

# PROCLAMATION

## National Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Week

**WHEREAS**, one in three female teenagers in a dating relationship has feared for her physical safety when with a partner; and

**WHEREAS**, one in five teenagers in a serious relationship reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner; and

**WHEREAS**, in the state of Ohio thirteen percent of high school females have been physically forced to have sexual intercourse; and


**WHEREAS**, thirty per cent of teenagers who have been in a dating relationship say that they have been text-messaged between ten and thirty times per hour by a partner seeking to find out where they are, what they are doing, or who they are with; and

**WHEREAS**, violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications for victims, putting them at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult re-victimization; and

**WHEREAS**, the yearly observance of Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Week focuses on increasing the public's awareness of the issue of teen dating violence, and acknowledges the combined efforts of citizens, schools and social service providers such as New Directions and The DELTA Project of Knox County to prevent teen dating violence.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED**, by Mayor Richard K. Mavis that February 2-6, 2009, is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week in the City of Mount Vernon Ohio and strongly urge all citizens to join in a coordinated community effort to put an end to teen dating violence forever for the benefit of our children and the community we share.



  
Richard K. Mavis  
Mayor  
City of Mount Vernon