# Domestic Violence & Women's Rights

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## Impact On Our State & Community

Domestic violence and women's rights have had an immense impact on our state and community.

Recently, we have witnessed sickening examples of domestic violence in our area, which have piqued our determination to raise awareness and support victims of domestic abuse & sexual assault. As a community, it is crucial to offer help and reassurance to those struggling in vulnerable situations. No person should have to endure any acts of violence or sexism. We feel that as the next generation of our community, we are obligated to ensure that women all across our state & town have access to resources and do our best to prevent domestic abuse.

"33.9% of Massachusetts women and 31.7% of Massachusetts men experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes"

## Data & Research

Over the course of our project, we have collected many statistics and data regarding domestic violence. Listed to the right is the most prominent data we found, stated by <a href="ncadv.org">ncadv.org</a>. NCADV is a non-profit organization, advocating for survivors of domestic violence.



These statistics show how drastic abuse has become in our society today. It is extremely upsetting that we have become so desensitized to these acts of extreme violence.

- "1 in 3 women have experienced some form of physical violence."
- "On average, more than 10 million women and men are physically abused by their partner in a year "
- "On a typical day, there are more than
   20,000 phone calls placed to domestic
   violence hotlines nationwide"
- "Between 2003 and 2008, 142 women were murdered in their workplace by their abuser, 78% of women killed in the workplace during this timeframe."

## Bill H.4290, An Act to Protect Victims of Crimes & the Public

- This bill was introduced by Charlie Baker, our Governor.
- It claims to...
  - → Add to the list of offenses that require consequential hearings
  - → Eliminate ineffective action to address legal safety concerns
  - → Enforce more restrictions and detainments for offenders
  - → Strengthen the ability of judges to enforce conditions of pretrial release
    - Judges can revoke a person's release if they violated court-ordered condition

- More crimes will be qualified for trial, such as...
  - Potential or threatened violence
  - Crimes of sexual abuse
- Information Sources:
  - mass.gov
  - malegislature.gov

### Bill History: A Timeline







#### Bill is filed & proposed

Governor Baker Proposes this bill: An Act to Protect Victims of Crimes & the Public

#### Senate concurs to hearings

Our Senate agrees to further discuss Governor Baker's proposal

#### Further progress is made

Senate & Judiciary continue to concur to hearings, the following date being June 30, 2022

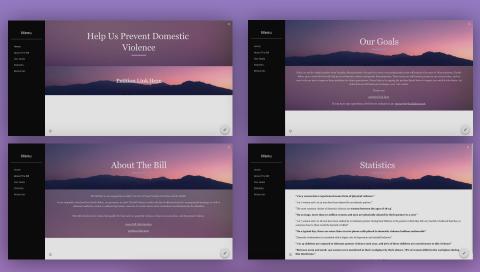


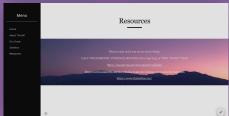
## Action Steps

- 1. Our project began with creating an informative website about the bill, as well as domestic violence. As said before, this entailed lots of research and preparation.
  - a. After gathering information, we used Google Sites to create and publish the website.
  - b. It provides statistics, hotlines, and details about Women's Rights, Domestic Violence, and Charlie Baker's proposed bill.
- 2. Next, we decided to start spreading awareness by sending a Google Form Petition (via email) to the middle and high school students in our district, as well as their faculties. Students and community members had the opportunity to sign, sending support and encouragement to Governor Baker & his team.
  - a. Our petition also included further information regarding domestic violence, as well as the link to our website.
  - b. To promote it, we sent the petition (via email) to our family, friends, and peers
  - c. We reached out to Governor Baker's office (via email), got a confirmation of receival, and are currently awaiting a response.



## Proof of Action: Our Website





## Proof of Action: Our Petition

An Act to Protect Victims of Cr the Public - Bill	iiiics d
This bill claims to add to the list of offenses that have consequential eliminate ineffective action to address legal safety concerns. It would restrictions and detainments for offenders. It includes more crimes the such as: potential violence, crimes of sexual abuse, and threatened violence are such as such as such as the such as s	d enforce more hat qualify for trial, iolence.
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Please sign your name below	
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	Questions	Responses	236	Settings
236 responses				

#### Proof of Action: Email to Other Schools

#### Proof of Action: Email to Charlie Baker



#### SAMANTHA EAGERMAN

Thu, May 26, 10:23 AM 🏠





to Craig, Rebecca, Joshua, Jeff, MADELEINE, me, RYAN, KRITHI 🔻

Good Morning,

We are five eighth grade students from ASMS completing our Civic Engagement Project on Domestic Violence & Women's Rights. These issues have had an immense impact on our state and community. Recently, we have witnessed examples of domestic violence, which have piqued our determination to raise awareness and support members of our community who have been victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

Our goal is to have a successful petition that will help the Governor of Massachusetts, Charlie Baker, pass a now-pending state bill that will help prevent domestic violence and gender discrimination.

The bill that we are supporting is called "An Act to Protect Victims of Crimes and the Public". It was originally introduced in 2018. This bill claims to add to the list of offenses that have consequential hearings, as well as eliminate ineffective action to address legal safety concerns. It would enforce more restrictions and detainments for offenders and predators. This bill includes more crimes that qualify for trial, such as: potential violence, crimes of sexual abuse, and threatened violence.

We aspire to share positive results from this petition to Charlie Baker in hopes to show our support for this beneficial bill.

To reach this goal, we need assistance from your students and faculty, in order to collect the strongest data possible. We are wondering if you would be open to letting us share our petition (via email) with your students and staff. The petition is linked below. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Sam Eagerman, Maddie Tuxbury, Asher Martin, Krithi Rajesh, Ryan Sullivan

Links for our curated resources:

Petition Form

Our web page with more information

#### Dear Jeff:

On behalf of Governor Charles D. Baker, thank you for your recent correspondence. We will pass along your comments to the appropriate personnel. The Baker-Polito Administration values your input and we are grateful to have your voice as part of the discussion.

Again, thank you for contacting Governor Baker's office. If you would like to speak to a staff member, please call our office at (617) 725-4005. You will be prompted to leave a message with your information and concerns.

Sincerely.

Constituent Services Aide
Office of Governor Charlie Baker
(617) 725-4005
www.mass.gov/governor/contact

# Action Steps Results

As a result of our petition and website, we have so far reached a total of 236 signatures in support for Governor Baker's bill. We are very satisfied with our successful results and hope that our efforts will continue to gain momentum to help create a more safe and equal future for women in our town & state. Our project also helped garner more support and recognition for Charlie Baker's bill, "An Act to Protect Victims of Crimes & the Public."

Thank you for your time, as well as the opportunity to express our concerns and educate about domestic violence. We are extremely passionate about this prominent issue.

We hope that the results of our project will encourage you to further support women across Massachusetts, and demonstrate the importance of community, benevolence, and compassion.

Thank you!!