All four women in this case share an unfortunate bond in that they were victimized twice while students at UConn: Once by their assailants and again by the university to whom they turned for help.

It is heartbreaking to know that these young women were sexually assaulted and threatened with sexual assault in an environment which should have been a safe haven for them.

In some respects it is even more devastating to know that, instead of demonstrating deep concern for their well-being in the aftermath of their ordeals, in both its actions and words, the university made clear that its priorities lay elsewhere.

Carolyn, Kylie, Erica and Rose did not just bring this lawsuit to seek justice for their university’s conduct toward them. It is their hope, and ours, that this lawsuit will engender meaningful change in the manner in which UConn empowers its students to avoid sexual assault and, when such efforts fail, provides them with the support, resources and protection they need to cope and move forward.

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November 1, 2013