



Resolution 2010 – 2

WHEREAS, the youth of Rexburg are Rexburg's most precious resource and greatest hope for the future, and ensuring their safety, well being, positive development, and growth into healthy citizens and a responsibility that we all share; and

WHEREAS, nationwide surveys conducted in 2006 and 2007 examined teen dating relationships and experiences, and findings show that a high incidence of violence and abuse occurs among teens- including verbal, emotional, sexual, and physical violence; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 Idaho Youth Risk Behavior Survey reports that 10.6% of Idaho high school students have been hit, slapped, or physically hurt by their boyfriends or girlfriends during the past year and 9.6% of Idaho high school students have been forced to have unwanted sexual intercourse;

WHEREAS, digital abuse and "sexting" are becoming a new frontier for teen dating abuse and 17.7% of Idaho high school students report being electronically bullied in the last 12 months; and

WHEREAS, teen dating violence is a reality for many teenagers and an issue that many parents are unaware of; and

WHEREAS, violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications for victims, who are at higher risk for alcohol and drug abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult re-victimization; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Project provides free presentations on teen dating violence and Start Strong Idaho provides free presentations on building healthy teen relationships at our secondary schools and in our communities and it is critical that we inform Idaho teens on the warning signs of an abusive relationship, where to find help, the importance of healthy relationships; and

WHEREAS, Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about the importance of healthy teen relationships and preventing teen dating violence and to show support for the organizations and individuals who provide critical prevention work and advocacy services, and assistance to victims;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Richard Woodland, Mayor of Rexburg, Idaho, do hereby proclaim February 2010 to be:

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS 17th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2010.

RICHARD WOODLAND, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BLAIR D. KAY, CITY CLERK