

**TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH AND
#WILCOWITHOUTVIOLENCE PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the youth of Williamson County deserve the support and protection of the citizens and leaders of Williamson County; and

WHEREAS, one in three teens in the U.S. will experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse by someone they are in a relationship with before they become adults; and

WHEREAS, dating violence is experienced by nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide each year; and

WHEREAS, dating abuse includes physical, sexual, verbal, emotional abuse, controlling behaviors, and digital abuse including the use of technologies like social networking and apps; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of female and 1 in 4 male high school students who report experiencing sexual or physical abuse by a dating partner, have also been cyber-bullied; and

WHEREAS, teens who suffer dating abuse are subject to long-term consequences like alcoholism, eating disorders, thoughts of suicide, and violent behavior; and

WHEREAS, fifty percent of young people who experience rape, physical or sexual abuse will attempt to commit suicide; and

WHEREAS, only one-third of the teens who were involved in an abusive relationship confided in someone about the violence; and

WHEREAS, forty-two percent of LGBTQ+ youth reported being physically abused by dating partners, nearly double that of heterosexual youth, and are two times more likely than their same-sex peers to attempt suicide; and

WHEREAS, teaching young people about healthy relationships & ways to avoid physical dating violence can reduce physical & sexual dating violence by sixty percent; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Attorney's office and its partners in the community of Williamson County, Texas along with all our partners against violence throughout Texas and across the nation hereby resolve to promote awareness of teen dating violence, intervention and education; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Williamson County Commissioners Court does hereby proclaim **February 2020** as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and #WilcoWithoutViolence Month in Williamson County, Texas.

Approved this 11th day of February, 2020

County Judge

Commissioner Pct. 1

Commissioner Pct. 2

Commissioner Pct. 3

Commissioner Pct. 4