

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA  
★  
PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and  
**WHEREAS**, young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Public Safety indicates that in 2014, 2,645 rapes were reported to police, or one every three hours and 18 minutes; and  
**WHEREAS**, on campus, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their time in college; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Education reports that among Arizona youth in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades, 11% of youth reported they were physically forced to have sexual intercourse; and  
**WHEREAS**, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs to victims, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, eating disorders and suicide; and  
**WHEREAS**, prevention is possible when everyone gets involved. The first step is increasing education, awareness, and community involvement. It's time for all of us to take action to create a safer environment for all; and  
**WHEREAS**, through collaborative efforts, individuals, agencies, organizations and communities can work together to prevent sexual assault and support victims and survivors.  
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as**

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

and I further urge all citizens and communities to join me in this observance in order to create awareness and strive to achieve a state where sexual assault victims have a clear path to justice, and where citizens take personal responsibility to eliminate all forms of sexual violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

*Douglas A. Ducey*  
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this sixth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Fortieth.

ATTEST:

*Michelle Reagan*

SECRETARY OF STATE

