Bryn Giugno, Allison Werner, Raygan Rensing

1150 Forestville Dr.

Wake Forest, NC 27587

[(919) 570-5600](mailto:NO_REPLY@EXAMPLE.COM)

November 22, 2016

Donald Trump

President-Elect

White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington, DC 20500

Dear President-Elect Trump:

We would like to inform you on issues in the United States about women’s rights, sexual assault, and abortion, and what we believe you should do as the next President of the United States. We think you should know that all three of us are females that care deeply about these issues in one way or another.  We are not stating what we believe, we are simply informing you on the topic. With Congress only being made up of 18.5% women, changing the way these issues are impacting the United States can be challenging (Imondi). Without the support of the government for Women’s Rights, Women’s Rights will continue to be a very important and emotional issue in the United States.

Women’s rights is a very vital issue currently in the United States due to the fact that “Women still make just 78 cents for every dollar earned by men. Black women earn only 64 cents and Latinas only 54 cents for each dollar earned by white men” (ACLU). Women tend to put in more household/caregiving hours: therefore, giving them  less time to be committed to a full time job to get paid as much as men do. Women also have a difficult time getting paid maternity leave after having a child, if any leave at all. Men were afraid of a lot of things when trying to give women education rights. They were afraid that women would get corrupted and lose their purity if they went to school together. Since education became allowed for both genders, women exceeded the expectation set for them by men, even passing men in education. Women also have no rights in terms of violence protection. “The U.S. Department of Justice reports that approximately one in four homeless women is homeless because of violence committed against her” (ACLU).

Sexual assault is a major issue in the United States that needs to be resolved. Every year, over 288,000 people are sexually assaulted (Victims of Sexual Violence). Sexual assault is the “penetration of the victim’s body, also known as rape, attempted rape, forcing a victim to perform sexual acts, such as oral sex or penetrating the perpetrator’s body, fondling or unwanted sexual touching” (Victims of Sexual Violence). Becoming a victim of sexual assault can happen to anyone, but it is more likely for a female to be assaulted than a male. Females between the ages of “2-34 are the highest risk years for rape and sexual assault” (Victims of Sexual Violence). This is a scary reality, because of the fact that most rapes in this age gap occur when females are in college. While in college, one in every five women are sexually assaulted (Statistics About Sexual Violence). The scary thing about rape statistics is that they only account for what has been reported. Since 2009, sixty percent of rapes have gone unreported (Imondi). Out of the forty percent that are reported, around 31,000 pregnancies occur (Rape-related Pregnancy).

Abortion ties into women’s rights as abortion is, most of the time, a medical procedure conducted on women. Abortion is the intentional termination of a human fetus. The controversial subject creates a huge divide between Americans. One group that is against abortion is the Pro-life movement. People of the pro-life movement believe “...that personhood begins at conception, and therefore abortion is the immoral killing of an innocent human being. They say abortion inflicts suffering on the unborn child, and that it is unfair to allow abortion when couples who cannot biologically conceive are waiting to adopt”(Abortion ProCon.org.). The opposite view on abortion is the Pro-choice movement. The substantial group concludes “...that choosing abortion is a woman's right that should not be limited by governmental or religious authority, and which outweighs any right claimed for an embryo or fetus. They say that pregnant women will resort to unsafe illegal abortions if there is no legal option”(Abortion ProCon.org). Abortion isn’t always a medical procedure, as we stated previously. Abortion can also happen when the pregnant women takes medication that is widely known as the Abortion Pill (Abortion Information | What Are Your Options?). Abortion is also common; “In fact, 3 out of 10 women in the U.S. have an abortion by the time they are 45 years old” (Abortion Information | What Are Your Options?).

Thank you so much Mr.Trump for taking the time to read our informative letter about women’s rights. We hope this information was helpful and made you think about this social issue that affects people everyday. Every life matters, whether they are male or female. Women’s rights have come a far way from the beginning, but we still have an even farther way to gender equality.

Sincerely,

Bryn Giugno, Allison Werner, and Raygan Rensing

Works Cited

ACLU. "Women's Rights." *American Civil Liberties Union*. Web. 15 Nov. 2016 <<https://www.aclu.org/issues/womens-rights>>

Imondi, Bethany. "10 Stats on Women's Equality That Might Be Scarier than Halloween." AAUW Empowering Women Since 1881 10 Stats on Womens Equality That Might Be Scarier than Halloween Comments. AAUW, 29 Oct. 2014. Web. 15 Nov. 2016. <<http://www.aauw.org/2014/10/29/halloween/>>.

"Abortion Information | What Are Your Options?" Abortion Information. Planned Parenthood Federation of America Inc., 07 July 2016. Web. 16 Nov. 2016.

    <<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/abortion>>

"Abortion ProCon.org." *ProConorg Headlines*. 30 June 2016. Web. 16 Nov. 2016.

<<http://abortion.procon.org/>>

"Victims of Sexual Violence: Statistics | RAINN." Victims of Sexual Violence: Statistics |

RAINN. RAINN, n.d. Web. 16 Nov. 2016. <<https://www.rainn.org/statistics/victims-sexual-violence>>.

"Statistics About Sexual Violence." National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2015): 1-2. Web. 16 Nov. 2016. <<http://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications_nsvrc_factsheet_media-packet_statistics-about-sexual-violence_0.pdf>>.

"Rape-related Pregnancy: Estimates and Descriptive Characteristics from a National Sample of Women." National Center for Biotechnology Information. U.S. National Library of Medicine, n.d. Web. 16 Nov. 2016. <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/8765248>>.