

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

PROCLAMATION • FEBRUARY 2026

WHEREAS, healthy teen relationships are built on respect, trust, clear communication, and safety, and every young person deserves to learn and experience what healthy relationships look like;

WHEREAS, teen dating violence can include physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, stalking, and technology-facilitated abuse, such as controlling texts, unwanted sharing of images or information, online harassment, or monitoring social media; these forms of abuse have serious impacts on young people's well-being;

WHEREAS, CDC data show that among U.S. high school students who dated in the past year, roughly 1 in 12 experienced physical dating violence and approximately 1 in 10 experienced sexual dating violence, with overall approximately 13.6% experiencing some form of teen dating violence each year, despite many cases going unreported;

WHEREAS, experiences of teen dating violence can affect mental and physical health, educational success, and long-term well-being, including increased risk for depression, anxiety, substance use, risky sexual behavior, and suicidal thoughts;

WHEREAS, some young people experience disproportionate risks — such as LGBTQ+ youth and gender-diverse youth, who report higher rates of dating violence and technology-facilitated abuse than their peers;

WHEREAS, healthy relationship education, community awareness, school support systems, and open family communication help prevent teen dating violence, break cycles of abuse, and ensure youth know where to turn for support;

WHEREAS, recognizing Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month highlights the importance of empowering teens, parents, educators, health providers, and community leaders to work together to promote safe, respectful, and equitable relationships;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tom Walker, Chairman of the Tehama County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim the month of February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month and encourage all of our citizens to work towards ending teen dating violence by empowering young people to develop healthier relationships and assisting victims in accessing the information and supportive services they need.

Signature

Date