

AVOIDING THE UNNECESSARY DISPLACEMENT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

WHEREAS, interpersonal violence perpetrated by an intimate partner affects more than 36% of women and 29% of men in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, these violent acts can include rape, physical violence, stalking and other abhorrent crimes that leave lifelong traumatic effects; and

WHEREAS, these crimes tend to disproportionately affect people who are traditionally disenfranchised and marginalized; and

WHEREAS, when a violent act occurs in a home, it's the victims who are generally removed; and

WHEREAS, the National Organization for Women (NOW) includes among its core values the elimination of violence against women;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NOW urges law enforcement agencies to change their policies so that when police are called to an incidence of domestic violence, it's the perpetrator who is removed from the home and not the victims; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this action will lessen the negative economic impact on the victims, which often include minor children who do best when they remain in a familiar, consistent environment; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this new law enforcement policy will give the victims the time they need to make the best decisions for their safety, welfare, and well-being.