

**TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA**  
**FIRST SESSION (2012 - 2013)**  
**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 47**

WHEREAS in its first World Report on Violence and Health released in October, 2002 the World Health Organisation defined violence as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against another person, or against a group or community, that either result in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation”;

AND WHEREAS the aforesaid World Report defined Interpersonal Violence (IPV) as being subdivided into family and intimate partner violence and community violence with the former category including child maltreatment, intimate partner violence and elder abuse while the latter is subdivided into acquaintance and stranger violence and includes youth violence, assault by strangers, violence relating to property crimes and violence in work places and other institutions;

AND WHEREAS the incidents of Interpersonal Violence have reached epidemic proportions in Guyana;

AND WHEREAS this has occurred despite numerous programmes aimed at reducing interpersonal violence initiated by government agencies, schools, religious bodies, volunteer organizations and other community based organizations;

AND WHEREAS the reversal of this epidemic is in the interest of all Guyanese who continue to be adversely affected by it;

2.

AND WHEREAS research at the national, regional and international levels has shown that high incidents of Interpersonal Violence have a significant negative effect on the economic growth and health of a country;

RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly unequivocally condemns all forms of Interpersonal Violence;

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly calls on the Parliamentary Management Committee to designate a day to be observed under the theme “Parliamentarians Against Interpersonal Violence” during which the National Assembly will organize appropriate activities to highlight ways in which Interpersonal Violence can be reduced;

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the members of this National Assembly commit to actively supporting existing programmes in Ministries, agencies and civil society bodies such as religious, women, youth and community organizations, that address violence and interpersonal violence in particular ,such as, the Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence programme, the Men’s Affairs Bureau and the Child Care and Protection Agency in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security, the National Commission on the Family, the National Commission on Law and Order, Prisoner reintegration programmes, anger management and substance abuse programmes both in the Ministries of Health and Home Affairs and civil society bodies, and the Ministry of Education on school violence; and

3.

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly agrees to appoint a Parliamentary Special Select Committee to examine the levels and contributing factors to Interpersonal Violence in Guyana; to draw on research and information available at the national, regional and international levels; to consider and examine existing programmes being implemented by Government and civil society aimed at reducing interpersonal violence, and return to the House by November 30, 2013 with its considered recommendations on reducing interpersonal violence in Guyana.

*Passed by the National Assembly on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2013.*

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**S.E. ISAACS**  
**Clerk of the National Assembly**