



GOVERNOR OF QUEENSLAND

Message from the Governor of Queensland

As Governor of Queensland, one of my key responsibilities is to support and encourage all Queenslanders.

This role has been particularly important in these first months of 2020 as we continue to experience the life-changing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kaye and I are very aware that, at a time of such uncertainty, it is the most vulnerable and marginalised in our communities who are most at risk.

Those who are aged, homeless, or living with disability are all very much in our thoughts, but there is another group which is of particular concern to us this month – the thousands of women and men in this state who are victims of violence at the hands of an intimate partner.

During Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month each year, we are reminded of the shocking statistics, but few are aware that, hidden behind those raw numbers and percentages is a darker story – unreported abuse in LGBTIQ+ relationships.

It is therefore very pleasing to see that the inaugural LGBTI Domestic Violence Awareness Day will be commemorated on 28 May 2020 during this year's Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month, and I congratulate all involved on launching this bold initiative.

With its hash-tag, #ImHereForYou, this much-needed awareness strategy will help to dispel public misconceptions around abuse in LGBTIQ+ relationships. At the same time, it will make victims aware that help is available and that they need not suffer trauma, fear and prejudice in silence.

With great gratitude, Kaye and I applaud your courage, vigilance, compassion and determination to confront this insidious and destructive violence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul de Jersey".

His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC
Governor of Queensland