Statement of Gloria Allred

I am here today with two more women who allege that they were victims of Bill Cosby. Both women were models and both met him through their modeling agencies. Like all of the other women who came forward, they thought that they could trust Bill Cosby. Unfortunately for them, they have reason to believe that their trust was betrayed.

Both believe that they were drugged and one believes that she became the victim of sexual violence by Bill Cosby. The CDC defines sexual violence as “a sexual act that is committed or attempted by another person without freely given consent of the victim or against someone who is unable to consent or refuse. It includes: forced or alcohol/drug facilitated penetration of a victim; forced or alcohol/drug facilitated incidents in which the victim was made to penetrate a perpetrator or someone else; nonphysically pressured unwanted penetration; intentional sexual touching; or non-contact acts of a sexual nature. Sexual violence can also occur when a perpetrator forces or coerces a victim to engage in sexual acts with a third party. Sexual violence involves a lack of freely given consent as well as situations in which the victim is unable to consent or refuse”. Both women have suffered a long lasting impact from what Cosby did to them.

While these and other alleged victims are suffering, Bill Cosby continues to try to complete what he call his “Far From Finished” tour by performing at venues
in many different States. However, many members of the public are angry and are refusing to buy tickets or are seeking refunds if they already purchased them. They are signing petitions online asking the venues to cancel Mr. Cosby’s show or they are organizing protests outside of the venues where he is scheduled to perform.

I led a protest in Denver recently and last week I was in touch with protestors in Boston before Cosby suddenly cancelled his appearance there. Those protestors felt so strongly that they protested in freezing weather in the snow even after his shows were cancelled.

Tonight Bill Cosby was scheduled to perform in Bakersfield, California but that appearance was “postponed” and this weekend’s scheduled Bill Cosby tour shows in Reno, Nevada and Tucson, Arizona were also cancelled. Many people felt that watching Bill Cosby perform on Valentine’s Day was a truly revolting thought.

Other venues, such as Pittsburgh have cancelled as well, but some venues are still selling tickets. It appears that Bill Cosby thinks that he is far from finished, but he should know that we are also far from finished with him.

I am appalled and disgusted by what so many women have told me about Bill Cosby. Mr. Cosby should allow these alleged victims to have their day in court with him, but he refuses to do so. The public should ask why Mr. Cosby prefers to
battle it out in the court of public opinion rather than placing his confidence in a judge and jury as the alleged victims that I represent are willing to do.

Mr. Cosby thinks that this will soon be over and that no more women will come forward. He is very wrong.

I still have many women who have not yet come forward, but who are willing to do so in the future. They still want justice and accountability from Bill Cosby, but to date they are still denied it. Justice is long overdue for these brave women and they will be silent no more!

Gloria Allred
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February 12, 2015