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Statement of Gloria Allred in Response to UConn President Susan Herbst's Comments to UConn Trustees about Rape and Sexual Assault on UConn's Campus

President Herbst's self-serving comments will not make the problems go away.

1. Ms. Herbst states, "It should go without saying that as an institution, and as individuals, we have nothing but heartfelt compassion for any victim of sexual violence, anywhere." Where was the compassion for Ms. Luby when she was being targeted by groups of individuals on and off campus because she had the courage to write an open letter to President Herbst about what Ms. Luby believed to be the lax attitude towards sexual violence at UConn.
2. We have asserted that Ms. Herbst made no official announcement in response to the threats, hate speech and harassment that Ms. Luby experienced in retaliation for speaking out. Does President Herbst dispute that? If so, where is the campus wide announcement?
3. President Herbst compliments the UConn police, the same police department that told Ms. Luby to protect herself by wearing a hat and the police department that had an officer tell Ms. Angel that ""women need to stop spreading their legs like peanut butter or rape is going to keep on happening til the cows come home." We don't think that that police officer deserves a compliment. Such a statement should be condemned not condoned.
4. The problem is that President Herbst does not want to acknowledge that there is a problem. She wants to make believe that all of these women that have filed complaints against UConn are malcontents that simply have it wrong. No, President Herbst, it is you that has it wrong. You cannot hide behind your gender. This problem is real and unless and until the UConn administration is willing to open its eyes and look at the problem objectively and take steps to remedy the problems it will continue.

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