



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

WHEREAS violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread, persistent and devastating human rights violations in our world today;

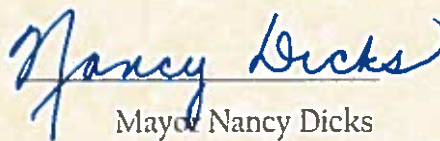
AND WHEREAS gender inequality persists worldwide. Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will require more vigorous efforts, including legal frameworks, to counter deeply rooted gender-based discrimination that often results from patriarchal attitudes and related social norms, as stated by the UN Secretary-General, in his latest report on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

AND WHEREAS violence against women is the most extreme form of discrimination. According to the aforementioned report, on the basis of data from 2005 to 2016 for 87 countries, 19 per cent of women between 15 and 49 years of age said they had experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner in the 12 months prior to the survey. In the most extreme cases, such violence can lead to death. In 2012, almost half of all women who were victims of intentional homicide worldwide were killed by an intimate partner or family member, compared to 6 per cent of male victims.

AND WHEREAS moreover, only just over half (52 per cent) of women between 15 and 49 years of age who are married or in a relationship make their own decisions about consensual sexual relations and use of contraceptives and health services. That statistic is based on available data from around 2012 for 45 countries, 43 of which are in developing regions.

AND WHEREAS Research also shows that achieving gender equality helps in preventing conflict, and high rates of violence against women correlates with outbreaks of conflict. Despite the evidence, actions for women's inclusion, leadership and protection remain inadequate. In some areas, there has even been a roll back on progress.

THEREFORE I, Mayor Nancy Dicks, do hereby proclaim November 25, 2019 as International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the Town of New Glasgow.


Mayor Nancy Dicks