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October 5, 2000

Resolution Regarding Sexual Assault Presentations in Residence Halls

WHEREAS, it is stated in *duLac*: "Rape and sexual assault, in any form, are unacceptable and will not be tolerated in the Notre Dame community. All members of the community share responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment which promotes the safety and mutual respect of each individual;" (54)

WHEREAS, it is stated in *duLac*: "the University recognizes that it is in the community's best interest that victims feel supported and encouraged to report sexual assaults or misconduct;" (56)

WHEREAS college-age students are more likely to be raped than any other age group, and nationally, the majority of reported victims and offenders are of college-age. The rate of rape victimization is highest among 16 to 19 year olds and the second highest victimization group is women between 20 and 24 years of age;

WHEREAS many victims of rape or sexual assault on college campuses are assaulted by an acquaintance;

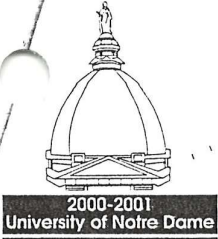
WHEREAS approximately 10 percent of reported rapes involve male victims;

WHEREAS Notre Dame students publicly raised concerns last Spring about the manner in which sexual assault cases are handled on campus;

WHEREAS the University is interested in making changes designed to raise awareness of sexual assault and to help student victims;

WHEREAS Notre Dame officials announced that a committee will be established to advise administrators on issues and procedures related to sexual assault cases. The committee will include representatives from the student body, the faculty, the University Counseling Center, the Office of Student Affairs, Sex Offense Services, Saint Mary's College, the Notre Dame Security Police and others;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Union Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac on behalf of the student body express gratitude to all those University officials who are making efforts to expand services for victims of sexual assault and to raise awareness of sexual assault on this campus;



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THEREFORE BE IT RECOMMENDED that the Office of Residence Life further their efforts to raise awareness of sexual assault by offering educational presentations in the Residence Halls on topics related to the issue of sexual assault, University policy and disciplinary procedures, and services available for victims of sexual assault, tailored to the specific needs of male and female students.

I, Brooke Elizabeth Norton, Chairman of the Student Union Senate, do certify that Resolution SS0001-12 was considered, debated, and passed according to proper legislative procedure with twenty-six Student Senators voting in the affirmative on Wednesday, September 27, 2000.

Brooke Elizabeth Norton

Now, therefore, I, Brian Patrick O'Donoghue, President of the University of Notre Dame's Undergraduate Student Body, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body of the University of Notre Dame, have set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand.

Brian Patrick O'Donoghue