



Proclamation

Anyone can be a victim of domestic violence. It can affect people from all ethnicities, backgrounds and income levels.

Abuse may be perpetrated through verbal, psychological and economic means, as well as through physical or sexual violence. When abuse happens between intimate partners, that betrayal of trust levies a steep emotional, and perhaps even physical toll. In extreme cases it can result in loss of life.

Domestic violence is a serious crime. Those who commit this crime will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, possibly resulting in jail time. Beyond the substantial human toll, the financial cost manifests itself in loss of productivity and the use of medical and law enforcement resources.

Each October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is observed to highlight how domestic violence negatively affects families and communities. This is also a time to increase awareness about prevention and stopping the cycle of violence. There will be many events taking place throughout our islands, including a candle light vigil on October 7, 2009 at the St. Sophia Catholic Church in Moloka'i and the Family Peace Walk and Vigil in Hilo on October 16, 2009.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 2009**, as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in Hawai'i, and urge our citizens to become a part of the solution in preventing and ending domestic violence.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of October 2009.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i