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Preston Carey, *O'Neill Family Hall Senator*  
Connor Whittle, *Co-Director of Student Life*  
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**A RESOLUTION URGING THE UNIVERSITY TO DIRECTLY IMPLEMENT  
STUDENT FEEDBACK ON THE PROPOSED NEW RESIDENTIAL LIFE POLICY  
REGARDING DIFFERENTIATING ON-CAMPUS AND OFF-CAMPUS EXPERIENCES**

*Whereas*, “the University of Notre Dame strives for a spirit of inclusion among the members of this community for distinct reasons articulated in our Christian tradition,” (*University Mission and Vision*)

*Whereas*, the University of Notre Dame states that the residence hall “model flourishes when members of each class year are active participants in the hall, with upperclassmen poised to model servant leadership and character formation and underclassmen benefiting from the guidance of their peers in preparation to pass on their knowledge in the years ahead,” (*University of Notre Dame Residential Life: Community Life*)

*Whereas*, regarding the off-campus community, Residential Life states, “The Notre Dame community doesn’t end on campus,” (*University of Notre Dame Residential Life: Build Community*)

*Whereas*, the University of Notre Dame has proposed under Other Hall Life Efforts as a part of “Residential Life Enhancements” revoking privileges of off-campus students which may include “participation on hall sports teams and presence at hall dances,” (*University of Notre Dame Residential Life: Residential Community Enhancements, Section 3, Item 2*)

*Whereas*, financial limitations influence the decision to move off campus due to a “9% per-bed rent premium associated with on-campus residence halls (relative to purpose-built apartments)” as shown in the National Multifamily Housing Council study in which the University of Notre Dame was included, (*Comparing the Costs of On-Campus and Off-Campus Student Housing, 2018*)

*Whereas*, victims of sexual assault may choose to move off campus at any given time in order to foster a feeling of personal safety, as a large part of sexual assaults occur on campus within a residence hall: of students who reported experiencing non-consensual intercourse in the last 12 months, 56% reported the incident took place in a residential building on campus (Table 33: 2018 Sexual Conduct and Climate Questionnaire); of students who reported experiencing non-consensual sexual contact in the last 12 months, 40% reported the incident took place in a



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residential building on campus (Table 44: 2018 Sexual Conduct and Climate Questionnaire); of students who reported experiences with dating or domestic violence at any time, 50% reported the incident took place in a residential building on campus, (Table 56: 2018 Sexual Conduct and Climate Questionnaire)

*Whereas*, 39% of students who experience adverse treatment because of their race or ethnicity, such as verbal comments, mocking/offensive jokes, prejudiced stereotyping, and/or exclusion/isolation, experience this treatment within their residence hall, and 31% say this treatment has some negative effect on their sense of personal safety/security, (*University of Notre Dame, 2018 Inclusive Campus Student Survey Report: Table 8 & Table 10*)

*Whereas*, 53% of students who experience adverse treatment because of their sexual orientation, such as verbal comments, mocking/offensive jokes, prejudiced stereotyping, and/or exclusion/isolation, experience this treatment within their residence hall, and 40% say this treatment has some negative effect on their sense of personal safety/security, (*University of Notre Dame, 2018 Inclusive Campus Student Survey Report: Table 8 & Table 10*)

*Whereas*, 40% of students who experience adverse treatment because of their disability, physical challenge, or chronic medical condition, such as verbal comments, mocking/offensive jokes, prejudiced stereotyping, and/or exclusion/isolation, experience this treatment within their residence hall, and 73% say this treatment has some negative effect on their sense of belonging, (*University of Notre Dame, 2018 Inclusive Campus Student Survey Report: Table 8 & Table 12*)


*Whereas*, students moving off campus for the aforementioned reasons may feel unsafe, underrepresented, or isolated from the dorm community; therefore, separating them from the activities that do build community cohesiveness and friendships or excluding them from dorm activities may eliminate the few remaining positive elements of a social living space for them,

*Whereas*, while commending the positive steps that the Division of Student Affairs and Residential Life have made in order to make living on campus more affordable through stipends, increased meal plan options, and free laundry, the student senate expresses strong apprehension at the policies suggested in Section 3, Item 2 of the University of Notre Dame Residential Life: Residential Community Enhancements,

*Whereas*, the existence of off-campus community enhancements (such as events hosted by the Off Campus Council including dances and athletic events) should not serve as reasoning to restrict off-campus students from participating in events hosted by their former residence halls,

*Whereas*, the policy to differentiate on and off-campus experiences is inconsistent with the University's Mission and Vision statement and would diminish the overall quality of inclusivity and diversity in dorm communities, be it

***Resolved***, that in order to best promote consistency between the University of Notre Dame's Mission and Vision statement and their housing policy while recognizing the valid reasons students have for moving off-campus, the student senate urges the university to increase transparency and to reconsider University of Notre Dame Residential Life: Residential Community Enhancements, Section 3, Item 2 in conjunction with student leaders that will represent the ongoing needs and concerns of the class of 2022 and the classes that will follow them.

  
Elizabeth Boyle  
*Student Body President*

