

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY
WASHINGTON**



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Zonta Club of Everett was chartered in 1929 and is affiliated with Zonta International, a worldwide service organization of business and professional executives dedicated to advancing the status of women; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Zonta International began an ongoing campaign “16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence” as an organizing strategy for individuals and groups around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of violence against women; and

WHEREAS, according to the United Nations, a quarter of all women worldwide are raped during their lifetime, fifty percent are regularly beaten at home, more than 120 million have undergone female genital mutilation and more than 20 million women are living with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, violence against women happens all over the world, in the United States, a woman is raped every 6 minutes; a woman is battered every 15 seconds; 700,000 women are sexually assaulted annually, 14.8 percent of them are raped before the age of 17; and

WHEREAS, In Snohomish County; between July 2008 and June 2009 alone, the only confidential domestic abuse hotline in Snohomish County received 4,401 calls for help; and

WHEREAS, the Zonta Club of Everett is a catalyst for positive change to improve the status of women and girls in Snohomish County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Aaron G. Reardon, Snohomish County Executive, do hereby proclaim November 25, 2009, as a day to

**Eliminate Violence Against Women
In Snohomish County**

and call attention to the need to promote and protect the rights of women to live free of violence.

Signed this 18th day of November, 2009

Aaron G. Reardon
Snohomish County Executive