LS25.2.12

From:Beta Psi PresidentTo:Mayor Tory; ClerkSubject:Communication for LS25.2Date:Wednesday, May 23, 2018 10:04:17 AMAttachments:Communication from students for LS 25.2.pdf

Hello,

I am submitting this letter on behalf of several women who are students of the University of Toronto and members of the sororities.

Please add it to the communications for LS25.2, and distribute it to members.

--Best Regards,

Emilie Jones President Kappa Kappa Gamma Beta Psi kkgbetapsipresident@gmail.com Hello,

I am submitting a letter on behalf of several women who are students at the University of Toronto and active in sororities requesting that you vote NO to item LS25.2. In our letter, we respond specifically to allegations made about the connection between licensing fraternities and sororities and anti-gender based violence.

Please add it to the communications for LS25.2, and distribute it to members.

Thank you for your consideration, Emilie Jones President, Beta Psi Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma May 22, 2018

Mayor John Tory City Hall, 100 Queen St. W. Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor John Tory,

We are active members of three of the seven international women's fraternities and sororities that have chapters in Toronto: Alpha Omicron Pi, Delta Delta Delta and Kappa Kappa Gamma.

We are writing to respond more directly to the allegations of anti-gender based violence that have been made in regard to fraternities and sororities. Whilst we are unable to see any correlation or connection between licensing and reduced incidents of sexual assault, we want to address this accusation.

All sororities take sexual assault and hazing very seriously. When members join our chapters, they must complete a new member program. **Each of the new member programs in our seven sororities include a module on sexual assault and anti-hazing**. This not only teaches women how to remain safe, but also begins a dialogue that helps women talk about their experiences. Our organizations are all about women supporting women.

Moreover, each of our organizations has a mandatory risk management program that must be completed by every member. This includes educational programming on sexual assault prevention and awareness, and members signing an anti-hazing commitment. During a week each September, sorority members also attend a session teaching women how to protect themselves, sometimes run by WENDO, a women's self-defense workshop. Additionally, each of our international organizations dedicate a month towards the awareness of anti-hazing. Any suspected acts of hazing or assault are strictly investigated by our international organizations and are not tolerated.

Not only are our individual chapters striving to uphold values of openness, awareness and prevention for sexual assault and hazing, but we also each choose to support other organizations that are doing the same. Examples include supporting and donating to Silence is Violence, a UofT organization aiming to alter the culture of institutional violence on university campuses, supporting Sistering, an agency for at-risk socially isolated women, inviting professionals to host workshops focused on consent.

As such, we believe that we are doing our part to educate and support young women who are at risk of sexual assault and hazing. In fact, we operate under stricter guidelines than other housing as mandated by our international organizations and insurance companies, who constantly ensure that we are following the anti-hazing rules and members are completing their programming.

We believe that our houses are safe, well-maintained and supportive of women. Please vote NO to LS25.2.

Respectfully,

Emilie Jones, President, Beta Psi Chapter, Kappa Kappa Gamma kkgbetapsipresident@gmail.com

Jenny Wu, President, Beta Tau Chapter, Alpha Omicron Pi President.aoiibt@gmail.com

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Erin Gilmer, Risk Management Chairman, Kappa Kappa Gamma Jessica Meszaros, Member, Kappa Kappa Gamma Nadia Shaban, Member, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Lauren Goncalves, Vice-President of Standards, Kappa Kappa Gamma April Dai, Member, Kappa Kappa Gamma Anais Trembling, Member, Kappa Kappa Gamma Alicia Sadaoui, Member, Kappa Kappa Gamma Saakshi Lunkad, New Member Chairman, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Alexandra Rutherford, Member, Kappa Kappa Gamma Lisa Ma, Alumni, Kappa Kappa Gamma Kaitlynn Marase, Member, Delta Delta Delta Meagan Byrd, Member, Delta Delta Delta Ellena Azadian, Member, Delta Delta Delta Siobhan Balfry, Member, Delta Delta Delta Rebecca Clark, Member, Delta Delta Delta Allyson Webley, Member, Delta Delta Delta Micaela Pacheco, Member, Delta Delta Delta Guhar Ullah, Member, Delta Delta Delta