

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-C063
Title: Participate in Thursdays in Black
Proposer: Province II
Topic: Violence, Women

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-D016 Create a Task Force for Women, Truth, and Reconciliation
2018-D031 Urge Church Awareness and Response to Domestic Violence
2012-A139 Endorse Efforts Against Gender Violence

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2015-D054 Refer a Resolution on Violence Against Women (Referred)

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.

C063 Participate in Thursdays in Black

Proposer	Province II
Endorsed by	—
Supported by	—
HiA / Leg. Cttee	House of Bishops / —
Current Status	—
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That this 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourage members of Provinces, Dioceses, Congregations and all other institutions of The Episcopal Church to participate in the Thursdays In Black Campaign of the World Council of Churches, a global movement for a world without rape and violence; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church commit to work toward increasing awareness, accountability, and action across the church about the alarming degree of gender-based violence in church and society; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church commit to work toward education about and elimination of gender-based violence.

EXPLANATION

Thursdays in Black grew out of the World Council of Churches (WCC) Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1998), in which the stories of rape as a weapon of war, gender injustice, abuse, violence, and many tragedies that grow outward from such violence became all the more visible. But what also became visible was women's resilience, agency, and personal efforts to resist such violations.

The idea behind Thursdays in Black is to encourage people to wear black clothing on Thursdays as reminder of the need to act against sexual violence in all its forms. Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence. Encourage others to join you.

Often black has been used with negative racial connotations. In this campaign, black is used as a color of resistance and resilience.

The Thursdays in Black movement is found throughout the Anglican Communion. Submitted with

this Resolution as a Document is an article about the campaign from the Anglican Communion News Service.



Resolution Number: 2018-D031
Title: Urge Church Awareness and Response to Domestic Violence
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church continue to speak out clearly against all forms of domestic violence as it has done in the past; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention encourages Episcopal clergy and congregations to educate themselves on the widespread problem that domestic violence is in their churches, neighborhoods and beyond; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention urge all Episcopal Bishops and other clergy and lay leadership to familiarize themselves with the international and multi-lingual resources provided by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, White Ribbon, and other local resources, as well as existing trainings developed for domestic violence prevention, and create procedures for supporting domestic violence survivors in their dioceses and congregations; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention urge the Church at every level to examine its response to domestic violence, especially its response to survivors of domestic violence.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 889.



Resolution Number: 2012-A139
Title: Endorse Efforts Against Gender Violence
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention affirm the Letter to the Churches of the Anglican Communion from the Primates of the Anglican Communion following their Primates Meeting in Dublin, Ireland, January 24–30, 2011, concerning gender-based violence, including endorsing and implementing the actions put forth in the statement; and be it further
Resolved, That parishes and dioceses be encouraged to participate in annual awareness campaigns about gender violence; and be it further
Resolved, That the Department of Global Partnership identify and disseminate resources about gender violence and promote their use by dioceses and parishes.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), p. 184.