

TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA – FIRST SESSION (2012 – 2013)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE PAPER NO. 163

**Member Giving Notice: Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P.,
Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

MOTION

INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

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 has 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;

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly designates 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;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government of Guyana to establish, within one (1) month of the passage of this motion, a broad based Committee comprising but not limited to, representatives of the political parties in the National Assembly; the relevant Government Ministries; religious bodies, private sector bodies; youth organizations; women organizations and volunteer organizations with the mandate to complete a National Plan of Action to combat Interpersonal Violence within four (4) months of its establishment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Guyana within one (1) month of the completion of the aforesaid National Plan of Action, lay it in the National Assembly.

(Notice Paper No. 163 (M 59 Opp.36) published on 2013-02-08)