

Resolution in Defense of TransWomen

WHEREAS, the number of transWomen who have been brutally murdered in 2020 has risen to at least 15, including six transwomen who were murdered in the five weeks ending May 9, 2020 and two murdered the week of June 9, 2020 alone; this number reflects a disturbing increase from the 29 Trans people who were murdered in 2019, and the brutality and callousness of these murders, including three occasions where transwomen were brutally beaten by groups of cis-men while large groups of people stood and cheered, fails to draw national news coverage, and the police continue to ignore the victims: Alexa Luciano Ruiz, age 24; Lyanna Dior, age 21; and Muhlaysia Booker, age 23; and

WHEREAS, transWomen, suffer the highest rates of violence, rape, murder, unemployment and suicide, but the national media almost exclusively directs their attention to cis-men being murdered rather than violence against transWomen and public services continue to present barriers for transWomen; and

WHEREAS, we must honor and recognize those who are victims by knowing their names, including: Alexa Luciano Ruiz, age 24; Yampi Mendez Arocho, age 19; Monika Diamond, shot in an ambulance; Lexi, age 33; Johanna Metzger, age 25; Serena Angelique Velazquez Ramos, age 24; Layla Pelaez Sanchez, age 21; Penelope Diaz Ramirez, age 31 (killed in police custody); Nina Pop, age 28; Helle Jae O'Regan, age 20; Tony McDade, Dustin Parker, Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells, age 27; Riah Milton Thompson, age 25; Selena Reyes-Hernandez, age 24; and Marilyn Cazares, age 22;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls on all Democrats to recognize the violence and unique challenges faced by transWomen, and to make a good faith effort to educate others and lend their voices, votes, and contributions to the elimination of transphobia in the Bay Area, California, and the United States; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party hereby calls for (i) the enactment of public policy directed toward implementing the end of discrimination and violence against transWomen, (ii) the closing of the services gap for transWomen in healthcare and other public services, and (iii) the prompt, good faith investigation of all transphobic incidents and hate crimes, and the appropriate consequences for police violence targeting transgender individuals (Scout Schultz/Tony Dade/Penelope Ramirez/Roxana Hernandez/Johanna Leon/Carmela Diaz) or the failure of the police to respond to acts of violence against the transgender community, (iv) the open inclusion of transWomen into society.

Author: Roxanne

Submitted by: Claudia Shope

Adopted by the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee on August 6, 2020