

**DECLARATION  
ON FAMILY VIOLENCE**



By the Legislative Assembly  
of the Northwest Territories

The Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories,  
recognizing that:

- violence, and violence within the family in particular, is occurring at levels which are tragic and destructive not only to those directly affected, but to all of northern society,
- family violence consists predominately of violence by men against women and children,
- violence includes physical, psychological, emotional and sexual abuse,
- violence has for too long been tolerated, the incidence of violence denied, and its effects minimized,
- the practice of violence is transmitted from generation to generation: children and youth are educated by experience and example to practise violence,
- everyone is entitled to live free from violence,
- family violence will only be contained and reduced if northern society refuses to continue to tolerate its occurrence,

Declares that the Government of the NWT,

- i. is committed to the principle of Zero Tolerance of violence against women and children and endorses the goal of eliminating violence against women and children by the year 2000, and
- ii. invites the leadership of all of northern society, such as leaders of native organizations, municipal governments, trade unions and societies, to make a similar commitment by adopting this declaration.



