working toward that end, across Texas, committed professionals and volunteers play an invaluable role in fostering prevention of teenage dating violence and overall awareness.

The Governor's Commission on Women, the Women's Advocacy Project, the Texas Council on Family Violence, the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, the Texas Education Agency and other agencies work to educate the public about preventing teenage dating violence, while also offering assistance to victims.

At this time, therefore, I encourage all Texans to increase their awareness and work to prevent teenage dating violence. Together, united in this effort, we can continue to make a difference.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim  
February 6 -10, 2006,

**Teenage Dating Violence  
Awareness and Prevention Week**

in Texas, and urge the appropriate  
recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,  
I hereby affix my signature this the  
11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry".  
Governor of Texas

