

COMBATING SDSU'S RAPE CULTURE

On the night of Friday, November 21st, 35 SDSU students, alumni, family, and community members gathered at the freshman dorms at SDSU for a Take Back The Night march against sexism and sexual violence. As the marchers passed fraternity houses, they were verbally attacked with sexist insults and hit by multiple eggs, possibly thrown from passing cars. **This is rape culture.**

Specifically, on Hardy Avenue, men at the SIGMA PHI EPSILON fraternity house yelled obscenities at the marchers. The President of Associated Students student government, Jonathan Cole, is a member of SIGMA PHI EPSILON. **This is rape culture.**

Men at the DELTA SIGMA PHI fraternity house on Hardy Avenue waved dildos at the marchers. Now, SDSU police report that a female student was sexually assaulted the following night, Saturday, November 22nd, while attending a party on the same 5500 block of Hardy Avenue. **This is rape culture.**

This makes seven reported rapes since the beginning of the Fall 2014 semester. SDSU administration routinely expresses concern about sexual assault, but the reality of campus life shows its efforts have thus far been woefully ineffective. **We demand bold action from the administration to combat SDSU's campus rape culture:**

1. Follow the lead of the University of Virginia and immediately suspend all fraternities. Fraternities should stay closed until they can be made safe. If they cannot be made safe, they should be closed permanently. SDSU President Elliot Hirshman is an honorary member of the ALPHA EPSILON PI, and his son is a member of the now-suspended chapter of ALPHA EPSILON PI at the University of Virginia, so this action should not be unfamiliar.
2. Immediately expand the Sexual Assault Task Force. The only student regularly attending Task Force meetings is a white male fraternity member. The Task Force must include disadvantaged (i.e. women, queer folk, people of color) and activist students.
3. Fully support the Reporting App as created by Women's Studies students/Aztecs for Awareness/Andrea O'Donnell Women's Outreach Association as well as their "Take Back the Night Week."

SDSU should spare no expense in the above efforts. If extra revenue is needed, President Elliot Hirshman (whose current annual compensation, \$412,000, is more than the President of the United States), should donate either or both of his two recent raises.