

HCR 246

HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

TO: Senator Chun Oakland, Chair, Senator Ihara, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Human Services and Senator Sakamoto, Chair, Senator Kidani, Vice Chair and members of the Committee on Education

RE: HCR246 HD1 REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO DEVELOP, AND IMPLIMENT A POLICY AGAINST TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.

FROM: Ana Maring, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Aloha, my name is Ana Maring and I represent the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV). HSCADV is a private non-profit agency which serves as a touchstone agency for the majority of domestic violence programs throughout the state. For many years HSCADV has worked with the Hawaii Legislature by serving as an educational resource and representing the many voices of domestic violence programs and survivors of domestic violence.

HSCADV supports HCR246 HD1.

Intimate partner violence (IPV) does not begin at 18 or 20 years old. Many adult victims state they have been involved with their batterer since they were teenagers. The violence that traps adult victims in dangerous relationships also traps our youth.

Research shows:

- 62% of tweens (age 11-14) who have been in a relationship say they know friends who have been verbally abused (called stupid, worthless, ugly, etc) by a boyfriend/girlfriend. (Liz Claiborne Inc. study on teen dating abuse conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, February 2008.)
- 1 in 3 teenagers report knowing a friend or peer who has been hit, punched, kicked, slapped, choked or physically hurt by their partner. (Liz Claiborne Inc. study on teen dating abuse conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, February 2005.)
- 1 in 4 teenage girls who have been in relationships reveal they have been pressured to perform oral sex or engage in intercourse. (Liz Claiborne Inc. study on teen dating abuse conducted by Teenage Research Unlimited, February 2005.)
- Less than 25% of teens say they have discussed dating violence with their parents. (Liz Claiborne Inc. study of teens 13-17 conducted by Applied Research and Consulting LLC, Spring 2000)

HSCADV supports Hawaii's schools in adopting model policy regarding dating violence. The Coalition will work with local and national teen dating violence experts to craft an appropriate and useful policy for the Board of Education.

While HSCADV specializes in training and education we only have a staff of three trainers and would not be able to meet the extensive volume of trainings required to provide, on an annual basis, training to teach all administrators, teachers, nurses, and counselors at the middle and high schools. Funding to hire additional staff would be required in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TO: Senator Sakamoto, Chair
Senator Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Education & Housing

Senator Chun-Oakland, Chair
Senator Ihara, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
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DATE: April 24, 2009

RE: Strong Support for HCR246 HD1 with recommendations

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I strongly encourage your support for this measure and applaud the wisdom of convening such a task force.

Domestic violence doesn't officially become a risk factor for women the minute they receive their high school diplomas; for too many, the abuse may begin in their first relationship with their "high school sweethearts". Teen Dating Violence & Abuse education should be addressed with our young women AND men as early as possible so that ALL recognize the signs of coercive control because the earlier it can be caught, the earlier it can be addressed and helped.

If I may, there are two people who I feel would provide critical and invaluable input towards such a task force:

former Miss Hawaii and Director of "Women Speaking Out", **Juliet Lighter**
and Non-Executive Director of "Girl Fest Hawaii", **Kathy Xian**.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Most respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate