

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sexual violence affects someone in the U.S. every 2 minutes and approximately seventy three percent of these people know their assailants. Sexual assault is affecting our neighbors and it is affecting those we love; and

WHEREAS, our children are disproportionately victimized by sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, survivors of these types of abuse and violence are six times more likely to suffer from post traumatic stress disorder, three times more likely to suffer from depression, thirteen times more likely to abuse alcohol, twenty-six times more likely to abuse drugs, and four times more likely to contemplate suicide; and

WHEREAS, our community promotes healing services for survivors of sexual assault by supporting our community partners: SafePlace, Monarch, Partners in Prevention Education, the CIELO Project, Stonewall Youth, and Providence St. Peter's Sexual Assault Clinic; and

WHEREAS, our community promotes healing services for survivors of sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, our community is committed to social change and the protection of all who live within our city limits; and

WHEREAS, our community encourages every member to help put an end to sexual violence by working together;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to increase awareness about this issue, prevent future victimization, and aid survivors, the Olympia City Council hereby proclaims April, 2010, as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

and urges all Olympians to respond to sexual assault by creating policies in their workplaces, by addressing sexism and sexual harassment when confronted by it, by engaging in discussions with family and friends, and by making the prevention of sexual assault a priority in their community.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 13th DAY OF APRIL, 2010.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL


**Doug Mah
Mayor**

