

RESOLUTION NO. 20-139

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, SOLEMNLY PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR THE ELIMINATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

WHEREAS, violence against women and girls is a grave violation of human rights. Its impact ranges from immediate to long-term multiple physical, sexual and mental consequences for women and girls, including death.

WHEREAS, verbal, mental, or physical violence negatively affects women's general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society.

WHEREAS, violence against women not only has negative consequences for women but also their families, the community and the country at large. It has tremendous costs, from greater health care and legal expenses and losses in productivity, impacting national budgets, and overall development.

WHEREAS, decades of mobilizing by civil society and women's movements have put ending gender-based violence high on national and international agendas.

WHEREAS, an unprecedented number of countries have laws against domestic violence, sexual assault, and other forms of violence against women and girls, but implementing these laws continue to be a challenge with the consequence that women's access to safety and justice is often still limited.

WHEREAS, as the country continues in lockdown, more domestic violence helplines and shelters across the world are reporting rising calls for help. In the United States, government authorities, women's rights activists and civil society partners have flagged increasing reports of domestic violence during the crisis, and heightened demand for emergency shelter.

WHEREAS, confinement is fostering the tension and strain created by security, health, and money worries; and it is increasing isolation for women with violent partners, separating them from the people and resources that can best help them.

WHEREAS, as health systems are stretching to breaking point, domestic violence shelters are also reaching capacity, a service deficit made worse when centers are repurposed for additional COVID-response.

WHEREAS, even before COVID-19 existed, domestic violence was already one of the greatest human rights violations. In the previous 12 months, 243 million women and girls (aged 15-49) across the world have been subjected to sexual or physical violence by an intimate partner. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, this number is likely to grow with multiple impacts on women's wellbeing, their sexual and reproductive

health, their mental health, and their ability to participate and lead in the recovery of our societies and economy.

WHEREAS, the Carson City Council does hereby declare and solemnly proclaim support for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

WHEREAS, for the purposes of this Resolution, the term "violence against women and girls" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women or girls, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

WHEREAS, the Carson City Council declares that violence against women and girls shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
- (b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution.
- (c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by a governmental entity.

WHEREAS, the Carson City Council declares that women are entitled to the equal enjoyment and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. These rights include such things as:

- (a) The right to life;
- (b) The right to equality;
- (c) The right to liberty and security of person;
- (d) The right to equal protection under the law;
- (e) The right to be free from all forms of discrimination;
- (f) The right to the highest standard attainable of physical and mental health;
- (g) The right to just and favorable conditions of work;
- (h) The right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- (i) The right to choice.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, FIND, DETERMINE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. That it condemns violence against women and girls and, to this end, shall:

- (a) Do everything within its authority to reduce violence against women including exercising due diligence to prevent and investigate acts of violence against women;
- (b) Promote the protection of women against any form of violence by supporting penal and civil sanctions in legislation to punish and redress the wrongs caused to women who are subjected to violence; women who are subjected to violence should be provided with access to the mechanisms of justice and to just and effective remedies for the harm that they have suffered;
- (c) Work to ensure that the re-victimization of women does not occur because of laws insensitive to gender considerations, enforcement practices or other interventions;
- (d) Work to ensure, to the maximum extent feasible in the light of available resources that women subjected to violence and, where appropriate, their children have specialized assistance, such as rehabilitation, assistance in child care and maintenance, treatment, counseling, and health and social services, facilities and programs, as well as support structures, and should take all other appropriate measures to promote their safety and physical and psychological rehabilitation;
- (e) Include adequate resources for activities related to the elimination of violence against women;
- (f) Support measures to ensure that law enforcement officers and public officials responsible for implementing policies to prevent, investigate and punish violence against women receive training to sensitize them to the needs of women;
- (g) Support measures, especially in the field of education, to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women and to eliminate prejudices, customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women;
- (h) Promote research and data collection, especially concerning domestic violence, relating to the prevalence of different forms of violence against women and encourage research on the causes, nature, seriousness and consequences of violence against women and on the effectiveness of measures implemented to prevent and redress violence against women;
- (i) Recognize the important role of the women's movement and non-governmental organizations worldwide in raising awareness and alleviating the problem of violence against women;

(j) Encourage intergovernmental regional organizations of which they are members to include the elimination of violence against women in their programs, as appropriate.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

SECTION 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original Resolutions.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 18th day of August, 2020.

Mayor Albert Robles

ATTEST:

Donesia Gause-Aldana, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Sunny K. Soltani, City Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss.
CITY OF CARSON)

I, Donesia Gause-Aldana, City Clerk of the City of Carson, California, do hereby certify that the whole number of members is five; that the foregoing resolution, being Resolution No. 20-139 was duly and regularly adopted by said City at a regular meeting duly and regularly held on the 18th day of August 2020, and that the same was passed and adopted by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

By: _____
City Clerk