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WHEREAS, Child Marriage, a formal marriage or informal union where one or both parties are under the age of 18¹, is defined as a human rights abuse by the Department of State², UNICEF³, and Human Rights Watch⁴; and

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1 WHEREAS, the detrimental effects of Child Marriage are many, including but
2 not limited to, an adverse effect on the child's health, education, and employment
3 opportunities as proven by UN Women⁸ and the World Bank⁹; and,

4 WHEREAS, minors in unwanted or abusive marriages suffer social isolation
5 from their support networks like school, friends, and family, which contributes to their poor
6 mental health¹⁰; and

7
8 WHEREAS, young women and girls ages 16-19 face intimate partner
9 violence victimization rates almost three times the national average¹¹; and

10 WHEREAS, 70%-80% of Child Marriages end in divorce¹²; and

11 WHEREAS, minors who marry early are more likely to "discontinue their
12 formal educations prematurely, earn low wages, and live in poverty."¹³ Girls who marry
13 early are 50% more likely to drop out of high school and four times less likely to graduate
14 from college¹⁴; and

15
16 WHEREAS, a minor's understanding of their legal rights and access to
17 practical resources to avoid or abandon an unwanted or abusive marriage are far more
18 limited than adult men and women may have; and

19 WHEREAS, in the state of California, there is no minimum age to marry and
20 no restrictions on the age differences between the two parties (e.g., between adult men and
21 minor girls); and

22
23 WHEREAS, in the state of California, limited reporting on Child Marriage
24 statistics from the majority of counties has hampered the state's ability to track the
25 prevalence of Child Marriage; and

1 WHEREAS, Child Marriage in the United States is not confined to any
2 religious or cultural group; and American children of all backgrounds are at risk in California
3 cities because the law permits marriage before the age of majority; and

4 WHEREAS, the overwhelming evidence of adverse effects on the minor's
5 wellbeing and the remaining risk of abusive relationships with older men calls for an "End
6 Child Marriage Under 18 No Exceptions" law; and

7
8 WHEREAS, the states of Delaware, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and New
9 Jersey already passed laws ending Child Marriage for all minors, without exception; and

10 WHEREAS, the City of Culver City has determined that it is a moral
11 imperative and undeniably in the best public interest of the City to protect all minors from
12 Child Marriage.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City DOES
14 HEREBY RESOLVE as follows:

15
16 1. The above recitals are hereby adopted by the City Council of the City
17 of Culver City; and

18 2. The City Council hereby calls on the California State Legislature to
19 introduce and pass legislation to "End Child Marriage Under 18, No Exceptions"; and

20 3. The City Council hereby calls upon other California municipalities to
21 consider adopting resolutions showing their commitment to end Child Marriage; and

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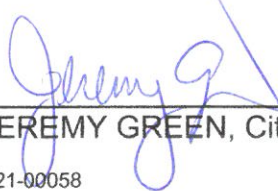
4. The City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager, or designee, to announce notice of the City Council's adoption of this Resolution on the City's social media platforms.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 10th day of May 2021.



ALEX FISCH, Mayor
City of Culver City, California

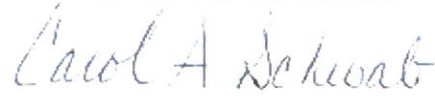
ATTEST:



JEREMY GREEN, City Clerk

A21-00058

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



CAROL A. SCHWAB, City Attorney

¹ <https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/254904.pdf>, p.5

² <https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/254904.pdf>, p.5

³ <https://www.unicef.org/protection/child-marriage>; see also, <https://www.unicef.org/protection/unfpa-unicef-global-programme-end-child-marriage>

⁴ <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/03/27/us-massachusetts-should-end-child-marriage-0>; see also, <https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/childmarriage.pdf>

⁵ <http://apps.frontline.org/child-marriage-by-the-numbers/>

⁶ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg5>

⁷ American Medical Association Resolution 011, <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-10/i19-011.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2013/3/child-marriages-39000-every-day-more-than-140-million-girls-will-marry-between-2011-and-2020>

⁹ <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/530891498511398503/pdf/116829-WP-P151842-PUBLIC-EICM-Global-Conference-Edition-June-27.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.tahirih.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Child-Marriage-Impacts-One-Pager-updated-5.8.-2020-REGULAR-PRINT.pdf>

¹¹ http://www.loveisrespect.org/pdf/Dating_Abuse_Statistics.pdf (citing Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice and Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the United States, 1993-2004. Dec. 2006).

¹² <https://www.tahirih.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Child-Marriage-Impacts-One-Pager-updated-5.8.-2020-REGULAR-PRINT.pdf> (citing College of William & Mary Law School Professor Vivian E. Hamilton, in "The Age of Marital Capacity: Reconsidering Civil Recognition of Adolescent Marriage," Boston University Law Review (December 2012), 92 B. U. L. Rev. , 1820.)

¹³ College of William & Mary Law School Professor Vivian E. Hamilton, in "The Age of Marital Capacity: Reconsidering Civil Recognition of Adolescent Marriage," Boston University Law Review (December 2012), 92 B. U. L. Rev. , 1820.

¹⁴ Gordon B. Dahl, "Early Teen Marriage and Future Poverty," *Demography* (August 2010: 47(3): 689-718), at 691, n. 2., <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3000061/>.

