

MEETING DATE: March 26, 2007

AGENDA ITEM : Adoption of a Resolution Proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and April 25, 2007 as Denim Day

ATTACHMENTS

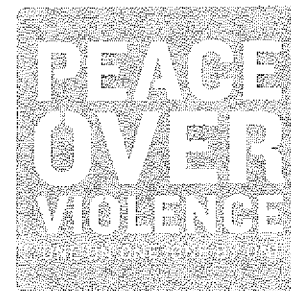
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C.C. Martin Cole



THERE IS NO
EXCUSE
AND NEVER
AN INVITATION
TO RAPE

LACAAW
LOS ANGELES COMMISSION
ON ASSAULTS
AGAINST WOMEN
IS



February 28, 2007

Mayor Gary Silbiger
9770 Culver Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90232

RECEIVED

MAR 05 2007

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Dear Mayor Silbiger:

In 1999 an Italian Supreme Court decision overturned a rape conviction because the victim wore jeans. The justices stated that the victim must have helped her attacker remove her jeans, from which they inferred consent. People all over the world were outraged. Wearing jeans became an international symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual assault. The *Denim Day in L.A.* protests here in Los Angeles, spearheaded by Peace Over Violence (formerly the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women), have evolved into an annual county-wide, highly publicized rape prevention education campaign.

9th annual denim day in L.A.
a peace over violence project

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suite 400
los angeles, california 90015

213.955.9090 office
213.955.9093 fax
213.955.9095 TDD

denimdayinla.org
info@denimdayinla.org

Last year, over 250,000 individuals, 400 organizations and businesses and 49 cities in Los Angeles County signed up to support *Denim Day in L.A.* Thousands of men, women and youth wore jeans, posted rape prevention education materials, supported prevention programs by donating to the *Dollars For Denim* campaign and talked with friends and colleagues about rape myths and realities.

This year, Peace Over Violence will present the 9th Annual *Denim Day in L.A.* on April 25th, 2007. We hope to have half a million people involved in various events at high schools, universities, businesses and commercial venues. We will provide action kits and educational materials to everyone who gets involved to help them plan their own activities and educate their communities regarding sexual assault. We want to have an unprecedented impact—undertaking a massive community education program, encouraging people to break the silence that surrounds sexual violence, raising public awareness about the myths and realities of sexual assault, teaching men and women how to prevent sexual assault, encouraging survivors to heal from the trauma of sexual assault and getting thousands of people to take a public stand against sexual violence by wearing jeans on April 25th, 2007.

We would like to ask you to support *Denim Day in L.A.* by passing a resolution recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and April 25th, 2007 as Denim Day in the City of Culver City. If you decide to support Denim Day in L.A., we will add your name to the official list of participating organizations and will provide you with Denim Day in L.A. educational materials to post in appropriate locations. We have enclosed a sample proclamation for your use. We hope you will join us in this important effort.

If you have any questions, please contact Zara Bukirin at 213-955-9090.

Sincerely,

Patricia Giggans
Peace Over Violence
Executive Director

Deborah Klar
Peace Over Violence
Board President

Calista Flockhart
Peace Over Violence
National Spokesperson

peaceoverviolence.org
info@peaceoverviolence.org

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Sample Denim Day Proclamation

Declaring April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month"
and April 25, 2007 as "Denim Day" in the City of Culver City

- WHEREAS, the United States Government has declared April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and Peace Over Violence (formerly the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women) has declared April 25, 2007 as "Denim Day" in Los Angeles County; and
- WHEREAS, the goal of "Denim Day" is to support survivors and to prevent sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS, both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape and sexual violence remains a serious issue in our society; and
- WHEREAS, injurious attitudes about rape and sexual violence allow these crimes to persist and allow victim/survivors to be re-victimized; and
- WHEREAS, "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Denim Day" were also instituted to call attention to false impressions and misinformation about rape and sexual violence, and the problem that many in society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of violence and forcible rape; and
- WHEREAS, the importance of this issue is underlined by statistics indicating that there were 2,384 reported rapes in the County of Los Angeles in 2005ⁱ, 82.8% of rapes committed by an intimate are not reported to the policeⁱⁱ, approximately 1-in-6 women are raped during their lifetimeⁱⁱⁱ, 29% of all forcible rapes occur when the victims are less than age 11^{iv} and one in 33 internet users younger than 17 received an aggressive sexual solicitation involving offline contact or a request for offline contact^v; and
- WHEREAS, with proper education on the matter, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing incidents of this alarming and psychologically damaging crime; and
- WHEREAS, the members of the Culver City City Council strongly support the efforts of Peace Over Violence to educate persons in our community about the true impact of rape and sexual violence in Southern California.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Culver City does hereby proclaim the month of April 2007 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month," designates April 25, 2007 as "Denim Day," and urges everyone to wear jeans and attend Denim Day observances in their area on April 25, 2007 to help communicate the message that there is "no excuse and never an invitation to rape."

ⁱ Criminal Justice Statistics Center, CA Attorney General's Office, 2005

ⁱⁱ Extent, Nature, and Consequences of Rape Victimization: Findings From the National Violence Against Women Survey, National Institute of Justice Special Report, 2006

ⁱⁱⁱ Extent, Nature, and Consequences of Rape Victimization: Findings From the National Violence Against Women Survey, National Institute of Justice Special Report, 2006

^{iv} California Coalition Against Sexual Assault 2005 Research on Rape and Violence Report

^v Online Victimization: A Report on the Nation's Youth, The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, June 2000

1
2 **RESOLUTION NO. 2007-R_____**
3

4 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
5 CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING APRIL AS
6 "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" AND APRIL
7 25, 2007 AS "DENIM DAY" IN THE CITY OF CULVER
8 CITY.

9 WHEREAS, the United States Government has declared April as "Sexual
10 Assault Awareness Month" and Peace Over Violence (formerly the Los Angeles
11 Commission on Assaults Against Women) has declared April 25, 2007 as "Denim Day" in
12 Los Angeles County; and

13 WHEREAS, the goal of "Denim Day" is to support survivors of sexual assault
14 and to prevent sexual violence; and

15 WHEREAS, both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape
16 and sexual violence remain a serious issue in our society; and

17 WHEREAS, injurious attitudes about rape and sexual violence allow these
18 crimes to persist and allow victims/survivors to be re-victimized; and

19 WHEREAS, "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Denim Day" were also
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21 violence, and the problem that many in society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect
22 to issues of violence and forcible rape; and

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24 that there were 2,384 reported rapes in the County of Los Angeles in 2005, 82.8% of rapes
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2 age 11; and one in 33 internet users younger than 17 received an aggressive sexual
3 solicitation involving offline contact or a request for offline contact; and

4 WHEREAS, with proper education on the matter, there is compelling
5 evidence that we can be successful in reducing incidents of this alarming and
6 psychologically damaging crime; and

7
8 WHEREAS, the members of the Culver City City Council strongly support the
9 efforts of Peace Over Violence to educate persons in our community about the true impact
10 of rape and sexual violence in Southern California.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City, California,
12 DOES HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

13 1. That the City Council of the City of Culver City hereby proclaims the
14 month of April, 2007 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month," designates April 25, 2007 as
15 "Denim Day" in the City of Culver City, and urges everyone to wear jeans and attend Denim
16 Day observances in their area on April 25, 2007 to help communicate the message that
17 there is "no excuse and never an invitation to rape."
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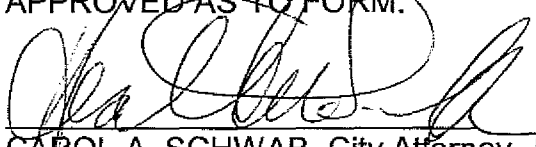
19 APPROVED and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____ 2007.

20
21 _____
22 GARY SILBIGER, Mayor

23 ATTEST:

24 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

25 _____
26 CHRISTOPHER ARMENTA, City Clerk
A07-00242

27 
28 CAROL A. SCHWAB, City Attorney

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