

Notice of Motion

Submitted by Cr Vincent De Luca OAM

White Ribbon Day – Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention

That this Council resolves to:

- 1) Note with concern that
 - a) 57% of women in Australia involved in the ‘International Violence Against Women Survey’ reported experiencing at least one incident of physical or sexual violence over their life time.
 - b) One in 20 women were the victims of violence in 2006;
 - c) 1 in 3 Australian women report experiencing at least one incident of either physical or sexual violence since the age of 15;
 - d) Domestic and family violence is a primary cause of homelessness.
 - e) More than one in five people seeking emergency accommodation are escaping domestic violence, with this ratio rising to nearly one third for Indigenous people;
 - f) Domestic violence is the highest contribution to the death and disability of women;
 - g) Those groups at greatest risk of physical or sexual violence are:
 - Young women aged between 18-24
 - Aboriginal women
 - Women with a disability
 - Pregnant women
 - h) In 2004 it was estimated that the total annual public cost of domestic violence was \$8.1 billion.
 - i) The Victorian Governments report ‘Health Costs to Violence’ found that Violence Against Women is the leading contributor to the death, disability and illness of women aged between 15-44, and being responsible for more of the disease burden than other well known factors such as high blood pressure, smoking, obesity, etc.
 - j) Pain, suffering, and premature mortality associated with domestic violence costs at least \$3.5 billion per year.
 - k) \$4.6 billion is lost because of related costs including private and public health costs associated with treating the effects of domestic violence on the victim, perpetrator, and children, in addition to production costs including absenteeism from work, lost productivity related to use of sick leave, distraction and lack of concentration, underperformance, poor workplace relationships, access to employment support services etc., replacing staff, lost unpaid work.
- 2) Support White Ribbon Day on 25 November 2008 by selling White Ribbons in all Warringah Council facilities (such as Council’s Customer Services Desk, Libraries and other facilities) and encouraging Council staff to hold awareness events in their workplaces on 25 November 2008.
- 3) Donate \$1,500 towards the Manly Warringah Womens’ Refuge in recognition of Council’s support for supporting victims of domestic violence.