

**END RAPE ON CAMPUS AUSTRALIA**

# **THE RED ZONE REPORT**

**An investigation into sexual violence and hazing in  
Australian university residential colleges  
End Rape on Campus Australia 2018**

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This report was produced by End Rape on Campus Australia, an organisation working to end sexual violence at universities and residential colleges through direct support for survivors and their advocates, promoting prevention through education, and advocating for policy reform at campus, state, and federal levels.

# FOREWORD: PROFESSOR CATHARINE LUMBY



I began my university studies at the University of Sydney in 1980, where I completed an Arts(Hons)/Law degree. I arrived having no idea that residential colleges existed. That soon changed. In my first year, a number of fellow female students told me about their experiences of sexual assault and harassment in the college environment. I also witnessed, first-hand, hazing rituals which spilled onto campus, obscene misogynistic slogans chalked on pavements proudly badged by all male colleges and experienced sexual harassment by men who attended colleges.

I returned to Sydney University in 1999, where I set up the first Media and Communications degree. To my horror, I discovered that nothing appeared to have changed in some of the colleges. A number of female students in the degree I presided over and taught into approached me for advice about the assault and harassment they had experienced at the hands of male college students. A gay male student also detailed an attempted rape by male college residents. Just as in the 1980s, none of the students wanted to report the incidents because they feared reprisals. Nor did they want me to approach those in authority. The best I could do was refer them to the on-campus counselling service and keep my door open to them whenever they needed pastoral care.

Reading this brilliant and meticulously researched report over the past week all those stories came back to me. To be frank, I had to put the document to one side at times to process the full extent of abuse and assault that permeates our college and residential halls.

As an academic, my first responsibility is always to my students and a primary part of that is ensuring they feel safe on their campus. Like the vast majority of my colleagues I care deeply about equity for all students. Yet how can there be educational equity for women, members of the LGBTI community or any male regarded as not appropriately 'masculine' if they have to face harassment and assault on campus and in their residences?

This report details data on residential colleges and halls gathered from 12 universities, including all GO8 universities. It relies on reports which have also detailed the systemic problem in colleges and other residences, including the recent Broderick report on college culture at the University of Sydney. But it goes much further than any report to date. It gives a graphic and detailed account of bullying, harassment and assault in these residences. It makes for sickening reading.

Once again, unveiling the truth of what lies behind college and residential walls has fallen to a group of brilliant and research led young women who make up the advocacy group End Rape on Campus Australia. This is the group who last year released an equally shocking report on harassment and assault on our campuses. The lead author Nina Funnell, aided by Anna Hush and Sharna Bremner, have produced a gold standard report with no funding. They wrote it because they care about equality and because they stand up for and by all survivors of harassment and assault.

In one sense I feel very proud. Fifteen years ago Nina Funnell first entered the course that I taught at the University of Sydney. Since then I have supervised Nina's honours thesis and I've watched her emerge into an incredibly talented researcher and investigative journalist. As a mentor and an academic it is elating to watch my students excel and I commend the way in which she and others have used their very personal experiences to campaign for change.

Yet I am also appalled that so much of the heavy lifting continues to be done by young women- who are at risk of, or who have actually experienced sexual assault – and in many cases their labour, skill and expertise continues to go unpaid.

At my own university, I am pleased to say that our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Bruce Downton, has publically demonstrated, through words and actions, his deep commitment to making our campus and our residential halls free of harassment and abuse. That is why I continue to be a proud member of the academic community at Macquarie University. But too many of those in his position still appear to be paying lip service to the issue.

As the #metoo movement has shown, those who fail to act immediately and transparently on the systemic problem of sexual harassment, sexual assault and bullying detailed in this report will be called out. All organisations across every sector are now on notice about these issues. Calling in a public relations firm no longer works. The only solution is to confront the truth and act on it by researching the culture and implementing evidence based education programs.

I love being part of an academic community. I am proud of the colleagues I work with. But, most of all, I am proud to have the privilege to teach students who are eager to learn. No-one can learn if they live under the shadow of violence or abuse.

As I write this foreword my oldest son prepares to enter university. Would I recommend he considers living in a residential college or hall? Not after reading this report.

I commend this excellent and meticulous report and offer my profound thanks to the authors for their tireless work on behalf of everyone who is a survivor of, or at risk of, sexual assault, harassment or bullying.

**Catharine Lumby is a Professor of Media Studies at Macquarie University and a pro-bono adviser on gender equality issues to the NRL.**



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In recent years, Australian university 'Orientation Weeks' (O Weeks) have been highlighted as a time of pronounced vulnerability, particularly for new students. Sexual assault, hazing and excessive alcohol consumption have led sexual assault advocates to dub this week 'The Red Zone'. Research has recently found that residential colleges suffer from particular problems. One in eight attempted or completed sexual assaults at the University of Sydney (USyd) colleges will occur during a single week of the year - O week. International literature also supports the finding that this is a time of increased vulnerability for students, particularly first-year women. Likewise, sexual assault services around Australia have also noted an increase in demand for service during and then immediately following Orientation Week.

There are currently 39 universities in Australia with 216 residential colleges or halls attached to them. This report includes case studies at 12 universities, including all the Group of Eight universities. Data was gathered in an eight-week time frame through interviews, Freedom of Information requests, and a review of available social media material and mainstream media reporting.

Based on newspaper reporting, it would appear evident that residential colleges suffer from particular problems during O Week and that hazing, sexual assault, ritualistic humiliation, alcohol abuse and other forms of general misbehaviour have marred the residential colleges at the University of Sydney for much of their history. Recently, however, the readiness of whistle-blowers to step forward and tell their stories, the rise of social media and its ability to document and produce evidence of cultural problems, and an even larger gap opening between the standards of acceptable behaviour expected by Australian society and those practised in the colleges, have resulted in frequent negative media coverage of incidents and scandals.

Just as at other Australian universities, the potential for the toxic culture of the residential colleges at USyd to hurt not only individual residents and students, but also the very reputation and marketability of the University itself, has prompted a growing understanding and acknowledgement by the administration that cultural reform is necessary, and that such reform will not be successfully implemented by the colleges without external intervention.

To this end, in May 2016, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Sydney Dr Michael Spence requested that the residential colleges cooperate with a review of their culture conducted by former Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick.

While the Broderick & Co. review (released in late 2017) made a significant contribution in bringing to light quantitative data regarding hazing, bullying and sexual assault at the USyd residential colleges, the report had some significant limitations. In particular, the report did not include the broader historical and cultural context of the USyd residential colleges or concrete examples of the hazing and sexual assault that have

taken place. The recommendations, if implemented, may fail to address some of the more serious problems with the college culture, and dangerous and harmful behaviours may continue unabated. Disappointingly, the methodology of the review did not align with best practice research standards, and there was little detail in the report regarding the specific nature of hazing and sexual assault currently taking place at the USyd colleges.

This report, The Red Zone Report, attempts to address these issues by reviewing the full breadth of available evidence on sexual assault in universities, the problems at USyd residential colleges - both historically and presently - and analogous problems at other Australian university residential colleges.

The report includes a detailed timeline of documented incidents at USyd residential colleges, which makes it clear that the “fresher system” (hazing or ritual humiliation of new entrants) dates back to at least the early twentieth century. While there have been dozens of attempts to stop the abuse over this period, sexual assault and hazing activities have continued. In recent years, students and parents have alleged that hazing has contributed to self-harm and actual suicide. This includes the tragic passing of Stuart Kelly, the younger brother of Thomas Kelly who was killed following a one-punch attack in Sydney’s Kings Cross.

These are some of the incidents at Sydney university residential colleges that this report details:

- A former USyd college resident described a practice where if female residents left shampoo, conditioner or body milk in the bathroom, male students would habitually masturbate into the container so that the female students would then wash their hair, face or body with a mixture of the product and semen.
- Red-headed male residents of St John’s College participate in an annual ritual where they set their pubic hair on fire in order to gain an unofficial leadership position.
- Male students have drunk live goldfish which were part of the table decoration at a formal college dinner event.
- An annual event at St John’s College called ‘The Purge’ where students are encouraged to post embarrassing and graphic photos and other details online about other students’ sexual activity.
- Faeces being smeared on the walls of common areas and being left in common areas of the USyd colleges.
- Fresher students being locked in the bathrooms at St John’s College and having vats of dead fish thrown on them.
- Misogynistic chants and songs at a number of the USyd residential colleges.
- A traditional drinking competition called the Bachelor of Inebriation where students compete to consume up to 15 alcoholic drinks in a session without going to the bathroom, leading to students soiling themselves.
- A predatory attitude amongst some senior male students towards junior female students demonstrated in organised events such as the ‘bait-cruise’, ‘fresher five’, and the ‘bone room’.

This report also found evidence that a number of current activities have existed for several decades. As part of our investigation we reviewed almost 90 years of newspaper reports on the college scandals at

USyd. We found evidence that current traditions, such as the pubic hair lighting, the Bone Room and the Bachelor of Inebriation date back several decades. We also uncovered fascinating accounts of the hazing at USyd colleges, dating back to at least the 1930's. For example:

- In 1939 a St Andrew's magazine editorial outlines college hazing including making freshers sing, giving them a bath in a horse-trough, and plastering them with bad fruit and flour. In a humiliating tradition known as "soup night", St Andrew's seniors also forced incoming students to lie in a mix of sand, oil, rotten fruit, paint and molasses.
- In 1958, newspapers reported that college 'freshers' at USyd were bashed, chased, tackled and burned with silver nitrate during initiation rituals. Other initiation rituals that year included:
  - Semi naked students being forced to roll in a black mire of tar, mud and sump oil;
  - Freshers being forced to stand at attention and carry out physical exercises in the rain;
  - Freshers being given hair shampoo with treacle;
  - Students being blindfolded, dropped 30 miles from Sydney and left to make their own way home.
- In 1965, newspapers again reported that the USyd college students were forcing freshers to stand with their nose against the wall for 5 hours, and then forcing students to run a 4km 'steeplechase' while other students struck them and pulled their clothes off.

Beyond hazing and initiation rituals, the newspaper reports also include one instance in 1977, where the partially naked body of 18-year-old student Annette Morgan was found on the grounds of St Paul's College. She had been raped and murdered.

Just five days after Morgan's body was found, St Paul's students awarded the "Animal Act of the Year" trophy to four male students accused of gang raping a Women's College student. Female students protested outside the next St Paul's College council meeting.<sup>1</sup>

Decades on, the scandals continue. And despite the Broderick review last year, incidents have continued throughout 2017. Analogous incidents at other Australian residential colleges show that bullying, misogyny and abuse is a deeply entrenched and pervasive problem.

Some examples in this report include:

- University of Queensland: in 2017 residents from Emmanuel College produced a Yearbook that included quotes attributed to students such as "consent is nothing" and "I'd rather choke her to sleep than talk her to sleep". In previous years, male students from St John's reportedly surrounded a distressed female resident chanting "No means yes, yes means anal"; a male student at King's College tried to protect younger students from hazing and reported being systematically bullied, assaulted and ultimately raped by students who wanted to continue the hazing rituals.
- University of New England: fresher students at St Albert's College have been subjected to humiliating hazing activities throughout their first year, including being forced to eat like dogs;

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<sup>1</sup> See reference on p. 43.

being expected to drink a mixture of beer, vomit, cow faeces and urine in a competition; being forced to eat red and green foods before drinking sessions so that their vomit will resemble the college colours; and an organised weekly Morality Court where students have been required to account for their sexual activity or lack thereof along with detailed stories. Students are then judged and honoured or fined in accordance with a set schedule of rewards and punishments.

- Universities in South Australia: student leaders from St Mark's College have previously published an "O-Mag" which documented the existence of a sexual hierarchy with the male senior students and leaders at the top and 'you fat fresher fucks' at the bottom. The O-mag was distributed to new students to introduce them to the college system. The O-mag also included poems attributed to the leaders that featured sexually graphic, violent and misogynistic imagery.
- Australian National University: ANU students at John XXIII college have engaged in a dangerous and violent hazing ritual called 'dead possum', in which fresher students are ordered onto the branches of trees where they must drink alcohol until one student falls off the tree, whereupon he will be beaten; again at John XXIII College, five male students were expelled and two were suspended for taking clandestine pictures of female college residents' cleavage; a female student at Burton and Garran Hall, who publicly complained about inappropriate nudity and sexual behaviour was lambasted by male students and told that it was all a bit of fun; and students at Bruce Hall were trading and soliciting nude images of female residents online on an image board.
- University of Newcastle: residents of Evatt College have engaged in a yearly ritual where they are encouraged to drink beer that has been poured onto another resident's genital region, a practice known as 'bird-bathing'; also at Evatt College, hazing involving shaving junior resident's hair in humiliating styles; a dangerous drinking competition known as the 'Throwie Cup' where teams of two compete to finish an entire case of beer as quickly as possible; as well as many more examples of hazing, public nuisance and irresponsible drinking, all documented in videos residents made and shared online.
- Macquarie University; Residents at Macquarie University Village (an on-campus accommodation facility) created a Facebook group to share embarrassing and sexual photos of students and residents.
- James Cook University; A female resident complained about sexually predatory behaviour by senior college residents on first year students who were too drunk to consent to sex.
- University of New South Wales; students at Phillip Baxter College reciting a misogynistic, sexual song on an annual "Boys Night Out" event.

What the evidence presented in this report demonstrates is that the social structure of the residential colleges creates the conditions that enable and propagate rampant abuse and misogyny. Specifically, the common residential college culture that generates abusive behaviour is often dominated by a clique of socially powerful older students who acquire the formal and informal leadership of the college student body. In the name of group-building, tradition and cohesion, these older students then initiate new entrants ('freshers') into the college culture through hazing rituals which serve to both humiliate the new students (thus increasing the social status of the older students) and create a 'price of entry' into the college community. This creates an atmosphere where older students can exploit and abuse younger



students, both for sexual as well as simply sadistic purposes. Freshers and other students who attempt to speak out against the abuse, are often ostracised, and in one case contained within this report, were gang raped as punishment.

The particular cultural values of the dominant college cliques may also promote abuse and misbehaviour. The typical college culture celebrates an immature model of Australian masculinity characterised by overt displays of heterosexuality, larrikinism, participation in contact sports and beer drinking. People who oppose boorish, vulgar, dangerous or inappropriately sexualised manifestations of this culture are often accused of being effeminate or unable to take a joke. The culture normalises the violation of privacy and bodily integrity in various ways that mainstream society would find unacceptable – for instance, the drinking of dangerous amounts of alcohol, urine, vomit or faeces, or the undertaking of dangerous stunts and challenges that frequently result in injury. This normalisation of self-abuse by the dominant culture, whether by design or accident, ultimately blurs the line around what is and is not abusive conduct by others. This, in turn, makes speaking out against that abuse much more difficult.

Such a culture cannot reform itself and will be incredibly resistant to attempts by outsiders to reform it. This is why numerous well-intentioned 'soft interventions' in the past have failed or only yielded temporary results. Ultimately those who hold social power and influence in the college student community gain a great benefit from the status quo, as the continuation of these 'traditions' cements their place as an essential part of the college experience and increases their status. The report makes a series of recommendations to address and reform the cultures of these institutions and the structural arrangements which cede power to them.

# ABOUT THE AUTHORS



**Lead Author: Nina Funnell** is a Walkley award winning journalist, author and advocate against sexual assault. Nina has served on the NSW Premier's Council on Preventing Violence Against Women, the board of Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia, the Our Watch Media Advisory Committee, and the board of the National Children's and Youth Law Centre. Nina has worked with a range of organisations in sexual assault prevention education – including the National Rugby League, university colleges and high schools. Nina has a degree with first class honours in Media and Communications from the University of Sydney, where she has also previously taught and guest lectured. In 2017 Nina was awarded the Walkley Our Watch Award for Best Journalism Campaign of the Year for her reporting on sexual assault within university communities and was a finalist for a second Walkley award. She has also won the United Nations Media Australia award and an Australian Human Rights Commission award. Nina is currently an ambassador for several organisations including End Rape On Campus Australia.



**Co-Author: Anna Hush** is a feminist advocate and campaigner, and a current PhD candidate in the University of New South Wales Faculty of Law, researching policy and community responses to sexual violence at Australian universities. As the Women's Officer at the University of Sydney Students' Representative Council in 2016, Anna coordinated a campaign against sexual assault on campus. She is a co-founder and Director of fEMPOWER Workshops, an organisation that provides workshops on gender, feminism and consent for high school students in NSW and Victoria. Anna is also a member of the board of Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia and a 2018 finalist for NSW Young Woman of the Year. Anna is an Ambassador for End Rape on Campus Australia.



**Research Assistant: Sharna Bremner** is the founder and director of End Rape on Campus Australia and has been working with survivors of university-related sexual assault since 2013, when she appeared in the award winning U.S documentary, *The Hunting Ground*. She graduated from the University of Adelaide with first class honours in Development Studies and spent 2011 living in Timor-Leste while she conducted PhD research into institutional responses to sexual violence in post-conflict settings. Sharna also works in international student support and is a course instructor for the Institute for Study Abroad - Butler University.

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We acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the many student journalists who have reported on university college culture and sexual assault, as well as those journalists in the mainstream media who have produced sustained reporting on this subject, particularly Eamonn Duff, Eryk Bagshaw, and Alison Sandy.

An extra special thanks to Professor Catharine Lumby who has written the foreword to the report, and to Marque Lawyers who have provided substantial advice and guidance to EROC Australia over a range of our activities - particularly Michael Bradley, Hannah Marshall, Kiera Peacock, Jennifer Johannesen, Isabella Doyle, and Emilie Blake.

EROC Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the sovereign lands on which the authors of this report live and work: the Darkinjung, Gadigal, Wangal and Kurna people. We note that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience particularly high rates of sexual violence as an ongoing effect of the colonial system.

Finally, EROC Australia would like to acknowledge and thank the many students, survivors, student leaders, staff members and other advocates who have campaigned tirelessly over several decades to highlight these issues and advocate for change. We particularly thank the Kelly family who have worked alongside us. We are very grateful.

We remain disappointed that yet again, it has fallen on the backs of students, survivors and survivor advocates to produce a report so as to actively restore the very voices most often erased in these debates: namely the voices of victims and survivors themselves.

The best predictor of future behaviour is past behaviour, and institutions cannot change what they do not acknowledge. Until the USyd colleges openly admit to, and then publicly apologise for the harms that have been caused to students, we do not anticipate any meaningful reform.

We dedicate this report to all those who have experienced or been impacted by sexual violence within residential college settings. We thank the survivors who shared their stories with us, and we pay testament to those who have suffered in silence.

**We believe you. We stand with you. You are not alone.**

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. A BONFIRE JUST WAITING FOR A SPARK

The University of Sydney (USyd) is a public university located in the inner-city suburb of Camperdown, and on satellite campuses around Sydney. USyd is currently host to a population of over 50,000<sup>2</sup> undergraduate and post-graduate students, of whom approximately 1,700 live on campus at one of six residential colleges attached to the university, including St Paul's College, St Andrew's College, Wesley College, St John's College, Women's College, and Sancta Sophia College.

The USyd Residential Colleges are some of the oldest and most elite institutions in Australia, boasting many high profile alumni, including three Australian Prime Ministers, four Papal Knights, over a dozen Federal and State Government Ministers, the former Governor of NSW, two Lord Mayors of Sydney, the Founding Justice of the High Court of Australia, and several other High Court Judges, Federal Court Judges and NSW Supreme Court Judges.

Multiple Olympians and professional rugby union players have also attended the residential colleges, including at least eight Team Captains of the Australian Wallabies rugby team. In addition to politics, rugby union and the legal fraternity, USyd college alumni are also prominently represented in the Australian clergy, the mainstream Australian media, and on boards of major companies, and several former collegians have gone on to become CEOs and other captains of industry.

Yet despite their illustrious roll-call of alumni, for several decades the colleges have been the subject of intermittent media scrutiny following damning reports of hazing, sexual assault, ritualistic humiliation, alcohol abuse and other forms of sexism, violence and general misbehaviour.

In recent years, the volume of negative media reporting has increased substantially, as growing numbers of students have broken their silence, often via student media. In May 2016, for example, USyd media student Aparna Balakumar exclusively revealed that students at Wesley College had published a 'Rackweb' in an annual journal, which 'slut-shamed' students by ranking them on the number of sexual encounters they had had within college, labelling female students "bitches", "hoes" and "sluts". The student-produced Year-book also allocated awards for "Best Ass", "Best Cleavage", "Biggest Pornstar" and "Kinkiest

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<sup>2</sup> The University of Sydney (2016) *Annual Report 2016*.



Collegian” and the female student who had allegedly had sex with the most male students was crowned “Mrs Rackweb”.<sup>3</sup>

Balakumar could not have anticipated that her article, published in *Pulp Media*, was about to set into motion an extraordinary chain of events which would change the history of relations between the University, the colleges and the media.

In addition to revealing the Rackweb, the *Pulp* article also detailed several other allegations, including the following:

- A female Wesley student was sexually assaulted by a fellow college student, whose friends later harassed and mocked her online, taunting her that she should “hook up” with him again;
- Wesley students were provided with an “O Week manual” which included a college chant calling college students from Sancta Sophia College, “Skanktas” who are “always on their backs”;
- Wesley students dropped out of the college in 2014, after being pressured at a ‘Christmas in July’ party to be photographed nude for an annual nude calendar to raise funds for Wesley’s Overseas Student Experience. Students who participated were reported to be significantly inebriated and did not sign a consent form for the calendar’s distribution;
- At a college-hosted party, a security guard allegedly began to assault a drunk female student. When her friend attempted to follow up on the progress of the investigation with staff, she was allegedly told that the incident was being handled internally.
- Instances of male students bashing on female students’ doors in the middle of the night trying to gain entry;
- “Slut juice” (a college expression for cask wine) being poured into freshers’ mouths against their will;
- Male college students poking female residents unexpectedly with rulers while they took showers;
- Older students warning freshers to “look out for the rapist on the floor” as a ‘practical joke’.

Correspondence obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by EROC Australia reveal the reactions within the upper echelons of University management in response to the unfolding ‘Rackweb’ story. At 9.46am on May 11, 2016 (the morning after Balakumar’s article went live) the University Vice-Chancellor Dr Michael Spence emailed USyd’s Director of Media and Government Relations - along with various other members of University senior management - warning that the article was “doing the rounds”.

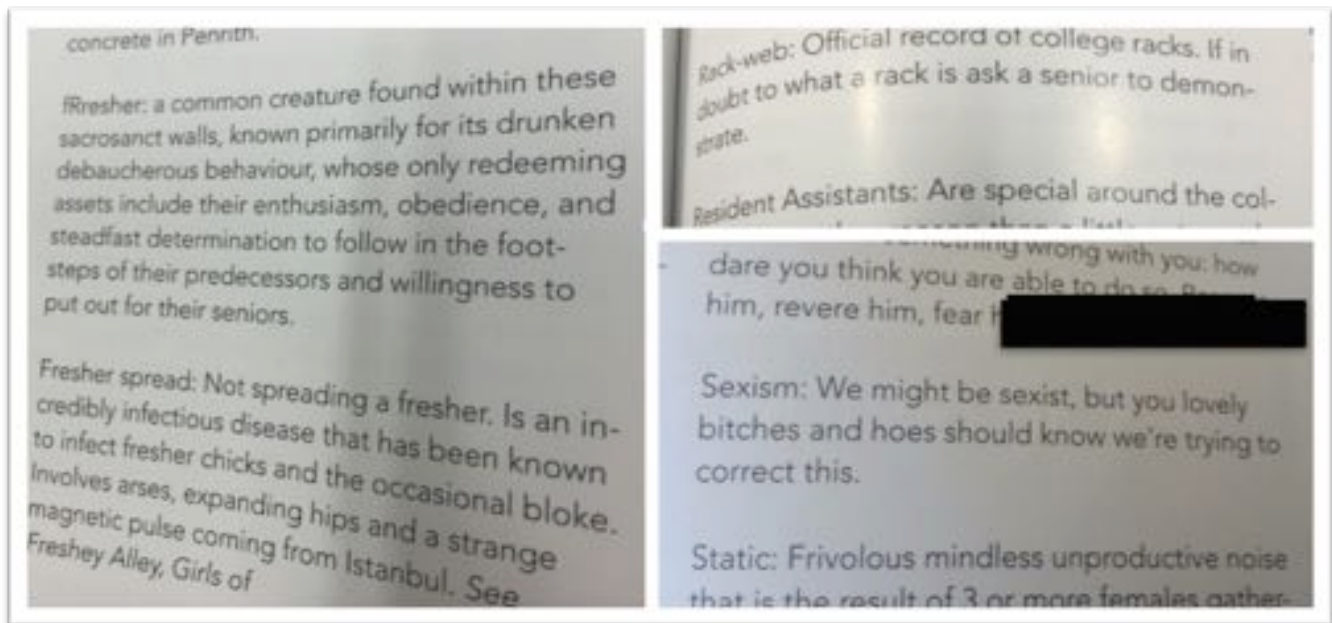
*[The following article] has been received from a Masters student at UQ [The University of Queensland]. It is doing the rounds. Let’s be ready for the media onslaught...it would have been good were we in a better place with the whole sexual assault thing, but let’s put together a*

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<sup>3</sup> Balakumar, A. (2016) ‘Exclusive: Wesley College ‘Rackweb’ slut-shames female students, calls them ‘bitches’ and ‘hoes’’, *Pulp Media*. Available online at <<http://www.usu.edu.au/News/EXCLUSIVE-Wesley-College-Rackweb-slut-shames-fem.aspx>> [accessed 10 October 2017]

*statement about what is happening and see what it looks like. I am deeply frustrated that the good work we did in getting ahead of the pack on some of these issues on campus is not now in evidence. It simply puts us in a much weaker position.*

A little over an hour later, the Director of Student Support Services Jordi Austin responded, stating that it was “disappointing” that “stories from 2014 continue to be recycled in the media”- a reference to the fact that the Wesley “Rackweb” yearbook had originally been produced in 2014.



Contents of the Rackweb journal. **Source:** Pulp Media.

Eight minutes later Dr. Spence responded:

*Dear Jordi,*

*I am afraid that I disagree with your assessment here. 2014 is pretty recent and this is a compelling story. No student (or national) journalist worth their salt would pass up a story such as this.... We look in the public conversation as if our concern for student welfare in this area is just so much hot air. That is deeply unfair to all of us... [and] we have done much. But we do really only have ourselves to blame if the public does not believe that we have.*

*Yours*

*Michael*

Dr Spence’s assessment of the media interest in the story proved accurate: in a matter of hours, Balakumar’s article would rise to national attention, and several mainstream media outlets soon ran follow-up features including the *Sydney Morning Herald*,<sup>4</sup> *The Daily Telegraph*,<sup>5</sup> *ABC’s 7.30 Report*,<sup>6</sup> *The*

<sup>4</sup> Balakumar, A. & Bagshaw, E. (2016) ‘University of Sydney college students ‘slut shame’ female residents in journal, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 May 2016. Available online at < <http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/university->

Huffington Post,<sup>7</sup> SBS,<sup>8</sup> BuzzFeed,<sup>9</sup> Daily Life,<sup>10</sup> Junkee,<sup>11</sup> Triple J's Hack,<sup>12</sup> news.com.au,<sup>13</sup> Yahoo<sup>14</sup> and Daily Mail.<sup>15</sup>

As the USyd public relations and crisis management team swung into gear, another scandal was waiting just around the corner: only seven days after the Rackweb story broke, a second USyd media student, Justine Landis-Hanley, would publish a feature length article in student newspaper, *Honi Soit*, detailing a series of damning allegations concerning sexual assault and harassment within the USyd residential colleges.

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of-sydney-college-students-slut-shame-female-residents-in-journal-20160511-gosckv.html> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>5</sup> Meddows, D. (2016) 'Sydney University 'outraged' over 'slut-shaming' journal from Wesley College students', *The Daily Telegraph*, 13 May 2016. Available online at <<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/sydney-university-outraged-over-slutshaming-journal-from-wesley-college-students/news-story/2face0745bfd7d3d5b12259b24ee9112>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>6</sup> Whyte, S. & Balakumar, A. (2016) 'Wesley College students speak out about sexism, drinking at University of Sydney's institution', *ABC News*, 17 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-16/students-speak-out-about-sexism-at-prestigious-wesley-college/7418392>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>7</sup> Brooks, E. (2016) 'Protesters rally against editors of 'RackWeb' publication', *The Huffington Post*, 16 May 2016. Available online at <[http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/2016/05/16/protesters-rally-against-editors-of-rackweb-publication\\_a\\_21377784/](http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/2016/05/16/protesters-rally-against-editors-of-rackweb-publication_a_21377784/)> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>8</sup> Balakumar, A. (2016) "'Rackweb' slut-shames female students at Sydney University's Wesley College", *SBS News*, 20 May 2016. Available online at <<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/rackweb-slut-shames-female-students-at-sydney-university-s-wesley-college>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>9</sup> Rushton, G. (2016) "'It was like Lord of the Flies' at college where female students were called 'bitches and hoes'", *BuzzFeed*, 13 May 2016. Available online at <[https://www.buzzfeed.com/ginarushton/nothing-has-changed-at-notorious-college-where-female-studen?utm\\_term=.waxeMxNJ#.eg7a5QYDDD](https://www.buzzfeed.com/ginarushton/nothing-has-changed-at-notorious-college-where-female-studen?utm_term=.waxeMxNJ#.eg7a5QYDDD)> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>10</sup> Shi, X. (2016) 'College culture is shamelessly misogynistic, even if some women find sexual freedom there', *Daily Life*, 13 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.dailylife.com.au/news-and-views/dl-culture/college-culture-is-shamelessly-misogynistic-even-if-some-women-find-sexual-freedom-there-20160513-goua1u.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>11</sup> Stubbins, S. (2016) 'Students from Sydney Uni's Wesley College published a journal that slut shames female students', *Junkee*, 11 May 2016. Available online at <<http://junkee.com/sydney-unis-wesley-college-published-journal-slut-shames-degrades-female-students/77995>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>12</sup> Triple J Hack. (2016) 'Student named in 'slut-shaming' USyd college journal speaks out', *Triple J Hack*, 12 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/triplej/programs/hack/students-named-in-sydney-university-slut-shaming-journal-speaks/7409762>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>13</sup> Reynolds, E. (2016) 'Students called 'hoes' and 'b\*\*\*hes' in Sydney college journal', *news.com.au*, May 12 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/students-called-hoes-and-bhes-in-sydney-college-journal/news-story/a8ed3b56f6073657318823c63832cd09>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

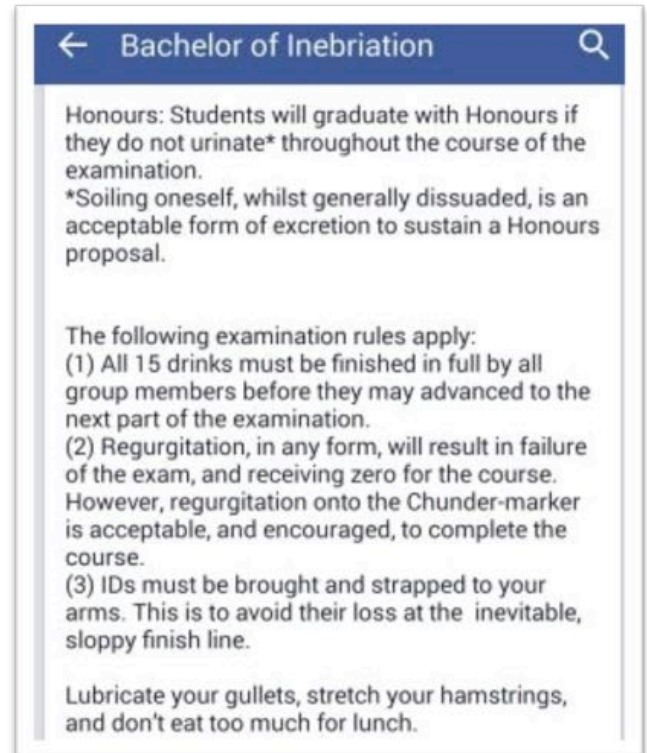
<sup>14</sup> Johnson, K. (2016) 'Sydney University students 'sl-t shamed' in demeaning 'Rackweb' journal', *Yahoo!* 7, 12 May 2016. Available online at <<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/31578138/wesley-college-students-sl-t-shamed-in-the-rackweb-journal/>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>15</sup> Geary, B. (2016) "Best cleavage, biggest porn star and kinkiest collegian", *Daily Mail Australia*, 11 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3584118/Wesley-College-students-slut-shamed-journal-called-Rackweb-tallied-women-slept-men.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

Landis-Hanley - a college student herself - opened the 2,400 word feature with the story of Kendra Murphy, a St Andrew's student who was allegedly sexually assaulted by a fellow St Andrew's student in July 2014 following a College event, only to be mocked and 'slut shamed' over the college loudspeaker system the next evening, after she had awoken in a pool of vomit, with a large hickey on her neck, sore wrists and a strangers' clothes beside her bed.<sup>16</sup>

Other allegations in Landis-Hanley's article included:

- A tradition at St Andrew's College of publicly shaming sexually active students by announcing details of sexual encounters over the public PA system, and exhibiting a slideshow of photos of embarrassing "hook-ups" during O week;
- Female students having their tops torn off them at college events known as Victory Dinners;
- First year students being forced to publicly reveal their first sexual experiences at the College AGM;
- A tradition known as 'Fresher-fishing', in which second year students are sexually paired with first year students who are considered the 'bait';
- A tradition known as 'Walkabout', in which first year students are forced down on their hands and knees "like cattle" while older students bid on the right to then abandon those students across the countryside - sometimes naked or highly intoxicated;
- Older students instructing younger students to sexually grope one another, and telling a distressed first year student who was unsure as to whether she had been sexually assaulted while highly intoxicated: "don't worry, this is a rite of passage; during my O-Week, I was found passed out on the St Paul's lawns without any pants on. This is just part of it."



The 'Bachelor of Inebriation'. **Source:** Fairfax Media

Again, the mainstream media were quick to follow up on Landis-Hanley's story and Kendra Murphy continued to speak out publicly, declaring to the ABC that the colleges should be "shut down" altogether.<sup>17</sup> Fairfax Media broke further allegations including that:

- Students at St Andrew's had burnt a gay pride flag following a recent college formal dinner;

<sup>16</sup> Landis-Hanley, J. (2016) 'Combating college culture', *Honi Soit*, 17 May 2016. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2016/05/combating-college-culture/>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>17</sup> McVeigh, S. (2016) "Shut it down" – sexual assault victim calls for uni colleges to be disbanded', *Triple J Hack*, 25 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/triplej/programs/hack/sexual-assault-victim-calls-for-uni-colleges-to-be-disbanded/7442596>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]



- Students at St Andrew’s engaged in a tradition known as a “Bachelor of Inebriation” where students are encouraged to consume 15 alcoholic drinks at eight different venues, while vomiting on “chunder markers” and being prevented from urinating.<sup>18</sup>

## 1.2. A STORIED HISTORY OF SEXISM

This wasn’t the first time that the USyd colleges had been mired in scandal and controversy. In 2009, *The Sydney Morning Herald* revealed that students and alumni associated with the all-male St Paul’s College had created a Facebook group called “Define statutory: pro-rape, anti-consent”.<sup>19</sup> It was also reported that multiple female students made allegations of rape and sexual assault against male college students and it was reported that a group of around thirty drunk, naked college men had broken into Women’s College surrounding a young woman, “touching and taunting her”.<sup>20</sup> That same year graffiti was found in the St Paul’s residential college bar which read “they can’t say no with a cock in their mouth” and “any hole is a goal”.<sup>21</sup>



A screenshot of the St Paul’s ‘pro-rape, anti-consent’ Facebook group. **Source:** Nina Funnell.

<sup>18</sup> Bagshaw, E. (2016) ‘St Andrew’s College at University of Sydney in ‘ritualistic humiliation’ controversy’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-andrews-college-at-university-of-sydney-in-ritualistic-humiliation-controversy-20160518-goxu16.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>19</sup> Pollard, R. (2009) ‘Elite college students proud of ‘pro-rape’ Facebook page’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 November 2009. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/technology/elite-college-students-proud-of-prorape-facebook-page-20091108-i3js.html>> [Accessed 27 December 2017]

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Pollard, R. (2009) ‘Harsh lessons at the university of hard knocks’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 November 2009. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/harsh-lessons-at-the-university-of-hard-knocks-20091108-i3kd.html>> [Accessed 27 December 2017]

In 2012, a first-year woman at St John's College was forced to drink a cocktail containing dog food, alcohol, shampoo, sour milk and Tabasco sauce during the college's Orientation Week.<sup>22</sup> She was reportedly caught walking forwards – not backwards- in the Polding Wing. As 'punishment' she was allegedly cornered in a hall and told she could not leave until she drank the cocktail, even though she protested, saying she was allergic to alcohol.<sup>23</sup> She was rushed to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital shortly after consuming the cocktail. Thirty-three students were suspended from the college however several later returned and a number were elected to leadership positions for 2013.<sup>24</sup> Branded by the media as 'the Untouchables', these students renamed themselves 'the Justice Group', and created t-shirts with an eagle, the symbol of the college, vomiting.

While these previous scandals had attracted intense public interest at the time, the news cycle had always eventually moved on leaving the college students to resume their activities in relative privacy. The events of May 2016, however, occurred in a vastly different climate. An increasing global focus on sexual assault within universities and residential colleges (including fraternities and sororities in the United States) meant that the issue was gaining public momentum. Crucially, the mainstream media were paying increasingly close attention.

In February 2015, the documentary *The Hunting Ground* was released in the United States to both critical acclaim and heated controversy.<sup>25</sup> The documentary presents the stories of multiple university students who experienced rape on campus, and the institutional betrayal that followed. While critical about some aspects of its production, *The New York Times* called the documentary "a must-watch work of cine-activism" and Netflix subsequently bought the rights to air the documentary. In 2015, *The Hunting Ground*

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<sup>22</sup> Leaver, K. (2013) 'O-Week gone mad', *Cosmopolitan*, 18 April 2013. Available online at <<https://www.cosmopolitan.com.au/lifestyle/oweeek-gone-mad-10616>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

<sup>23</sup> Duff, E., Whyte, S., & Collins, M. (2012) 'College throws out 30 students', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 March 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/tertiary-education/college-throws-out-30-students-20120310-1ur5h.html>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

<sup>24</sup> Duff, E. (2013) 'Troubled St John's College loses its rector', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 February 2013. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/troubled-st-johns-college-loses-its-rector-20130215-2ehq4.html>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]; Duff, E., Armitage, C. (2012) 'Meet the pride of St John's – the Untouchables', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/meet-the-pride-of-st-johns--the-untouchables-20121105-28u8d.html>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

<sup>25</sup> Dargis, M. (2015) 'Review: 'The Hunting Ground' documentary, a searing look at campus rape culture.' *The New York Times*, 26 February 2015. Available online at <<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/27/movies/review-the-hunting-ground-documentary-a-searing-look-at-campus-rape.html>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

Nicholas, E. (2015) 'Why critiques of the campus rape documentary *The Hunting Ground* only prove its point'. *Huffington Post*, 20 November 2015. Available online at <[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/elizabeth-nicholas/why-critiques-of-the-camp\\_b\\_8607618.html](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/elizabeth-nicholas/why-critiques-of-the-camp_b_8607618.html)> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

Australia Project formed to bring the documentary out to Australia, running more than 70 free campus screenings at 33 of the 39 Australian universities.<sup>26</sup>

Also in 2015, Stanford University student Brock Turner made headlines after it was revealed that he had sexually assaulted an intoxicated and unconscious 22-year-old woman behind an alleyway dumpster.<sup>27</sup> The assault was interrupted by two international students who witnessed the crime, and Turner subsequently fled the scene. On March 30, 2016, Turner was convicted of three charges of felony sexual assault. The convictions carried a potential sentence of 14 years prison, however Turner was sentenced to a mere six months - a decision which provoked public outrage.<sup>28</sup> (Turner's victim, "Emily Doe", later released a powerful victim impact statement which was widely disseminated by international media, prompting hundreds of articles to be written about university sexual assault and the leniency of the courts in such sexual assault cases.)<sup>29</sup>

Contextualised against this backdrop, Kendra Murphy's story and the Wesley College Rackweb would not be easily dismissed: the issue of university sexual assault and entrenched college sexism was not going to simply blow over as it had done in previous years. Journalists who had formerly attended the University of Sydney were particularly vocal: Eryk Bagshaw, from *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and Sarah Whyte, a journalist for the *ABC* (both former USyd Media studies students) filed various stories,<sup>30</sup> while other journalists followed suit.

As the media storm continued to brew, tensions on campus were also mounting, especially between college students (who largely defended their culture) and the rest of the student body, who began to express an outpouring of frustration and disgust. The schism between college and non-college students deepened further when it was reported by Fairfax Media and the ABC that Wesley College was refusing to hand over the names of the people responsible for publishing the Rackweb to the University, despite an explicit request from the Vice-Chancellor.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> The Hunting Ground Australia Project (2017) 'About The Hunting Ground Australia'. Available online at <<http://www.thehuntinggroundaustralia.com.au/about-thg-australia/>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

<sup>27</sup> Kadwany, E. (2015) 'Woman in Stanford sexual-assault case testifies', *Palo Alto Online*, 5 October 2015. Available online at <<https://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/2015/10/05/woman-in-stanford-sexual-assault-case-testifies>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

<sup>28</sup> Hunt, E. (2016) "'20 minutes of action": father defends Stanford student son convicted of sexual assault', *The Guardian*, 6 June 2016. Available online at <<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/jun/06/father-stanford-university-student-brock-turner-sexual-assault-statement>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

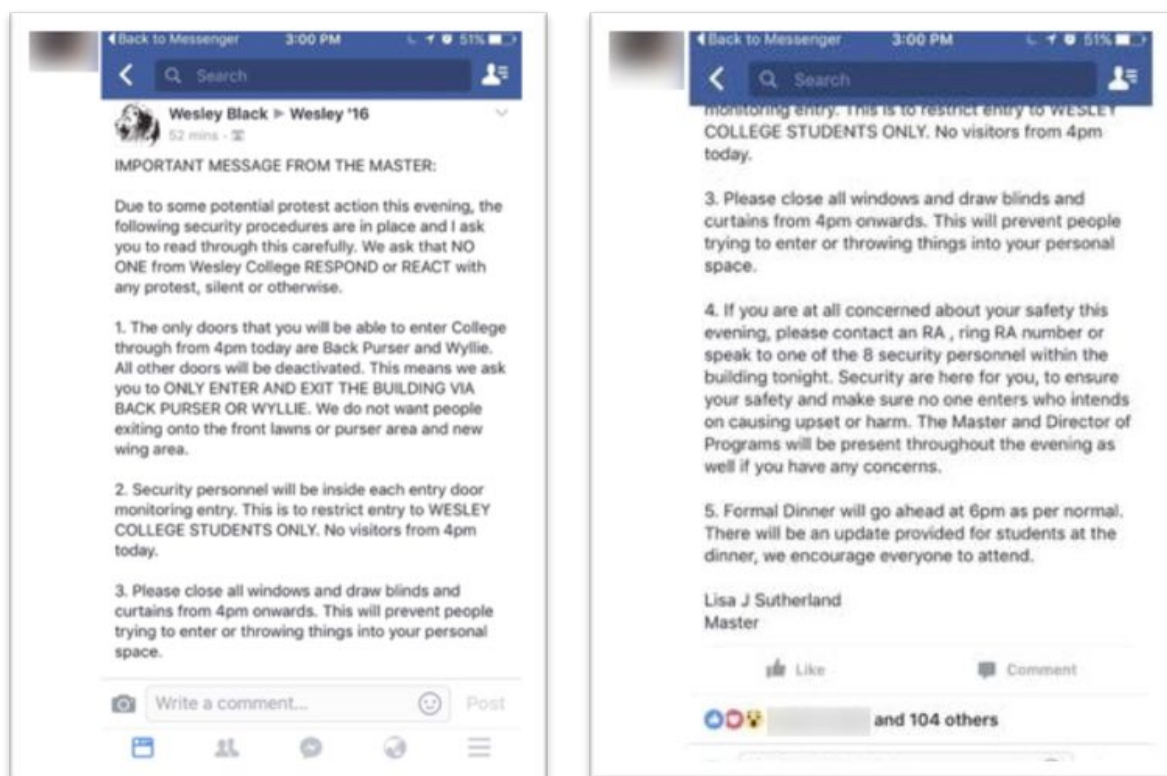
<sup>29</sup> Baker, K. (2016) 'Here is the powerful letter the Stanford victim read aloud to her attacker', *BuzzFeed News*, 4 June 2016. Available online at <[https://www.buzzfeed.com/katiejmbaker/heres-the-powerful-letter-the-stanford-victim-read-to-her-ra?utm\\_term=.sykz8Vz8Q#.cyP6Em6EA](https://www.buzzfeed.com/katiejmbaker/heres-the-powerful-letter-the-stanford-victim-read-to-her-ra?utm_term=.sykz8Vz8Q#.cyP6Em6EA)> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

<sup>30</sup> Whyte & Balakumar, 'Wesley College students speak out'

<sup>31</sup> Bagshaw, E. & Balakumar, A. 'Wesley College won't hand over names of students to Sydney University', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 May 2016. Available online at <http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/wesley-college-wont-hand-over-names-of-students-to-sydney-university-20160513-goukip.html> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

Then, on May 16, a message from the Master of Wesley College was posted on Facebook, alerting students that a protest was planned for that evening and what precautions should be taken:

*We ask that NO ONE from Wesley College RESPOND or REACT with any protest, silent or otherwise... Security personnel will be inside each entry door monitoring entry. This is to restrict entry to WESLEY COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY... Please close all windows and draw blinds and curtains from 4pm onwards. This will prevent people trying to enter or throwing things into your personal space...Security are here for you, to ensure your safety and make sure no one enters who intends on causing upset or harm.*



Facebook post cautioning students about a planned protest. **Source:** Sharna Bremner.

Many Wesley residents already felt that their community was under siege from the media. Now they were being told that their home may quite literally come under attack.

At 6pm on May 16, 2016, a group of university student protesters arrived at Wesley College, pushing past police, to hold a candlelight vigil on the Wesley College steps. Led by the University's Women's Collective, the group of students stood with their mouths taped shut holding signs with slogans such as "Don't force slut juice down our throats"; "Don't reduce me to my boobs, I'm here to increase my brain"; "USyd & Wesley, what will you do to keep me safe?"; "We are more than just racks"; "Safety & Support, Not Sexism & Slut Shaming" and "Release the Names!".<sup>32</sup>

<sup>32</sup> Whyte & Balakumar, 'Wesley College students speak out'



The images were shared on Twitter and Facebook, and once again, the media reported on the events, including *The Sydney Morning Herald*,<sup>33</sup> *Huffington Post*,<sup>34</sup> *Daily Mail*<sup>35</sup> and *Honi Soit*.<sup>36</sup>



Students at the 'Occupy Wesley' protest were originally met by police who attempted to block their way to the college entrance. **Source:** images supplied.

So by late May of 2016 - less than two weeks after the initial Rackweb story had broken- the bonfire had well and truly been built. All it needed was a spark.

<sup>33</sup> Whyte & Balakumar, 'Wesley College students speak out'

<sup>34</sup> Brooks, 'Protesters rally against editors of 'RackWeb' publication'

<sup>35</sup> Jeans, D. & Moore, H. (2016) 'Sydney University students claim Wesley college is a haven for 'rampant sexism'', *Daily Mail Australia*, 17 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3593071/Sydney-University-students-claim-Wesley-College-haven-rampant-sexism.html>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

<sup>36</sup> Dillon Britton, N. (2016) 'We're not just here to get raped': students protest Wesley College sexist student journal', *Honi Soit*, 16 May 2016. <<http://honisoit.com/2016/05/were-not-just-here-to-get-raped-students-protest-wesley-college-sexist-student-journal/>>[Accessed 10 December 2017]

And then it arrived. In an extraordinary development, on May 20, 2016 it was reported that the university was “considering stripping the colleges of their land if they failed to co-operate with the investigations” into the “rampant sexual misbehaviour” within the colleges:

*The move to dissociate colleges from the university would be a nuclear option that would put the university against the college’s powerful alumni groups made up of the nation’s top barristers, politicians and business people.<sup>37</sup>*

The Vice-Chancellor also took the opportunity to publicly lambast the colleges, stating that “these stories have been a thorn in our flesh... I do not want to see any more of them.” It was a timely announcement for Spence. The following week, he was due to appear at a USyd campus screening of *The Hunting Ground*, where he would be sitting on a panel alongside a series of sexual assault advocates including Karen Willis (the Executive Officer of Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia), Nina Funnell (End Rape on Campus Australia ambassador and journalist) and Anna Hush (the 2016 USyd Women’s Officer, who had already featured heavily in the media debate). The USyd executive had already been criticised earlier that year for bungling an initial screening of *The Hunting Ground* by failing to successfully promote it, and airing it at a time that students were unlikely to attend.<sup>38</sup> This second screening had been arranged in response to student frustration over how the first screening had been managed. Yet the hard-line announcement that the university was considering stripping colleges of their land somewhat eased those frustrations and shifted student sentiment.

But while relations between the university and the residential colleges might have appeared to be deteriorating in public view, behind the scenes, told a slightly different story. An email obtained under the Freedom of Information Act reveals that on May 20 2016, shortly after Fairfax published the landstripping threat, Spence sent an email to the various heads of College distancing himself from the media reporting and disputing the factual accuracy of the reporting.

Fairfax reporter Eryk Bagshaw, who wrote the *Herald* article in question, has declined to comment on Spence’s email, except to say he stands by his article and the reporting around it.

Eventually a compromise of sorts was reached. Instead of moving to strip the colleges of their land, the colleges would be entreated to participate in a review of their culture conducted by former Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick. It wasn’t the first time that an external review of the

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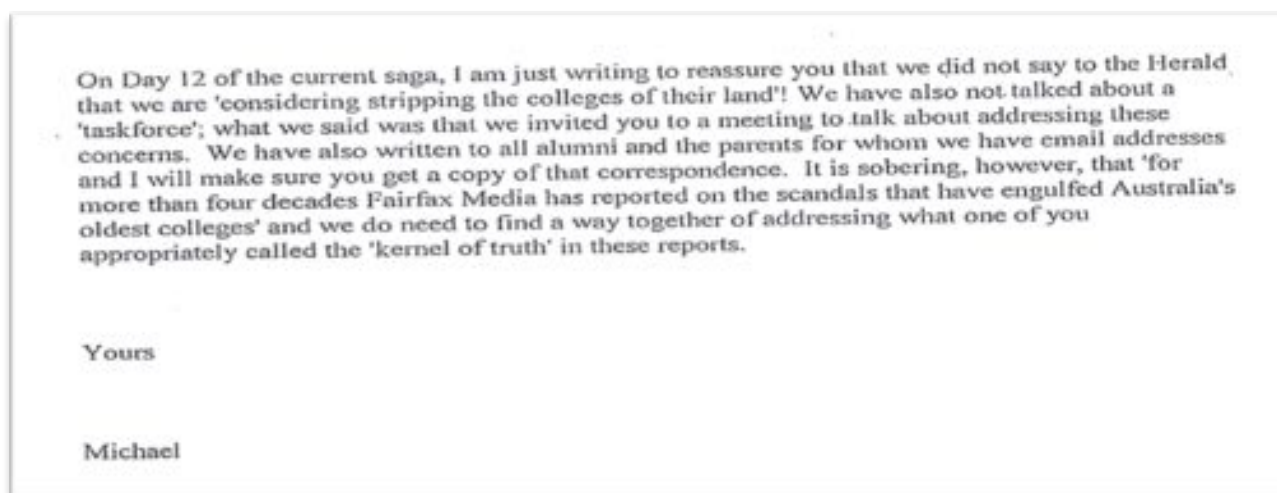
<sup>37</sup> Bagshaw, E. (2016) ‘University of Sydney cracks down on scandal-ridden colleges’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/university-of-sydney-cracks-down-on-scandal-ridden-colleges-20160519-goypux.html>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

<sup>38</sup> Hush, A. (2016) ‘Sexual assault on campus is systemic. But Sydney Uni has failed to act for decades’, *The Guardian*, 23 August 2016. Available online at <<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/aug/23/sexual-assault-on-campus-is-systemic-but-sydney-uni-has-failed-to-act-for-decades>> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

colleges had been floated. Following the revelations in 2009 that St Paul's alumni had created a "Pro-rape" Facebook group, Dr Spence had invited Professor Catharine Lumby to meet with the heads of the colleges. Lumby, who had previously chaired the Media and Communications Department at USyd, had also worked as the gender advisor to the National Rugby League, where she had led a wide-scale review into sexism and sexual assault. Lumby discussed the possibility of running a similar inquiry into the colleges, but the idea was shelved. (Instead St Paul's College held a "White Ribbon" dinner where they donated \$10,000 to the 'awareness raising' charity - a move that was subsequently criticised as "tokenistic" and unlikely to produce any deep cultural reform).<sup>39</sup>

Two years later, Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick recommended that Australia's leading universities and residential colleges participate in an "unacceptable behaviour survey". Yet despite several meetings which took place in 2011 and 2012 between the Group of Eight universities, colleges and the Broderick review team, the project was "quietly shelved" in 2014 amid reputational concerns and resistance from the colleges. Damian Powell, principal at the University of Melbourne's Janet Clarke Hall, told *The Sydney Morning Herald* that "there was a whole lot of well-meaning objection... But I think some of those objections were based on perception of reputational risk. The honest answer is it was put in the 'too hard' basket."<sup>40</sup>

So the announcement of the Broderick review in late May 2016 was a long time coming. It helped soothe some students and sexual assault advocates and also appeared to neutralize the media, who began to step back from the fracas. But when weeks and then months passed and student leaders who had called for the

A screenshot of an email from Michael Spence. The text of the email reads: "On Day 12 of the current saga, I am just writing to reassure you that we did not say to the Herald that we are 'considering stripping the colleges of their land'! We have also not talked about a 'taskforce'; what we said was that we invited you to a meeting to talk about addressing these concerns. We have also written to all alumni and the parents for whom we have email addresses and I will make sure you get a copy of that correspondence. It is sobering, however, that 'for more than four decades Fairfax Media has reported on the scandals that have engulfed Australia's oldest colleges' and we do need to find a way together of addressing what one of you appropriately called the 'kernel of truth' in these reports." Below the text, it says "Yours" and "Michael".

On Day 12 of the current saga, I am just writing to reassure you that we did not say to the Herald that we are 'considering stripping the colleges of their land'! We have also not talked about a 'taskforce'; what we said was that we invited you to a meeting to talk about addressing these concerns. We have also written to all alumni and the parents for whom we have email addresses and I will make sure you get a copy of that correspondence. It is sobering, however, that 'for more than four decades Fairfax Media has reported on the scandals that have engulfed Australia's oldest colleges' and we do need to find a way together of addressing what one of you appropriately called the 'kernel of truth' in these reports.

Yours

Michael

Correspondence between Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence and heads of colleges, revealed by Freedom of Information request. **Source:** Nina Funnell

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/10-reasons-why-i-will-ignore-white-ribbon-day/news-story/9e07fea8e148250dfd72fbc3da911cdc>

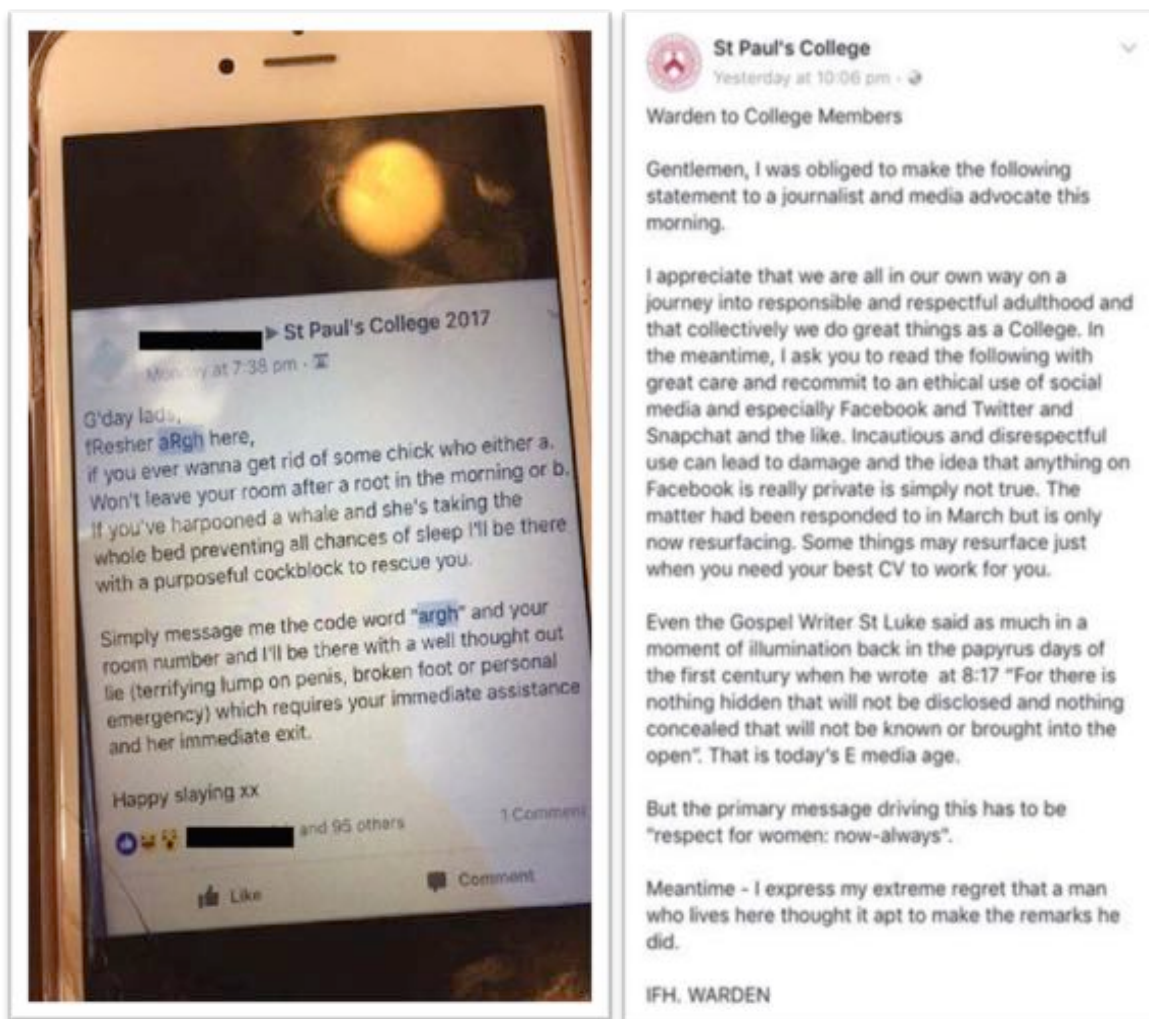
<sup>40</sup> Stanton, K. (2014) 'Survey of sex assaults on university campuses shelved', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 November 2014. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/survey-of-sex-assaults-on-university-campuses-shelved-20141114-11na07.html>> [Accessed 20 December 2017]



review still hadn't heard from the review team, suspicions began to grow on campus that the announcement had been a Public Relations stunt designed to ameliorate public anger. It was later revealed that at the time of the media announcement, Broderick had agreed to participate in conversations, but had not signed on to any deal.

Fresh concerns were raised in November 2016, when St Paul's College pulled out of the review process all together. Now just five of the six residential colleges would be involved. Conservative commentator Miranda Devine wrote:

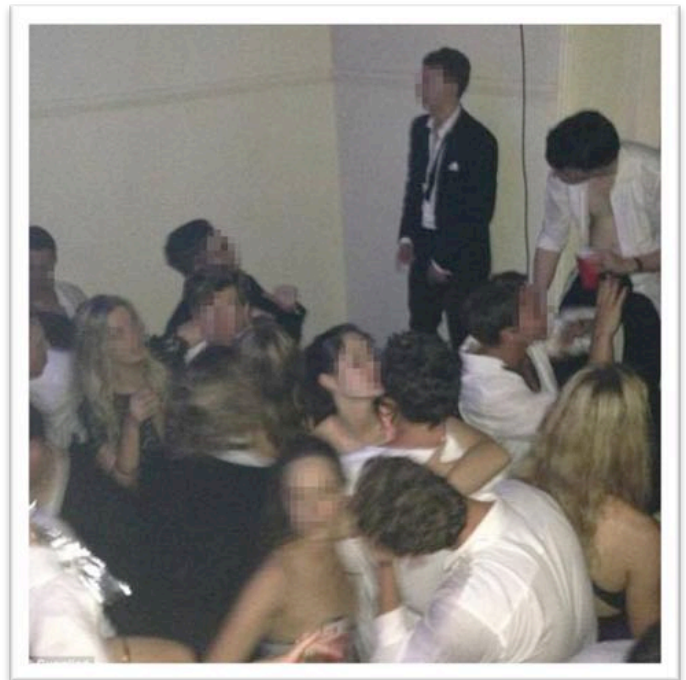
*To its credit, St Paul's has said it won't participate, instead exercising its "liberty as a self-governing body" to run its own confidential review of college life.... There is no acknowledgment of the colleges' Christian foundations, or rich 18th century heritage, just a presumptuous cultural revisionism which claims the values and sexual ethics of consultant gender experts somehow are superior.<sup>41</sup>*



<sup>41</sup> Devine, M. (2016) 'Business is booming for misogyny hunters', *The Daily Telegraph*, 4 December 2016. Available online at <<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/business-is-booming-for-misogyny-hunters/news-story/39a646bfe1cfbf2c5dff3a3eae83001>> [Accessed 20 December 2017]

But just as before, there was yet more drama waiting just around the corner. In 2017, *news.com.au* reported on a leaked Facebook post from St Paul's College students, which likened sex with a woman to 'harpooning a whale'. It offered a 'purposeful cockblock' service for men who wanted to get women out of their beds 'after a root', in which a student would arrive with an excuse for the man to exit. The post ended with, 'happy slaying', and garnered almost 100 likes on Facebook. A post then appeared on St Paul's Facebook page warning students that such posts 'may resurface just when you need your best CV to work for you'. Following this, other colleges, including St John's, Women's, and Wesley, banded together to boycott a Full Moon party hosted by St Paul's. Some students from Women's College made t-shirts with whales drawn on them and they circulated their dissent on social media with the hashtag #wednesdaysarefortheirls.

Shortly after this, *The Daily Mail* published explosive allegations about the 'Bone Room' tradition in St Paul's College.<sup>42</sup> The floor of the Bone Room is allegedly covered in mattresses, and Paul's students invite women to the room after 'wining and dining' them at a nearby restaurant.<sup>43</sup> It was reported that students were instructed to select a woman based on physical characteristics such as weight, hair colour and skin colour.<sup>44</sup> Editors of *Honi Soit*, Natalie Buckett and Victoria Zerbst, had reported on the Bone Room the previous year. Both Buckett and Zerbst had attended Women's College, and wrote about how the exclusive invite list to the Bone Room fostered a culture of jealousy and competitiveness amongst women. According to the authors, the event creates significant pressure on those invited to the Bone Room to acquiesce to the Paul's students' demands. As a former Paul's resident admitted to them, 'If you're an 18 [or] 19-year-old girl and this institution of men deigns to recognise you and invite you to this secret event that you literally don't know anything about... saying no to that is impossible.'<sup>45</sup>



Inside 'The Bone Room'. **Source:** Daily Mail.

Later in May, USyd Vice Chancellor Michael Spence spoke out about the culture at St Paul's College. He told *The Sydney Morning Herald* that St Paul's has a

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<sup>42</sup> McPhee, S. (2017) 'Exclusive – Inside the 'Bone Room'', *Daily Mail Australia*, 5 June 2017. Available online at <<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4564976/Sydney-University-students-DECADES-degrading-St-Paul-s.html>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>43</sup> Buckett, N. & Zerbst, V. (2017) 'The Bone Room', *Honi Soit*, 24 February 2017. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2016/02/the-bone-room/>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>44</sup> McPhee, 'Inside the 'Bone Room''

<sup>45</sup> Buckett & Zerbst, 'The Bone Room'



‘deep contempt for women’, and that sexism was a ‘profound issue in the life of the College, going to its very licence to operate’.<sup>46</sup> But the next month, *news.com.au* published yet more testimonies of brutal hazing rituals at St Paul’s College.<sup>47</sup> These included first-year students being forced onto all fours while being slapped with thongs, being forced to push a mattress (sometimes on fire) up a hill while being tackled by other students, and ‘Outward Bound’, where students are abandoned in remote locations across the state to make their own way home, sometimes without money or shoes.

As St Paul’s resistance to participating in the Elizabeth Broderick & Co. review fell under increasing scrutiny, Rob Stokes, NSW Minister for Education, announced that he was considering an overhaul of the parliamentary acts that govern the USyd colleges.<sup>48</sup> This was a significant threat to the ‘old boys’ networks at the colleges, who, under the current system, have a significant amount of control over the colleges’ governance. At this time the college council released a statement stating that they were ‘appalled by the attitudes expressed about women on the student Facebook page in March and acknowledges that it needs to address the unacceptable culture it indicates amongst the College’s student body.’<sup>49</sup>

Finally, after months of pressure, St Paul’s did a complete about-face, and asked to partake in the Broderick review. Seven months after their initial refusal to participate, this was seen as a significant win for student groups and advocates, who had lobbied hard for Paul’s inclusion in the process. 2016 USyd Women’s Officer, Imogen Grant, commented, “this would not have occurred without the hard work of students and survivors who have gone to great lengths to expose its culture of sexism and male entitlement”.<sup>50</sup> However the late inclusion of St Paul’s meant that it was too late for the review to produce a report for Paul’s in time with the release of the rest of the colleges’ results, and a separate report would be written in 2018.

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<sup>46</sup> Singhal, P. (2017) ‘St Paul’s has deep contempt for women: Sydney University’s vice-head Michael Spence’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 May 2017. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-pauls-has-deep-contempt-for-women-sydney-universitys-vicehead-michael-spence-20170531-gwggw47.html>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>47</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) ‘Exclusive: ‘They pissed in my bed’ – vicious hazing at elite St Paul’s College exposed’, *news.com.au*, 3 June 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/exclusive-they-pissed-in-my-bed-vicious-hazing-at-elite-st-pauls-college-exposed/news-story/ef422cd6a6691a4ac1cd1f12b865ba97>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>48</sup> Singhal, P. (2017) ‘Rob Stokes considers overhaul of university college laws as St Paul’s attempts to join review’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 June 2017. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/rob-stokes-considers-overhaul-of-university-college-laws-as-st-pauls-attempts-to-join-review-20170601-gwibrd.html>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.

<sup>50</sup> Ryan, S. (2017) ‘St Paul’s College attempting to join Broderick review’, *Honi Soit*, 2 June 2017. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2017/06/st-pauls-college-attempting-to-join-broderick-review/>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

## 1.3. THE RELEASE OF THE BRODERICK & CO. REPORT

In late November 2017 - 18 months after the events which initially catalysed the review - at a press conference in Governor Phillip Tower, the much-anticipated Broderick report and five smaller individual reports focusing on each of the participating colleges were launched. It was confirmed that the St Paul's report would be released in June 2018.

The timing of the report was curious. Semester had officially finished on November 25, and the report was released on November 28, meaning that students had all but left campus for the year. If there were to be a response from either the college students or the remainder of the student body, no-one would be on campus to mobilise it. *Honi Soit*, the student newspaper, also released its last edition for the year that week, meaning there would be no sustained reporting on the college review and any student reactions to it.

While the Broderick report was welcomed by sections of the community - and certainly adds important quantitative data to the discussion - others have expressed concerns with the study's methodology and approach, which Broderick has confirmed was partly driven by the colleges- including:

- The lack of context given to the report, such as the events detailed above that led to the establishment of the Broderick taskforce (this was not included in the terms of reference, and therefore the report);
- The small numbers of alumni included in the report;<sup>51</sup>
- The lack of case studies or concrete examples of either hazing or sexual assault (Broderick says that they did not include detailed case studies for fear of identifying students publicly and were anxious to protect the identities of women who had the courage to speak up about these issues);
- The heavy emphasis on focus groups as a means by which to collect data, rather than individual interviews. College students have reported feeling uncomfortable and unwilling to speak openly in focus group settings due to fear of reprisals for speaking out against their own community;
- The lack of balance in voices: the report contains 158 quotes. Over 100 of them praise or defend college. Not a single quote in the report is attributed to a survivor despite the report finding that 6% of USyd college students have experienced attempted or completed sexual assault;
- The exclusion of several groups who were initially intended for inclusion in the review including parents, council members, donors, etc. (on occasion this was at the explicit direction of the college);<sup>52</sup>
- The decision to allow the colleges to control how alumni were recruited to the review;

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<sup>51</sup> Broderick & Co. note that because of privacy laws, the colleges refused to allow Broderick access to alumni lists and maintained full control over the recruitment process.

<sup>52</sup> Broderick & Co. note that the project team spoke to "some parents as well as council members", however it appears that they were not included in the final report.

- The lack of analysis of class, privilege, wealth or entitlement and the soft analysis of homophobia or racism;
- The sanitized description of college culture including hazing;
- The overarching focus on alcohol and ‘binge drinking culture’, rather than rape culture or toxic masculinity.

The report opens with a glowing quote from a college student who ‘loved’ their time at college and includes several euphemistic platitudes about college:

- *“The hazing was fun. It makes us all come together as a group.”*
- *“There is no pressure to drink.”*
- *“I loved [O Week]... we all came together as family.”*
- *“The environment here is very supportive.”*
- *“I always felt really supported by the...leaders. They are friendly and not intimidating at all.”*
- *“I feel safe, included and truly believe that College has not only helped me excel in academia but also learn social skills and gain friendships for life... I just wish more people could have the opportunity to experience College life.”<sup>53</sup>*

*College has provided me with the greatest amount of support in my transition into university life. It has made me be more appreciative of my surroundings and more confident in my actions... I’m so grateful to be a part of the community. I feel that [my College] will shape me into the person that I want to be. It will challenge my opinions and allow...me to develop new perspectives, new approaches to life situations and new, high achieving goals for the future.*

*– College Student*

*College is great for the leadership opportunities it gives you... There’s... House Committee... sport secretary positions, Palladian representatives... It gives you a great platform.*

*– College Student*

*For the most part, [the staff and students] look out for everyone to ensure their safety and comfort. This has at least been my experience as a new resident.*

*– College Student*

Quotes from college students featured in Report. **Source:** Broderick & Co.

<sup>53</sup> Broderick & Co, *Cultural Renewal at the University of Sydney Residential Colleges*, 2017.

Information obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by Nina Funnell, revealed how the project deviated from what had been originally proposed (summarised in the table below). Funnell noted that “the limited number of alumni interviews, and heavy reliance on focus-groups with current students is particularly alarming, especially given that many current students will self-censor in such settings.”<sup>54</sup> Concerns were also raised about the lack of transparency throughout the million-dollar project - earlier Freedom of Information request, lodged by Fairfax Media, had been returned almost entirely redacted.<sup>55</sup> Moreover, the colleges’ individual reports were not initially intended for public scrutiny - the colleges only agreed to publicly release them after significant outcry from students and advocacy groups.<sup>56</sup> Since then EROC Australia has learnt that the colleges have been provided with other more sensitive information which has not been made public.

Elizabeth Broderick has told EROC that “the nature of qualitative data means that there were limitations, however the strong quantitative data adds to our combined understanding of the college environment. We know that hazing practices are evident in most colleges and college life. If sexual harassment, alcohol and student hierarchy are not intentionally focussed on and addressed this will negatively impact on a student’s ability to engage in college life.”

Initially proposed	Final project
36 focus groups with current students	43 focus groups with current students
12 focus groups with former students	Absent
12 focus groups with parents	Absent <sup>57</sup>
120 one-on-one interviews with recently exited students, council members, alumni, staff, and donors	35 one-on-one interviews with current students  17 individual interviews with alumni, who were recruited by the colleges <sup>58</sup>

<sup>54</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) ‘How the Broderick report on university colleges glossed over rape culture’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 December 2017. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/news-and-views/opinion/how-the-broderick-report-on-university-colleges-glossed-over-rape-culture-20171219-h07796.html>> [Accessed 7 Jan 2018]

<sup>55</sup> Evans, M. (2017) ‘The secret emails Sydney University doesn’t want you to see on college sex review’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 May 2017. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/the-secret-emails-sydney-university-doesnt-want-you-to-see-on-college-sex-review-20170516-gw5t3l.html>> [Accessed 7 Jan 2018]

<sup>56</sup> Singhal, P. (2017) ‘Sydney University colleges will not be required to make review findings public’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 August 2017. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/cop-out-broderick-review-on-university-of-sydney-colleges-will-not-be-made-public-20170815-gxwnqd.html>> [Accessed 7 Jan 2018]

EROC Australia welcomes aspects of the Broderick & Co review and notes the quantitative data it contains. We do remain concerned that the report could not go far enough in our estimation and believe that the colleges most likely retained too much control in the process. In response to these concerns, a coalition was formed between End Rape On Campus Australia, the National Union of Students' Women's Department, The Hunting Ground Australia Project, USyd Students' Representative Council, the USyd Women's Collective and Fair Agenda. This coalition released a statement questioning the process around the report formation and the influence of the University and the colleges throughout:

*We can only assume that the University and colleges significantly altered the focus of the review between its announcement in May 2016 and its formal commissioning in October 2016, which raises an important question about whether this review was about managing reputational issues or genuinely seeking to address the decades-long culture enabling sexual violence at these colleges.*

In light of these concerns, it was decided that in order to restore what the coalition perceived to be missing from the Broderick & Co. report, End Rape On Campus Australia would produce a financially independent report that would seek to:

- a) Restore the missing context of the Broderick & Co. report by outlining the series of events which triggered the Broderick review;
- b) Situate recent events at the USYD colleges within an historical context, by conducting a wide-scale literature review of available media reporting on scandals at USYD colleges dating back to the 1950's;
- c) Restore the voices of sexual assault survivors and others to the debate by incorporating case studies within the report;
- d) Draw together and critically engage with the available data and academic literature on college campus life, in order to outline key themes worthy of further academic inquiry and Government review;
- e) Situate the USYD college cultures within a broader national conversation about residential college life at the 39 Australian Universities;
- f) In consultation with current and recently departed USYD student leaders, develop key recommendations for reform aimed at Government, the University, College feeder schools and other stakeholders.

This report - The Red Zone Report - is the outcome of that resolution.

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<sup>57</sup> Broderick & Co. acknowledges that no focus groups with parents were conducted. A small number of individual interviews were granted to those who requested them.

<sup>58</sup> Broderick & Co. note that the Review "had no power to compel individuals to speak to the Review team. The Team spoke to everyone who requested an interview." EROC Australia has also received reports that senior students at some of the colleges openly cautioned current students that voluntary participation would have adverse impacts on them.



## 2. PREVALENCE

### RATES OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY AND ITS COLLEGES

The Australian Bureau of Statistics currently estimates that 1 in 5 women in Australia, and 1 in 25 men have experienced sexual assault since the age of 15.<sup>59</sup> Importantly for assessing the extent of this issue at universities, the highest risk group for sexual assault victimisation is women aged 15-19, and women aged 18-34 are more than twice as likely to have experienced sexual assault within the last year, compared to adult women in general.<sup>60</sup> Perpetrators of sexual offences are also most likely to be men aged in their early twenties.<sup>61</sup>

As being of university age is a risk factor for both experiencing and perpetrating sexual assault, it might be anticipated that a significant amount of academic attention would have already been paid to understanding sexual assault among university populations in Australia. Yet until very recently, little research has focussed specifically on sexual violence at Australian universities.<sup>62</sup> This gap in the literature is poorly accounted for - however, there is some evidence that previous attempts to gather such data have been blocked or undermined amid reputational concerns from the institutions. For example, in 2014, a previous attempt by the Australian Human Rights Commission to research sexual violence at university colleges was quietly shelved after it was met with resistance from various institutions.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2013) Personal Safety, Australia, 2012. Available online at <[www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4906.0Main+Features12012?OpenDocument](http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4906.0Main+Features12012?OpenDocument)> [Accessed 4 Oct. 2016].

<sup>60</sup> Tarczon, C. and Wall, L. (2012) The nature and extent of sexual assault and abuse in Australia. Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault Wrap. Available online at <<http://aifs.gov.au/publications/nature-and-extent-sexual-assault-and-abuse-australia>> Accessed 4 Oct. 2016].

<sup>61</sup> Lievore, D. (2004) Recidivism of sexual assault offenders: Rates, risk factors and treatment efficacy, vol. 80, Australian Institute of Criminology. Available online at <[www.aic.gov.au/media\\_library/archive/publications2000s/recidivism-of-sexual-offenders-rates-risk%20factors-and%20treatment-efficacy.pdf](http://www.aic.gov.au/media_library/archive/publications2000s/recidivism-of-sexual-offenders-rates-risk%20factors-and%20treatment-efficacy.pdf)> [Accessed 1 Dec 2016]

<sup>62</sup> Notable exception to this are the 2011 and 2016 National Union of Students 'Talk About It' reports. In the 2016 NUS study, 1366 students participated in a 2015 survey, with 27% of respondents indicating that they had experienced sexual assault while enrolled at their institution. EROC Australia notes that the methodology and sampling techniques of the NUS survey have been questioned, however in the absence of more rigorous data, the NUS reports provided a useful entry point into understanding some concerns that students hold around their safety at university.

<sup>63</sup> Stanton, K. (2014) 'Survey of sex assaults on university campuses shelved', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 November 2014. Available online at <[www.smh.com.au/national/survey-of-sex-assaults-on-university-campuses-shelved-20141114-11na07.html](http://www.smh.com.au/national/survey-of-sex-assaults-on-university-campuses-shelved-20141114-11na07.html)> [Accessed 25 Jul. 2016].

In 2015, The Hunting Ground Australia Project provided \$150,000 in seed funding to the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) to conduct a wide-scale survey into sexual assault and harassment at all 39 universities in Australia.<sup>64</sup> The survey was administered in 2016 and 30,930 students responded. The final report, 'Change the Course: National Report on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment at Australian Universities', was released in August 2017.<sup>65</sup>

While the AHRC 'Change the Course' report provides a useful entry point for understanding some of the issues at universities, the methodology of the survey has been challenged by academics and students, who claim that the design is not aligned with best practice and is likely to have under-reported figures of sexual violence.

For more than a decade sexual assault researchers have understood that sexual assault surveys must ask a range of behaviour based questions such as "has anyone ever had sex with you when you were unconscious or asleep?" or "has anyone ever continued to engage in intercourse with you, after you asked them to stop?", rather than simply asking 'have you been sexually assaulted?' In 2014, the US White House released a paper on how to conduct sexual assault campus surveys which will produce accurate results:

*Questions that sound useful, but have not been evaluated for use in research, may not always result in information that is credible or helpful. For example, decades ago it was common to ask about sexual assault by asking someone if they had ever been "raped." This seemed a direct and honest way of understanding victimization rates. Researchers found, however, that few people labelled what happened to them as rape or were often unwilling to use that label on a research survey. People also had different definitions of rape. As a result, this resulted in underreports of rape and data that were neither precise nor accurate. Researchers then designed questions that described behaviors that would constitute rape (and sexual assault more broadly) and asked participants if they had ever experienced those behaviors. [Behaviour based] questions are, by nature, somewhat graphic, but there is substantial scientific evidence that they yield more accurate results. Through extensive evaluation, researchers – including the National Academy of Sciences and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – have validated these questions as the most effective and scientific means to assess whether someone has been raped or sexually assaulted.<sup>66</sup>*

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<sup>64</sup> Wahlquist, C. (2017) 'Sexual assault survivors pushed for landmark survey of universities', *The Guardian*, 1 August 2017. Available online at <<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/aug/01/sexual-assault-survivors-pushed-for-landmark-survey-of-universities>> [Accessed 2 December 2017]

<sup>65</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission (2017) *Change the Course: National Report on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment at Australian Universities*. Available online at <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/AHRC\\_2017\\_ChangeTheCourse\\_Univer\\_sityReport.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/AHRC_2017_ChangeTheCourse_Univer_sityReport.pdf)> [Accessed 2 December 2017]

<sup>66</sup> White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault (2014) 'Climate surveys: Useful tools to help colleges and universities in their efforts to reduce and prevent sexual assault'. The United States Department of

Similarly, many people who have experienced assault do not necessarily label their experience as such, due to stigma, shame or confusion over what technically constitutes sexual assault and rape. Others may experience shock and denial, and may minimize or downplay their experiences - a common function of trauma. Yet others may not recognise their experience as assault, particularly if it doesn't align with the 'stranger-danger' stereotype. For all these reasons sexual assault surveys must include specific behaviour based questions- as per best practice- otherwise they will produce significant under-reporting. Yet despite the available research on the subject, the AHRC survey did not include behaviour-based questions in relation to sexual assault, even though it did for sexual harassment. Other concerns included:

- That the survey only asked respondents about incidents in the last two years (2015 and 2016). This means that third year students who were raped during their first year were unable to have their experience recorded;
- The AHRC survey classified behaviours which may constitute indecent sexual assault as sexual harassment, which artificially lowers the sexual assault figures;
- Universities were entrusted to select when they wished to send out the survey. Several universities ran it during exams, when students were least likely to respond;
- The survey was not available in other languages and was not written in a way that would be considered culturally appropriate to many international students, resulting in poor response rates;
- One university accidentally sent the survey to the wrong cohort of students, as they were relying on an outdated student list.

Noting these limitations and the likelihood that the survey design led to significant under-reporting of the problem, the data nonetheless highlights that sexual assault is occurring within university communities at unacceptably high levels across Australia. For example, the report found that:

- Across 2015 and 2016, one in ten female university students were raped or sexually assaulted;
- Almost a quarter (23%) of those female students who were raped or sexually assaulted across 2015 and 2016 were assaulted in a university setting;<sup>67</sup>
- Approximately 21,000 of 1.3 million students who attended university in 2015/2016 were sexually assaulted in a university setting across that two year period;<sup>68</sup>
- Approximately 200 sexual assaults occur within a university setting each week around Australia, or an average of around 30 assaults per day;
- College students were seven times more likely than non-college students to have been raped or sexually assaulted on campus;<sup>69</sup>

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Justice. Available online at <<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/910426/download>> [Accessed 2 December 2017], p. 16.

<sup>67</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 7.

<sup>68</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 7.

<sup>69</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 187.

- Approximately 68 college students will be raped or sexually assaulted in a university setting each week across Australia;
- 12% of all rapes and sexual assaults at university committed against female students occurred within a residential college.<sup>70</sup>

The report also found that the universities with the highest rates of sexual assault also tended to have the highest proportion of students living on campus in residential settings. Of all 39 universities, The University of New England (UNE) had the highest rates of sexual assault on campus (4%),<sup>71</sup> followed by the Australian National University (ANU) at 3.5%.<sup>72</sup> Both UNE and ANU have a high proportion of students who have relocated from other cities to attend the university, and both offer extensive on-campus accommodation to house their migrating population. In 2015, for example, more than 20% of the student population at ANU (approximately 5000 students) lived on campus.<sup>73</sup>

While slightly lower than UNE and ANU's rates of campus sexual assault, the rates of rape and sexual assault at the University of Sydney were much higher than the national average (2.5% compared to 1.6%), meaning that students at USyd were 56% more likely to experience rape or sexual assault on campus compared to the national average.<sup>74</sup> In relation to USyd, the AHRC figures indicate that:

- Of 52,000 students at USyd 2.5% (or approximately 1,300 students) were raped or sexually assaulted in a university setting across or while travelling to and from university in 2015/2016;
- Based on this figure, approximately 650 USyd students are sexually assaulted in a university setting or while travelling to and from university each year, an average of 13 students per week;
- Female students at USyd are 66% more likely to experience rape and sexual assault on campus, compared to the national average for female students;
- In 2016, around 500 USyd students (1%) witnessed a sexual assault at university
- 73.2% of USyd students indicated that they knew either nothing or very little about where to go within the university to make a complaint about sexual assault (significantly higher than the national average of 60.4%)
- 62.5% of USyd students indicated that they knew either nothing or very little about the university's sexual assault policy (significantly higher than the national average of 54.3%)

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<sup>70</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 62.

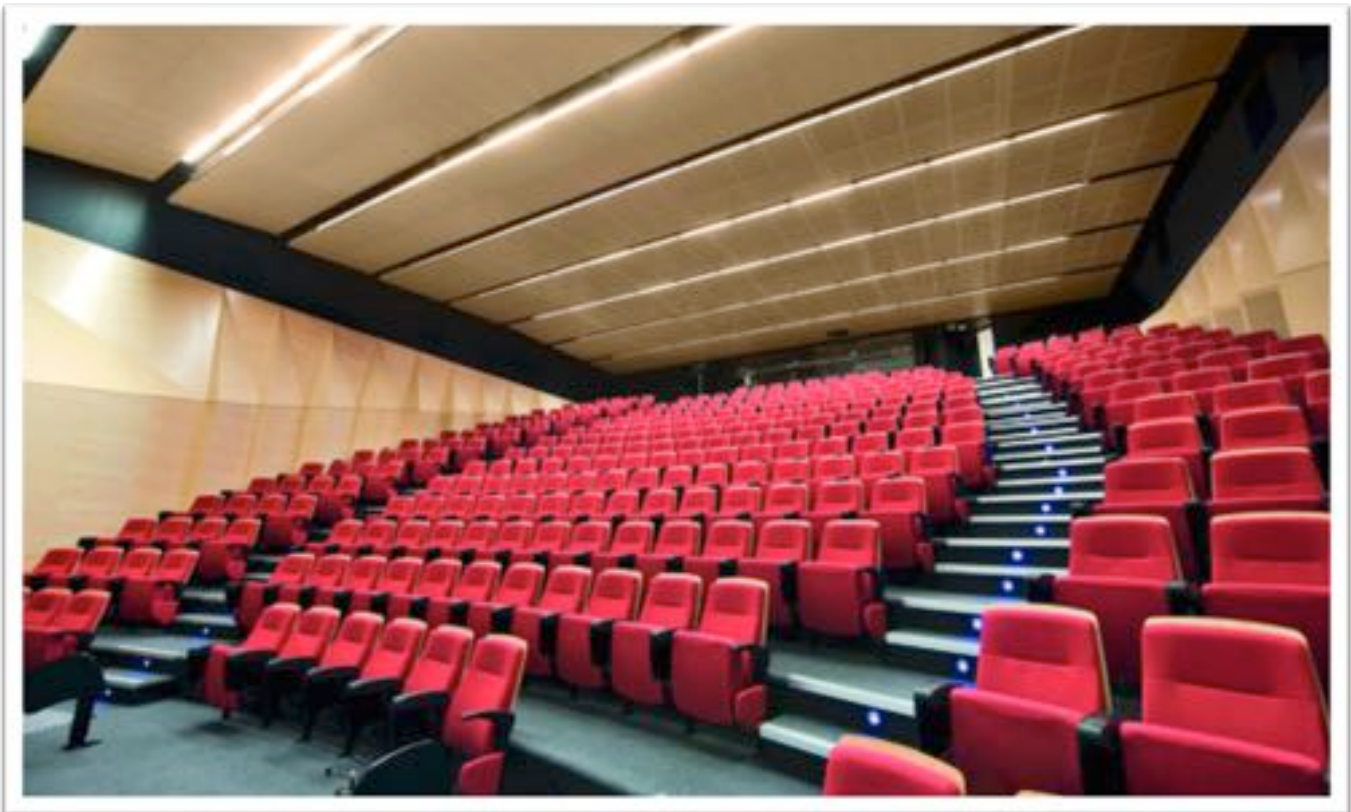
<sup>71</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission (2017) 'Profile of University Respondents: University of New England', available online at <[https://www.une.edu.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/168904/university-of-new-england-summary-tables-v2.pdf](https://www.une.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/168904/university-of-new-england-summary-tables-v2.pdf)> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

<sup>72</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission (2017) 'Profile of University Respondents: Australian National University', available online at <[http://imagedepot.anu.edu.au/scapa/Website/Australian\\_National\\_University\\_Summary\\_Tables.pdf](http://imagedepot.anu.edu.au/scapa/Website/Australian_National_University_Summary_Tables.pdf)> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

<sup>73</sup> Australian National University (2018) 'Quick statistics'. available online at <<http://www.anu.edu.au/about/quick-statistics>> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

<sup>74</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission (2017) 'Profile of University Respondents: The University of Sydney', available online at <<https://sydney.edu.au/dam/corporate/documents/about-us/values-and-visions/respect-now-always-report-university-of-sydney.pdf>> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

- 68.5% of USyd students indicated that they knew nothing or very little about where to seek support and assistance at the university following a sexual assault (significantly higher than the national average of 56.9%).<sup>75</sup>
- Based on these figures, each year the University of Sydney could fill up the entire Eastern Avenue Lecture theatre with students who had been raped or sexually assaulted within a USyd university setting, and there would be a further 150 students lining up outside waiting to get in;
- Each year, USyd could fill 10 Sydney buses with USYD students who had been raped or sexually assaulted that year, within a university setting.



Every year the University of Sydney Eastern Avenue Lecture Theatre could be filled with USyd students who had experienced sexual assault in a university setting. **Source:** John Gollings, courtesy of Francis-Jones Morehen Thorp.

The lack of student awareness and knowledge concerning reporting mechanisms at the university corroborates an earlier USyd specific report. In 2016, the University of Sydney released the *Creating a Safer Community for All* report, the result of an opt-in student safety survey administered in 2015.<sup>76</sup> This project found that of the 1926 student respondents, a quarter (24.7%) indicated that they had experienced some form of unacceptable behaviour, including sexual harassment or assault, over the period of their

<sup>75</sup> All above statistics from AHRC, *Profile of University Respondents: The University of Sydney*.

<sup>76</sup> University of Sydney (2016) *Creating a Safer Community for All: Sexual Harassment and Assault on Campus*. Available online at <<https://sydney.edu.au/dam/corporate/documents/campus-life/emergencies-and-personal-safety/safer-community-for-all-final-report.pdf>> [Accessed 2 January 2018]



enrolment.<sup>77</sup> Yet despite this, only 1 in every 72 affected students (or less than 1.4%) had made a report to the university.<sup>78</sup>

The Broderick & Co. *Cultural Renewal* report, released in late 2017, found that the vast majority of harassment and sexual violence within the colleges was perpetrated by college students, experienced by women, and occurred within college grounds. Figures from the report include:

- 1 in 5 students (19%) reported experiencing bullying or intimidation, pressure to participate in humiliating or intimidating activities, or hazing;<sup>79</sup>
- Female students were twice as likely as male students to experience being excluded or isolated;<sup>80</sup>
- Of students who had experienced being excluded or isolated, or malicious or hurtful rumours, 87% reported that the offenders responsible were fellow students from the college, 20% were students from a different USyd college and just 5% were general students who do not reside at a college;<sup>81</sup>
- Female students were 7 times more likely to experience sexist remarks directed at them compared to male counterparts;<sup>82</sup>
- The majority of offenders were fellow students from their own college (66%), a further 44% of offenders were from a different USyd college, and just 15% were general student who do not reside at a college;<sup>83</sup>
- 1 in 4 female students admitted to experiencing sexual harassment since starting college, and women were more than 4 times more likely than men to have experienced sexual harassment;<sup>84</sup>
- For the majority of those that reported experiencing sexual harassment, the harassment occurred either at their college residence or grounds (46%) or at a different USyd college residence or grounds (44%). Less than 4% occurred on the general USyd campus. The remainder occurred at off-site college events which were organised and endorsed by the college, another college event, at another university campus, or somewhere else;<sup>85</sup>
- Of those that experienced sexual harassment, the majority of students reported that the perpetrator was from their own college (48%) or another college (48%);<sup>86</sup>
- College women are six times more likely to experience attempted or completed rape or sexual assault, compared to college men;<sup>87</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> USyd, *Safer Community*, p. 1.

<sup>78</sup> USyd, *Safer Community*, p. 6.

<sup>79</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 39.

<sup>80</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 39.

<sup>81</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 39. Figures may add up to over 100% if students indicated they had multiple experiences

<sup>82</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 48.

<sup>83</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 48. Figures may add up to over 100% if students indicated they had multiple experiences

<sup>84</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 49.

<sup>85</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 49.

<sup>86</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 50.

<sup>87</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

- 1 in 8 attempted or completed rapes or sexual assault happened in a single week of the year, orientation week (12%);<sup>88</sup>
- Approximately half of attempted or completed rapes or sexual assaults happened at a student's own college residence or grounds (45%) or at another college's residence or grounds (43%);<sup>89</sup>
- In about half of these cases (48%), student/s from a different University of Sydney College perpetrated this behaviour, and in a quarter of cases (25%) fellow college students perpetrated this behaviour. In just 16% of cases was the perpetrator a non-college student;<sup>90</sup>
- In 95% of cases the perpetrator was male;<sup>91</sup>
- 1 in 12 college students had witnessed or observed an actual or attempted sexual assault.<sup>92</sup>

The report also found that USyd college students have a poor understanding of what constitutes sexual harassment. When asked directly if they had experienced sexual harassment, only 9% of students indicated that they had.<sup>93</sup> However, when provided with a list of behaviours that constitute sexual harassment, more than double the original number indicated they had experienced one or more of these. This indicates a clear knowledge gap, and underscores the need for clear behaviour based questions as per best practice. Unfortunately, the survey only included behaviour based questions in relation to sexual harassment, but not assault. In all likelihood this will produce significant under-reporting and it is not unreasonable to assume that sexual assault is even more pronounced at the USyd colleges than the rates indicated in the Broderick report. Despite this, the report found that:

- 8% - or almost 1 in 12 students at Women's College - had experienced attempted or completed rape or sexual assault since commencing;<sup>94</sup>
- 1 in 12 female students from St Andrew's College had experienced attempted or completed rape or sexual assault since commencing;<sup>95</sup>
- Overall around 1 in 17 women at college had experienced attempted or completed rape or sexual assault.<sup>96</sup>

The report also found that of those who had experienced attempted or completed rape, around two thirds (69%) sought some form of assistance, but fewer than 1 in 10 made a formal complaint or report.<sup>97</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

<sup>89</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

<sup>90</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

<sup>91</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

<sup>92</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

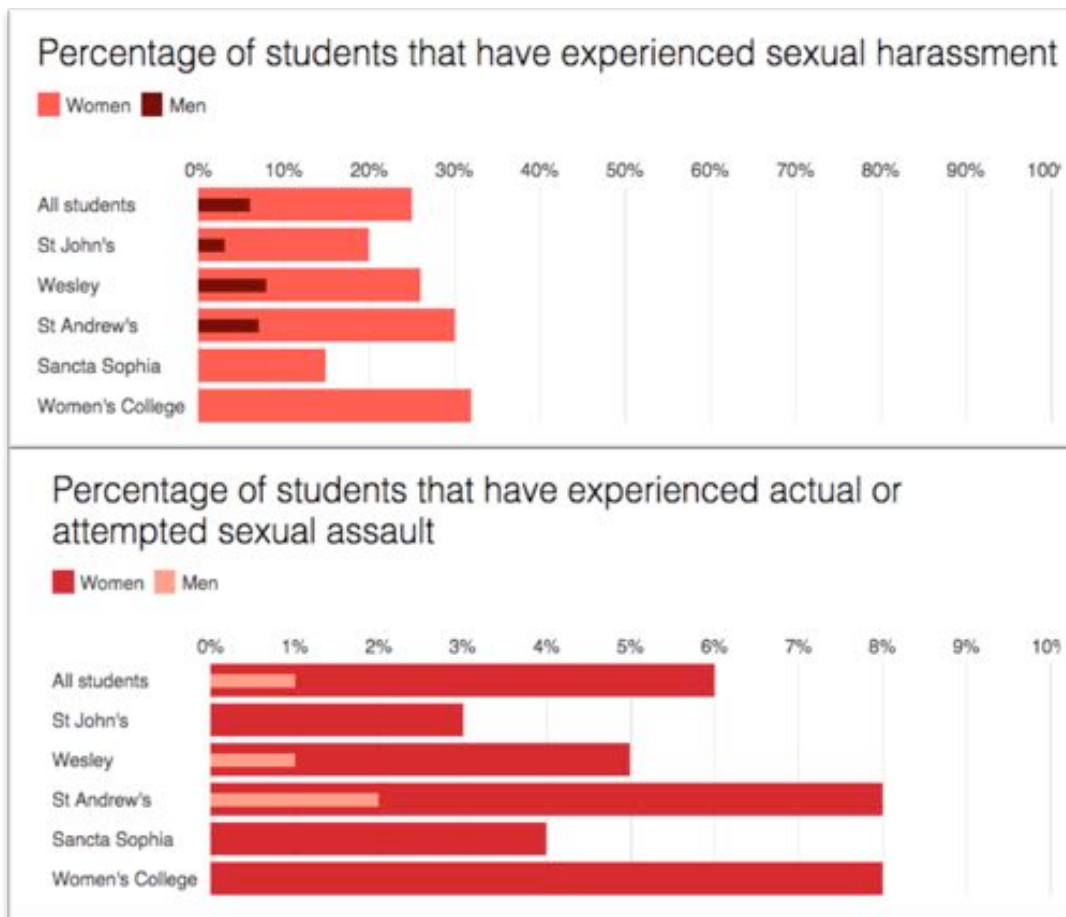
<sup>93</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 50.

<sup>94</sup> Elizabeth Broderick and Co (2017). *Report to the Women's College on Cultural Renewal*. Available online at <<http://www.thewomenscollege.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Womens-College-Summary-Report-2017.pdf>> [Accessed 5 December 2017], p. 17.

<sup>95</sup> Elizabeth Broderick and Co (2017). *Report to St Andrew's College on Cultural Renewal*. Available online at <<http://www.standrewscollege.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/St-Andrews-EBCo-Report-2017.pdf>> [Accessed 5 December 2017], p. 19.

<sup>96</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

Interestingly, while 5% of all women and 1% of all male students at Wesley College said in the survey that they had been the victim of rape or attempted rape since starting college,<sup>98</sup> a review of police records show that not a single one of those incidents has been reported to police in the last five years.<sup>99</sup>



A comparison of prevalence rates of sexual harassment and sexual assault at the colleges. **Source:** *Honi Soit*.

As this body of knowledge begins to take shape, local police and media reports have also contributed to our understanding of this issue. In 2016, for example, Channel 7's *Sunday Night* program conducted the largest ever Freedom of Information (FOI) investigation in Australia's history, examining reported rates of sexual assault and harassment at Australian Universities.<sup>100</sup> All 39 universities were targeted by the FOI

<sup>97</sup> Broderick, *Cultural Renewal*, p. 58.

<sup>98</sup> Elizabeth Broderick and Co (2017). *Report to Wesley College on Cultural Renewal*. Available online at <<http://www.wesleycollege-usyd.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Wesley-College-Report-2017.pdf>> [Accessed 5 December 2017], p. 18.

<sup>99</sup> Freedom of Information investigation conducted by Channel 7 Alison Sandy and shared with EROC Australia

<sup>100</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) 'Largest ever FOI request paints a dirty picture of sexual assault at Australian unis', *news.com.au*, 7 October 2016. Available online at <[www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/largest-ever-foi-request-paints-a-dirty-picture-of-sexual-assault-at-australian-unis/news-](http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/largest-ever-foi-request-paints-a-dirty-picture-of-sexual-assault-at-australian-unis/news-)

investigation but at the time of the program's airing in October 2016, only 27 universities had complied with the FOI request. The results showed that in the past five years, 575 official complaints of sexual harassment and assault had been made to those universities (with 145 reports related to specifically to rape). The 575 reports resulted in just 6 expulsions. A further FOI investigation targeting police records over the last five years found that 153 rapes and sexual assaults had been officially reported to police as having occurred at the street addresses of universities in New South Wales, Western Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria.<sup>101</sup>

In interpreting this data, it is important to note that very few survivors report their experiences of sexual assault to either police or their university. Figures from the 2012 ABS Personal Safety Survey show that 4 out of every 5 female victims did not report their most recent experience of sexual assault to police.<sup>102</sup> This suggests that the figures uncovered through the Channel 7 FOI investigation represent the very tip of the iceberg. In understanding prevalence rates, EROC Australia also draws on our relationship with sexual assault services as well as on our own experience of working directly with survivors and their advocates. For example, in October 2016, EROC Australia received 28 new disclosures, close to one per day. Very few of those individuals who have contacted us had made formal complaints to either the police or their university at the time. Again, this suggests that internal university records grossly under-represent the true picture.

This tallies with the FOI data gathered by Channel 7. Between 2011- 2016, only 13 reports of sexual assault or indecent assault were made to the NSW police as having occurred at the University of Sydney Camperdown campus. The reports cover rape and sexual assault, indecent filming, peeping behaviour and several cases of strangers exposing their genitalia and masturbating in public places such as the library (see Appendix).

Of note, despite research which consistently shows that the majority of sexual assaults are perpetrated by people known to the victim, a disproportionately high number of the police reports identified a stranger as the perpetrator. There may be several reasons why victim-survivors are more likely to report in cases of stranger violence:

- Stranger-sexual assault is often more physically violent than sexual assault perpetrated by a known individual. Victim-survivors may be more likely to report their experiences if there is extreme use of

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story/798508bfcc3a6b2a684c5dcb9ed67fb3> [Accessed 7 October 2016]

See also: Sunday Night (2016) 'Less than 2% of sexual assaults led to expulsion, SN university FOI reveals', *yahoo.com.au*, 9 October 2016. Available online at <<https://au.news.yahoo.com/sunday-night/features/a/32833222/less-than-2-of-sexualassaults-led-to-expulsion-sn-university-foi-reveals/#page1>> [Accessed 9 October 2016]

<sup>101</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) 'Police reveal what 'secretive' universities didn't want you to know', *news.com.au*, 6 December 2016. Available at: [www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/police-reveal-what-the-secretive-universities-didnt-wantyou-to-know/news-story/0dbef6b5d42ed402e39b47010e570f1c](http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/police-reveal-what-the-secretive-universities-didnt-wantyou-to-know/news-story/0dbef6b5d42ed402e39b47010e570f1c). [Accessed 6 December 2016]

<sup>102</sup> ABS, *Personal Safety 2012*.

force or violence or if there is physical evidence such as bodily injuries. In these circumstances, victims may be more likely to recognise and identify their experience as assault;

- In cases of stranger sexual assault, victim-survivors are far less likely to feel any loyalty to protect the perpetrator, or concern over 'ruining his life'. By contrast, in cases of acquaintance rape, victim-survivors are often pressured or coerced by mutual friends or family members into not making a complaint;
- Because of cultural stereotypes around rape and sexual assault, victim-survivors may perceive they are more likely to be believed by police if the assault fits with a 'stranger danger' stereotype;
- In cases of stranger-sexual assault, the victim is unlikely to have ongoing contact with the offender.

The low levels of reporting of sexual assault within the university colleges - and the university more broadly - remains of considerable concern. In 2017, Dr Spence was the first of all 39 Vice Chancellors to publicly commit to releasing all sexual assault data on an annual basis. Following further lobbying by EROC Australia and the ABC, several other universities made similar commitments. EROC welcomes this development and encourages other universities to commit to similar levels of transparency and accountability.



# 3. TIMELINE

## A SHORT HISTORY OF MISOGYNY, HAZING AND BULLYING AT THE USYD COLLEGES

<b>1930</b>	A St Andrew's magazine editorial outlines college hazing including making freshers sing, giving them a bath in a horse-trough, and plastering them with bad fruit and flour. <sup>103</sup>
<b>1939</b>	'Soup Night': St Andrew's seniors force 'freshers' to lie in a mix of sand, oil, rotten fruit, paint and molasses. <sup>104</sup>
<b>14 August 1947</b>	St Andrew's students pelt College Principal, Dr Cumming Thom, with eggs, bags of flour and firecrackers. No official action is taken. <sup>105</sup>
<b>16 October 1957</b>	Wesley College residents are fined after throwing five members of the SRC in the Victoria Park pond. <sup>106</sup>
<b>23 March 1958</b>	'Freshers' at USyd colleges are bashed, chased, tackled, and burned with silver nitrate in initiation rituals. Other initiation rituals include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students being covered in tomato sauce and sawdust;</li></ul>



<sup>103</sup> Cameron, P. (1997) *Finishing School for Blokes: College Life Exposed*, St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin, p. 27-29.

<sup>104</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 31.

<sup>105</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 32-33.

<sup>106</sup> No author (1957) '£150 in fines on students for ducking', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 October 1957. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

- Semi naked students being forced to roll in a black mire of tar, mud and sump oil;
- Freshers being made to run around, stand at attention and carry out physical exercises in the rain;
- Freshers being given hair shampoo with treacle;
- Students being blindfolded, dropped 30 miles from Sydney and left to make their own way home.<sup>107</sup>



14 March 1965

O-Week initiations include forcing freshers to stand with their nose against the wall for 5 hours, forcing students to run a 4km 'steeplechase' while other students strike them and pull their clothes off, and dumping students 60km off campus and telling them to make their own way home. Senior residents defended the rituals, describing them as moulding "college spirit".<sup>108</sup>

30 October 1977

The partially naked body of 18 year old student Annette Morgan is found on the grounds of St Paul's College. Post-mortem reveals she was raped & cause of death was a fractured skull & strangulation.<sup>109</sup>

3 November 1977

Just five days after Annette Morgan was raped and murdered, four St Paul's students receive the "Animal Act of the Year" award for allegedly taking part in a gang rape.<sup>110</sup>

4 November 1977

At a rape forum held at the University of Sydney, women students allege that "men students living in university colleges customarily regard rape as all part of the fun". Other allegations to arise at the forum include: being intimidated out of reporting incidents, a woman having a bucket of water poured over her head to dissuade her from reporting a rape, the rape of a woman in the grounds of St John's College

<sup>107</sup> McGregor, C. (1958) 'They call it team spirit', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 March 1958. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>108</sup> Ibid.

<sup>109</sup> No author (1977) 'Girl, 18, murdered at Sydney University', *Canberra Times*, 31 October 1977. Retrieved from <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/110875511> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>110</sup> Williams, G. (1977) 'Protest as council meets', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 November 1977. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

earlier that year, and incidents of obscene behaviour by college men in the University's Fisher Library. The Warden of St Paul's College labels the claims "libellous nonsense".<sup>111</sup>

7 November 1977

Wesley College residents write to *The Sydney Morning Herald* editor to deny that male residents regard "rape as all part of the fun", but admit "a small minority holding this view does exist."<sup>112</sup>

**Letters to the editor**

**Wesley College students deny 'rape all part of the fun'**

SIR, We refer to the Herald report of November 4 entitled "Student rape all part of the fun . . ."

All male colleagues do not regard rape as "all part of the fun." While it seems that a small minority holding this view does exist, we reject the implication that the actions of this "unlucky" minority are condoned by all male colleagues.

As men and women of Wesley College, we are most disturbed that allegations can be made such as impugn the moral and social character of every male Wesley colleague. We deny that all male Wesley colleagues either condone or accept the violent crime of rape.

The assertion that there is a universal conspiracy against women among college men is false, and while individual instances may be cited to support the theories quoted in your report, we reject the gross generalisations they make.

**KATHRYN BICE, AMANDA COWLEY, GEOFFREY DAWSON, LINDEN EDWARDS** (Hons Committee), **JULIE HAMBLIN, DAVID HUNTER, STEPHEN KENSEY, NEVILLE PARSONS** (Senior student), **JOHN PATRICK** (Hons Committee), **LOUISE SEXTON**, Wesley College, University of Sydney.

SIR, As female students of Wesley College, we are very concerned over the allegations reported in your article entitled "Student rape all part of the fun, women allege."

We are not qualified to speak on behalf of the other Sydney University colleges, but with regard to Wesley College such remarks have absolutely no foundation.

The male colleagues here have a responsible attitude towards the females, and respect their wishes regarding sexual relations.

Although there may be a minority within the university colleges as a whole who feel that "rape is all part of the fun," we are certain that the sympathies of all Wesley colleagues would lie with the women concerned in a rape situation.

This was clearly demonstrated by the attitude of shock and disgust felt by the whole college over the rape and murder of Annette Morgan on October 29.

We wish to correct any impression that all male colleagues condone (or would participate in) the rape of a woman. Those in Wesley certainly would not.

**JOANNA MAXWELL, KAREN LOVELL, TIONA CAMERON, BELINDA GIBSON, PHILIPPA STONE**, Wesley College, University of Sydney.

23 November 1977

Female students protest outside of St Paul's College while the college council debates further action regarding four residents accused of gang rape.<sup>113</sup>

<sup>111</sup> No author (1977) 'Student rape all part of the fun, women allege', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 November 1977. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>112</sup> Maxwell, J., Lovell, K., Cameron, F., Gibson, B. & Stone, P. (1977) 'Wesley College students deny 'rape all part of the fun'', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 November 1977. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>113</sup> Williams, 'Protest as council meets'.

**24 November 1977**

Three St Paul's residents are expelled and a fourth suspended after allegedly gang raping a female student. Two of the expelled students were just about to graduate, and were unaffected by the punishment. The third was allowed to re-enrol at the university the following year and reapply to reside at a college.<sup>114</sup>

**29 November 1977**

The mother of a former St Paul's resident tells *The Sydney Morning Herald* that he was forced to stand on furniture "reciting obscenities" and that he was "held under a bed and has his hair set alight", calling his time at the college "a most traumatic experience."<sup>115</sup>

**7 April 1978**

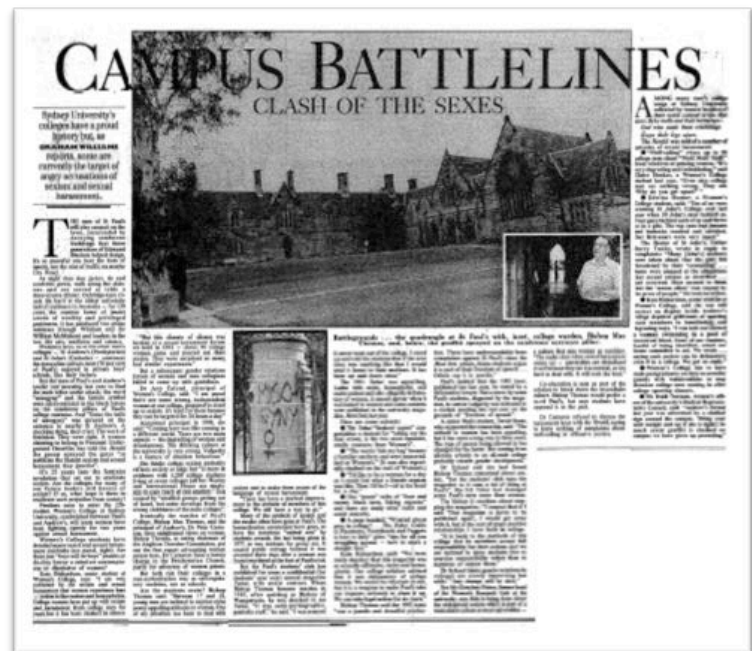
University of Sydney SRC Women's Collective picket the St John's College ball in response to John's advertising proclaiming "cheap wine and cheap women".<sup>116</sup>

**26 April 1978**

Women students and residents at the University of Sydney hold a forum to discuss ongoing issues of sexism at the colleges.<sup>117</sup>

**2 May 1978**

*Honi Soit* reports that the Women's Collective heard of many complaints being made to the University and police about rape and intimidation of college women by college men, but claims that most of the reports were "hushed up by the university administration".<sup>118</sup>



<sup>114</sup> Williams, G. (1977) 'Students expelled over sex incident', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 November 1977. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>115</sup> Lehmann, J. (1977) 'Traumatic time at St Paul's', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 29 November 1977. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>116</sup> SRC Women's Collective (1978) Letter to the editors. *Honi Soit*, 18 April 1978, p. 2.

<sup>117</sup> Maxwell, J., Lovell, K. & Gibson, B. (1978) 'Women and the colleges – a forum', *Honi Soit*, 26 April 1978, p. 5.

<sup>118</sup> SRC Women's Collective (1978) 'Women, sexism, and the colleges', *Honi Soit*, 2 May 1978, p. 4.

**1980s**

Minutes from St Andrew's College council meetings show as many as forty rooms in the college becoming vacant by end of semester one, with many students leaving due to the hazing during O Week.<sup>119</sup>

**15 May 1986**

St Andrew's men are reported to have been caught running through the corridors of Women's College masturbating. The St Andrew's administration imposed a \$4,500 fine on the St Andrew's College Student Club, but the college principal states that "there was no rape, no nakedness and nothing gross".<sup>120</sup>

**24 May 1986**

David Burchell, from the Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association, writes to *The Sydney Morning Herald* in relation to the above incident. He states that the incident involved the "gross sexual harassment of members of the Women's College". He notes that several women left Women's College as a result of this "disgusting behaviour".<sup>121</sup>

**1990**

Women's College resident, Galina Laurie, writes in *Honi Soit*: "Women's College residents live very much in the shadow of our brother colleges. Feminine status is defined by our associations with these colleges. Our importance is proportional to the number of invitations we receive to formals, lunches and 'bone room' sporting dinners. We cannot visit male colleges on our own without seriously damaging our reputations. And yet we suffer drunken men wandering our corridors late at night pounding upon our doors but hardly a question is asked as to how and why they actually got in. We must wait to be asked to the college formals, we must have our ticket paid for and we must be picked up and walked from one college to another by our formal partners. We passive women have tolerated the "mole call" on the grounds that it is tradition, when it is an extremely obvious and intimidating example of sexual harassment."<sup>122</sup>

**13 June 1990**

A letter to the editors of *Honi Soit* by a woman college resident states: "I do find it unnerving to discover drunk boys wandering the corridor - they are usually harmless, but why should I have to put up with strangers in what is my home - no other

<sup>119</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 35.

<sup>120</sup> Brown, M. (1986) 'Campus lark investigated', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 May 1968. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>121</sup> Burchell, D. (1986) 'Campus complaint', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 May 1986. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

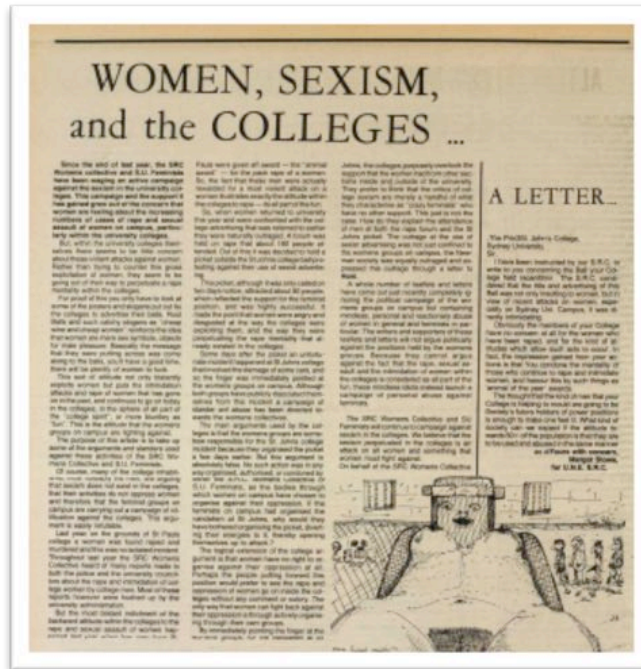
<sup>122</sup> Laurie, G. (1990) 'College potential', *Honi Soit*, no. 10, p. 19.



household has to put up with intruders. If these boys were invited why are they wandering the corridors instead of being in someone's room?"<sup>123</sup>

2 March 1991

Federal Police question two St Andrew's students, who are wearing black robes and "holding bricks aloft" at Sydney Airport's international terminal, as part of a fresher ritual.<sup>124</sup>



1991

Groups of St Andrew's men are regularly seen running naked through Women's College.

St Andrew's students run naked through the city following a sporting victory.

A St Andrew's student is hit by a car and killed at 3am, while drunk with other college students outside a local pub. Following the funeral, the St Andrew's students commiserate with a keg.

St Andrew's College principal describes throwing up competitions including a Bachelor of Inebriation ceremony where students must consume 15 drinks without urinating.

St Andrew's hazing is described by the Principal:

<sup>123</sup> Catanziriti, T. (1990) 'Not just a boarding home', *Honi Soit*, no. 14, p. 3.

<sup>124</sup> No author (1991) 'Column 8', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 March 1991. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

“Each fresher in turn is stood up in front of the student body (most of whom are drunk by this time) and interrogated on his background, his personal idiosyncrasies, his first sexual experience, and so on...The remaining humiliation is communal. The freshers are all crammed into a narrow corridor with their gowns over their heads and subjected to various forms of abuse. This can get out of hand, if, for example, a fresher is asthmatic or a sophomore is aggressively drunk.”<sup>125</sup>

**1992**

The confidential St Paul’s magazine, *Yakai*, is published in *Honi Soit*. Contents include:

- The *Yakai* "freshers' report" congratulates a student for "taking out the dual crown, i.e. the two most repulsive, smelly creatures from Women's".
- "The words 'lick my bag' became a familiar catch-cry and were immortalised at Women's."
- “I’d like to be a woman for a day so I could feel what a female orgasm was like. Then I’d be f\*\*\*ed in the head for a day.”
- A page headed: "Worried about gays in college? ... The *Yakai* Guide to Phantoms, Footyheads and Faggots is here to help" gives "tips for all you struggling queens - how to snare a straight boy."

**20 February 1993**

The word ‘misogyny’ is spray painted on the entrance to St Paul’s College, and ‘enter the halls of misogyny’ on St Andrew’s. Women’s College residents state that “college women have put up with sexism and harassment from college men for years but it has been cloaked in silence.”

“Women's College has to have male postgraduates on duty as security guards with walkie-talkies to stop drunken college men coming in after college sporting dinners.”<sup>126</sup>

**3 March 1993**

A chalked message on campus read “Have you been raped lately? Come to the biggest bang. St Paul’s College Formal”. Another letter printed the same day is from a woman who states that she was assaulted on St John’s oval by drunken John’s men.<sup>127</sup>

<sup>125</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 43.

<sup>126</sup> Williams, G. (1993) 'Campus battlelines', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 20 February 1993. [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>127</sup> Neil, J. (1993) Letter to the editor. *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 March 1993. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]; Carter, W. (1993) Letter to the editor. *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 March 1993. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<b>15 March 1993</b>	St Andrew's advertises their annual informal with slogans such as "ride them home and drop your load" and "buck your girl". <sup>128</sup>
<b>4 April 1993</b>	Twenty Wesley College residents march naked onto the University Oval during a rugby union match, where they play for ten minutes before performing the Haka. <sup>129</sup>
<b>1993</b>	The St Andrew's Songbook is publicly released. It includes sexist, homophobic and racist chants. <sup>130</sup>
<b>April 1994</b>	Principal of St Andrew's College states "the College is an anachronism, and it is becoming an increasingly offensive anachronism...It has the potential to be a great institution - academically, educationally, morally. But as it is I am becoming reluctant to admit that I am connected with it." <sup>131</sup>
<b>7 August 2001</b>	A resident of Women's College describes the treatment of her friend, Daniel, a resident at St Paul's College who dared to speak out against "barbaric" initiation rituals and misogyny at the College. He reported being hissed at whenever he entered the dining room and violently threatened on a regular basis, staying at Women's College for days at a time to escape the constant harassment. <sup>132</sup>
<b>2006</b>	St Andrew's residents advertise their formal with the slogan "More Moles, More Holes." <sup>133</sup>
<b>2007</b>	A senior St Paul's student sends a message to all first year "fresher" students encouraging them to attend the annual Jazz Dinner Dance (JDD).  <i>Dear College Men,</i>

<sup>128</sup> Hooker, C. (1993) 'Retaliation', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 March 1993. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>129</sup> Sutton, C. (1993) 'Different ball game', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 April 1993. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>130</sup> See chapter 5.5 of this report.

<sup>131</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 132-33

<sup>132</sup> Anonymous (2001) 'Unholy Trinity', *Tharunka*, no. 2, p. 39.

<sup>133</sup> Millbank, J. (2006) 'Sexism rife', *Honi Soit*, Week 12, Semester 2 edition, p. 5.

*In less than twenty-four hours the 2007 JDD kicks off in the Quad. As anyone who has ever gone to the JDD will know, it the best formal night of the year. In fact in my fresher year my date even purchased a new pair of breasts for the occasion.[...] So this year almost every gentleman has purchased a ticket - they KNOW how good it is. By purchasing a ticket these men will not sleep cold tomorrow night. [...] This is the type of event at which a College girl dreams of losing her virginity. [...] So get your hands off it and come along. Don't miss out, its worth mortgaging your fresher Alley room.*<sup>134</sup>

**2008**

St Andrew's students promote their "Drewtopia" dance with slogans such as "\$3 beer and \$0 girls" along with vulgar sketches of vaginas.<sup>135</sup>

**9 November 2009**

Students associated with St Paul's students set up a "pro-rape" Facebook page, describing themselves as "anti-consent".<sup>136</sup>

**10 November 2009**

Fairfax reported that a review conducted by the NSW Anti Discrimination Board in 2000 recommended that residential colleges be covered by the university's harassment policy, but the recommendation had still not been implemented.<sup>137</sup>

**2010**

A college musical revue number is cancelled after students planned to sing, "Always look on the bright side of rape".<sup>138</sup>

**March 2012**

33 St John's students are suspended after a fresher girl was hospitalized and almost died after being forced to drink a toxic concoction during O week.<sup>139</sup> Former St

<sup>134</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) "Rooting', 'slaying' and 'harpooning' women: sexism at elite St Paul's college exposed', *news.com.au*, 31 May 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/rooting-slaying-and-harpooning-women-sexism-at-elite-st-pauls-college-exposed/news-story/9f20570a9c9ca70b1ecc44706c22d09f>> [Accessed 2 January 2017]

<sup>135</sup> Email correspondence obtained by EROC Australia.

<sup>136</sup> Pollard, R. (2009) 'Elite college students proud of 'pro-rape' Facebook page', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 9 November 2009. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/technology/elite-college-students-proud-of-prorape-facebook-page-20091108-i3js.html>> [Accessed 27 December 2017]

<sup>137</sup> Pollard, R. (2009) 'University failed to act on allegations of sexual assault', *Sydney Morning Herald*, DATE. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>138</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) "Rooting', 'slaying' and 'harpooning' women: sexism at elite St Paul's college exposed', *news.com.au*, 31 May 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/rooting-slaying-and-harpooning-women-sexism-at-elite-st-pauls-college-exposed/news-story/9f20570a9c9ca70b1ecc44706c22d09f>> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

<sup>139</sup> Duff, E. 'Inside a uni drinking scandal', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 March 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/tertiary-education/inside-a-uni-drinking-scandal-20120317-1vc26.html>> [Accessed 10 January 2018]

John's student, Zoe Arnold, describes traditions where male students set their pubic hair on fire; leave faeces around the college and force young students to do laps of the pool, then shots, then more laps, then eat raw eggs and so on until they vomit.

#### **6 November 2012**

Fairfax reports that seven men who were among 33 suspended after female student almost died during O'Week are known as "The Untouchables" at St John's. The seven have taken all but two student leadership positions - including the top three leadership roles of president, secretary and treasurer. After being allowed to return to the college, "they labelled themselves "the Justice Group", got t-shirts printed with the slogan "Year of Justice", which features the college's symbol - an eagle - vomiting. St John's students have rampaged across campus, leaving faeces in fresher's rooms, and smashing windows and doors. They also set fire to a college sofa outside the rector's office window."<sup>140</sup>

#### **7 November 2012**

After stepping down from the St John's College council, Professor Roslyn Arnold urges parents not to send their children to John's until the culture is changed.<sup>141</sup>

#### **8 November 2012**

University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor, Michael Spence, calls on the state government to review the acts of parliament which allow St John's, St Andrew's, St Paul's and Wesley to be self-governed. Earlier in the week, Spence said "he would have reservations about sending his own children to a college within the university after Fairfax Media exposed serious behaviour problems at St John's College."<sup>142</sup>

#### **17 November 2012**

Stubby holders bearing the words "it's not rape if it's my birthday" are distributed among students at Wesley College. Women complain of being groped, catcalled and made the subject of lewd graffiti.<sup>143</sup>

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<sup>140</sup> Duff, E., Armitage, C. (2012) 'Meet the pride of St John's – the Untouchables', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/meet-the-pride-of-st-johns--the-untouchables-20121105-28u8d.html>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

<sup>141</sup> Arnold, R. (2012) 'Until there is change, don't be a Johnsman', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-opinion/until-there-is-change-dont-be-a-johnsman-20121106-28w1t.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>142</sup> Ralston, N. (2012) 'Time to reform all colleges – uni chief', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 8 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/time-to-reform-all-colleges--uni-chief-20121107-28ylt.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>143</sup> Alexander, H. (2012) 'Student tells of college rape joke and groping', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/student-tells-of-college-rape-joke-and-groping-20121116-29hj9.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]



**28 March 2013**

Wesley College investigates excessive drinking, hazing and sexism after an undercover story by *Cleo* magazine. According to the magazine, first-year women students were told to skol alcohol and sit on the ground, while male residents stood on table around them screaming insults. Other allegations included: sexually aggressive male “mentors” from various colleges pressuring women to kiss male peers, a female student forced to roll around in milk on the ground until she was in tears, a female student who was told to have a wet t-shirt at all times, and another who was pressured to have two shots of tequila before breakfast.<sup>144</sup>

**10 May 2016**

The ‘Rackweb’ appears in a Wesley College yearbook. The Rackweb documents who students have slept with. The yearbook refers to women residents as “hoes” and “bitches”. In one section, Freshers are defined “primarily for... [their] willingness to put out for their seniors” and for “enabling all the hook-ups a sleazy, pussy-hungry adolescent could dream of.”<sup>145</sup>

**14 May 2016**

Wesley College refuses to provide the name of the student or students responsible for the Rackweb to the university.<sup>146</sup>

**16 May 2016**

University of Sydney students protest outside Wesley College, calling for disciplinary action to be taken against those responsible for the publication of the ‘RackWeb’.<sup>147</sup>

**18 May 2016**

Former St Andrew’s resident, Kendra Murphy, tells *The Sydney Morning Herald* that she was raped following a college event, and that details of sexual encounters between students are announced over the PA system. The *Herald* also reveals that two



<sup>144</sup> McNeilage, A. (2013) ‘College to investigate magazine claims of harassment’, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 March 2013. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/college-to-investigate-magazine-claims-of-harassment-20130327-2gup6.html>> [Accessed 8 January 2018]

<sup>145</sup> Balakumar, A. (2016) ‘Exclusive: Wesley College ‘Rackweb’ slut-shames female students, calls them ‘bitches’ and ‘hoes’’, *Pulp Media*. Available online at <<http://www.usu.edu.au/News/EXCLUSIVE-Wesley-College-Rackweb-slut-shames-fem.aspx>> [accessed 10 October 2017]

<sup>146</sup> Bagshaw, E. & Balakumar, A. ‘Wesley College won’t hand over names of students to Sydney University’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 May 2016. Available online at <http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/wesley-college-wont-hand-over-names-of-students-to-sydney-university-20160513-goukip.html> [Accessed 10 December 2017]

<sup>147</sup> Brooks, E. (2016) ‘Protesters rally against editors of ‘RackWeb’ publication’, *The Huffington Post*, 16 May 2016. Available online at <[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2016/05/16/protesters-rally-against-editors-of-rackweb-publication\\_a\\_21377784/](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2016/05/16/protesters-rally-against-editors-of-rackweb-publication_a_21377784/)> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

St Andrew's students were expelled from the college after burning a gay pride flag.<sup>148</sup>

**20 May 2016**

ABC's 7.30 program reports that an investigation commissioned by University Colleges Australia finds that "drinking culture" at colleges is so "disturbing" that a national working group is set up to tackle the issue. St Andrew's College comes under fire for initiation rituals that award residents certificates for the amount of alcohol they can consume in one sitting, known as the "Bachelor of Inebriation".<sup>149</sup>

**24 May 2016**

*Honi Soit* reveals the USyd colleges raked in \$30 million in revenue in 2014. Further, St Paul's was the recipient of a collective \$2.12 million 'contribution' for their Graduate House from the University of Sydney.<sup>150</sup>

**8 July 2016**

A former resident of Wesley College tells *news.com.au* of hazing, bullying and assault at the College, including: being pinned to the floor by fellow residents and having wine poured in her mouth, her room being broken into and trashed, her belongings being thrown from her bedroom balcony and "horrific messages" being scrawled on her mirror. Nicknames were given to new students, including "Fresher Mullet", which was given to the girl deemed ugliest, while a male resident was named "Fresher Bubblegum" which meant that people would stick their chewing gum in his hair, resulting in the student shaving his head. During O'Week, an event named "the bait cruise" was held where a fresher girl was chosen by third or second year students as their "bait" for the night.

A former St John's College resident reported leaving the College after a year, due to hazing and an excessive binge drinking culture.<sup>151</sup>

<sup>148</sup> Bagshaw, E. (2016) 'St Andrew's College at University of Sydney in 'ritualistic humiliation' controversy', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-andrews-college-at-university-of-sydney-in-ritualistic-humiliation-controversy-20160518-goxu16.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>149</sup> Whyte, S. (2016) 'St Andrew's university college initiation ritual 'out of control', student reveals', *ABC News*, 20 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-20/st-andrews-university-college-initiation-ritual-out-of-control/7429824>> [Accessed 27 December 2017]

<sup>150</sup> Ergas, D. (2016) 'How do USyd colleges make and spend their money?', *Honi Soit*, 24 May 2016. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2016/05/how-do-usyd-colleges-make-and-spend-their-money/>> [Accessed 12 December 2017]

<sup>151</sup> Lambert, O. (2016) 'Sydney University's colleges have a toxic culture that has forced some students out', *news.com.au*, 8 July 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/sydney-universitys-colleges-have-a-toxic-culture-that-has-forced-some-students-out/news-story/173fdd28b2a6c57261ed1843d79a2025>> [Accessed 12 December 2017]

<b>18 November 2016</b>	<i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> reports that St Paul's College is refusing to take part in the Elizabeth Broderick review, triggered earlier in the year by student and media reports of sexual misbehaviour and "slut-shaming". <sup>152</sup>
<b>31 May 2017</b>	St Paul's College residents come under fire for another sexist post on social media. A post on the 'St Paul's 2017' Facebook page reads:  <i>"G'Day Lads, If you ever want to get rid of some chick who either (a) won't leave your room after a root in the morning or (b) if you've harpooned a whale and she's taking the whole bed preventing all chances of sleep, I'll be there with a purposeful c--kblock to rescue you. Simply message me the code word "argh" and your room number and I'll be there with a well thought-out lie (terrifying lump on penis, broken foot or personal emergency) which requires your immediate assistance and her immediate exit. Happy Slaying."</i> <sup>153</sup>
<b>31 May 2017</b>	Students from Women's College, St John's College, and Wesley College boycott a social event at St Paul's following the sexist Facebook post. <sup>154</sup>
<b>31 May 2017</b>	University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor, Michael Spence says that St Paul's has a "deep contempt for women". <sup>155</sup>
<b>2 June 2017</b>	Just days after more negative media coverage, and seven months after originally announcing it would boycott it, St Paul's College requests to join a "culture review"

<sup>152</sup> Munro, K. (2016) 'St Paul's College boycotting Elizabeth Broderick review into college culture', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 November 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/st-pauls-college-boycotting-elizabeth-broderick-review-into-college-culture-20161117-gsrfq7.html>> [Accessed 12 December 2017]

<sup>153</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) "Rooting', 'slaying' and 'harpooning' women: sexism at elite St Paul's college exposed", *news.com.au*, 31 May 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/rooting-slaying-and-harpooning-women-sexism-at-elite-st-pauls-college-exposed/news-story/9f20570a9c9ca70b1ecc44706c22d09f>> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

<sup>154</sup> Landis-Hanley, J. (2017) 'Residential colleges to boycott St Paul's event in light of sexist comments', *Honi Soit*, 31 May 2017. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2017/05/residential-colleges-to-boycott-st-pauls-event-in-light-of-sexist-comments/>> [Accessed 20 January 2018]

<sup>155</sup> Singhal, P. (2017) 'St Paul's has deep contempt for women: Sydney University's vice-head Michael Spence', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 31 May 2017. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-pauls-has-deep-contempt-for-women-sydney-universitys-vicehead-michael-spence-20170531-gwggw47.html>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

being undertaken by former Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick.<sup>156</sup>

### 3 June 2017

Further details of past hazing at St Paul's College emerge, including "freshers" being thrashed with thongs, and a ritual known as "outward bound/inward bound" where first year students are "auctioned off" to older students who abandon them in random locations, forcing them to make their way home with no money. A former resident states that the hazing was so brutal that he eventually dropped out of university and attempted suicide.

It is reported that Stuart Kelly, the younger brother of Thomas Kelly who was killed by a coward's punch, lasted just one night at St Paul's College in 2016. It is not known what initiation rituals he faced in the 18 hours he was at the College, but he left distressed and those who knew him say was never the same. He took his own life in July 2016.<sup>157</sup>

### August 2017

Jean-Claude Perrottet, the younger brother of a NSW Liberal MP goes on trial for the alleged rape of a student at St John's College. He is subsequently found not guilty.

### February 2018

Release of The Red Zone Report.

<sup>156</sup> Triple J Hack (2017) 'We need to address unacceptable culture': St Paul's College asks to join sexism review', *Triple J Hack*, 2 June 2017. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/triplej/programs/hack/st-pauls-college-asks-to-join-sexism-review/8584636>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>157</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) 'Exclusive: 'They pissed in my bed' – vicious hazing at elite St Paul's College exposed', *news.com.au*, 3 June 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/exclusive-they-pissed-in-my-bed-vicious-hazing-at-elite-st-pauls-college-exposed/news-story/ef422cd6a6691a4ac1cd1f12b865ba97>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

# 4. CASE STUDIES

## 4.1. CASE STUDY: KENDRA MURPHY

In July 2014, Kendra Murphy, then age 19, was a student at St Andrew's College. She was in her first year of an Arts degree, majoring in theatre/performance and gender studies. On the night of the 28th of July, she attended a Valedictorian dinner, an event celebrating a sporting team's victory. On this night, she remembers the dinner, having a few drinks in a friend's room, and nothing else. When she awoke the next morning she was not in her clothes and had a large hickey or bruise on her neck.



Kendra then received multiple messages from other students telling her she had “fucked Peter\*”. Kendra was laughed at and her concerns over the situation were dismissed by fellow students. A third-year student

who had witnessed the events of the previous evening contacted Kendra intimating that something more sinister had occurred. Kendra then deduced from this witness, and her bodily evidence, that she had been raped by a senior student.

Kendra reported the incident to college officials. The matter was investigated but Peter was not found to be responsible for any sexual misconduct. (Peter was eventually temporarily suspended, not for sexual assault, but for spreading sexual information without someone's consent).

Two years later, spurred on by media accounts of the rape culture still rampant at the USyd colleges, Kendra spoke out to the media, first through the USyd student publication *Honi Soit*, and later through the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Triple J's Hack*, and *Marie Claire*. Several other news outlets also picked up the story.

“College culture is widespread and manipulative and toxic,” says Kendra.

“It's like an emotionally abusive partner... you feel like you hold power and are making decisions of your own free will but there is an unspoken pressure to adhere and perform as you should, and if you do not meet these expectations, you will be ostracised.”



“The drinking is disgusting, waking up in the morning and not remembering something is [seen as] ‘normal’ and ‘funny’. Not remembering sex is [also considered] ‘normal’ and ‘funny,’” says Kendra.

“All sexual exploits are everyone’s business and if you say the gossiping or the jokes make you upset then you are not a ‘team player’. College always spouts that you have the ability to say ‘no’ to anything, but it ignores the powerful power dynamics at play between men and women; older students and younger students. There’s also no queer life or representation at all but that’s a whole other thing.”

Kendra says that O-week rituals were particularly degrading.

“I ended up in tears on my final night [of O week] and so did many other people. [We were] forced to crawl up and then down three flights of stairs in our academic robes holding onto the heels of the person in front of us. We were hot and drunk and dehydrated. [We were also] forced to carry a brick around all of the first week of uni, otherwise you would be shouted at in public and forced to sing a song.

Another tradition was called ‘Walkabout’: “We were split into teams and forced to crawl like sheep and then older students voted on if they wanted to ‘buy’ us to drop us into the middle of nowhere with no money or phone to hitchhike our way back.”

Other incidents included:

- Female students having their shirts ripped off during party nights without consent;
- A male student being forced to perform oral sex on a sex worker during a ‘boys club’ night;
- A tradition known as "buffets", where students’ sexual exploits were announced over the college PA system.

Kendra feels that more should have been done following her own assault.

“There should have been more of a duty of care to me. A tokenistic punishment was offered and I was silenced. I was 19, I had already broken [with] the status quo by opening up an investigation. To take it to the police with no support would have been hellish. The college said all the right things, but at the end of the day they went through the motions and decided it was a ‘he-said-she-said’ event, and [that the] ‘he said’ side was louder.”

Kendra says she feels she was not believed, supported, or encouraged to go to police, as she thinks she should have been.

“[I felt like I was treated as] a student with the ability to ruin the college’s reputation and not like a 19-year-old victim who wanted support and wanted to be believed.

“The assault was kept quiet because I was embarrassed and wanted to move on. When I spoke up I received many messages from college students. I would say 50% were amazing and supportive and apologetic, and the other 50% were manipulative or just downright disgusting. Some said things like, ‘if you had have told us you weren’t having fun we would have supported you’, ignoring the fact that that’s just not how college works. And some were as blatant as ‘you’re ruining the reputation of this great institution and the people that go and thrive there because of one bad apple’, completely ignoring the fact that he is part of the insular problem that makes dismantling college so impossible. The people that thrive will never understand how horrible it really can be.”

Kendra says she wanted to speak out to the media about her assault because she had only ever heard of people anonymously coming forward in relation to sexual assault.

“I wanted to put a face and story to the cause because I’m passionate about getting the colleges dismantled. I wanted to open the discourse again after it so often got wiped under the rug [following news reports]. I was hoping that if there was a real person with a real story attached to the cause, it was less likely to be swept under the rug and ignored as it had so often before.”

Following her experience, Kendra now believes that the colleges should be disbanded or turned into affordable housing for students: “Shut them down...I’d say a total revamp of the culture is a) a little too late, and b) not going to erase the power structures that are so entrenched and make the place so dangerous.”

Kendra says she was not contacted by the Broderick & Co review despite her story being a significant catalyst for the review.

Kendra is now in her final semester of her degree, and is heavily involved in performing and producing experimental theatre. Kendra is hopeful that in speaking out, her voice will make a positive impact on the lives of others.

**\*Name has been changed**

## 4.2. CASE STUDY: JUSTINE LANDIS-HANLEY

In May 2016, USYD College resident and student journalist, Justine Landis-Hanley wrote an article for *Honi Soit* which described, in detail, the sexism and sexual assault which was allegedly occurring at USYD colleges. The ‘whistleblower’ piece was widely shared and discussed online. Following the publication of that article Justine faced extreme backlash and ostracism within her college for having exposed the college system to criticism. This is her story of that backlash.



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“One of the big pieces I wrote for *Honi* this year was entitled “Combatting College Culture”. Towards the start of the year, I was contacted by a number of college students telling me stories of sexism and discrimination within the University’s residential colleges. I was the SRC Residential College Office Bearer, and a second year college resident myself at Sancta Sophia. College was a complete sanctuary for me: I had lost my Mother suddenly in 2014, and up until that point, College had given me the feeling of home I thought I’d lost forever.

The night [that Aparna Balakumars Rackweb report] broke, a former college student turned up at my door, telling me that I needed to show people this behaviour was not sensationalist, it was not confined to one institution or set of students, that it was part of an entrenched culture behind sandstone walls. By the end of the week, several former college students had got in contact to tell their stories for the first time, most of them asking to be quoted under different names because they knew the effect these confessions would have on their wellbeing. Over the course of 48 hours I typed out a piece that pulled these experiences together, and tried [...] to analyse how such a culture was cultivated. I went back and forth as to whether I should publish the piece, what implications it would have for my home, my friends, myself. The piece featured in the pages of *Honi* that week.

I had prepared myself for a fallout. I thought that the piece might be picked up by one or two publications in the wake of previous media attention. I couldn’t anticipate the impact it would have.

It made headlines in the Australian, Junkee, Pedestrian, Daily Mail, Buzzfeed...I was called into the Vice-Chancellor’s Office (thinking I was in trouble), and was told that he had wanted an article like this to be published so he could finally convince all of the college to make change.... I was told progress would be slow, but I had started something.

I just want to clarify that I didn’t believe any of that praise. My article wasn’t achieving anything on its own - any piece that covers sexual assault or any historically entrenched issue is only made possible by the work

that was conducted before it. If it weren't for years of articles about sexual assault and harassment within the colleges, the students I talked to may not have been willing to come forward with their stories, or have been able to recognise how wronged they were.

However, what I definitely could not have prepared for (despite thinking I had) was the fallout within my own college. I knew the kids from other colleges would be mad that I had exposed bad practice. But I had written nothing about my college - no one had come to me with a negative story [about my own college], and I had no intention of using my writing as a way to give my experiences a platform. That wasn't the point of this article.

There were some people at college who I knew supported me. In addition, the College staff [at my own college] were incredibly positive towards the article and the action I had taken and I will never be able to thank them enough. But many of the people I lived with were noticeably upset...Some of the [students] were being made uncomfortable by their peers at other colleges over my actions. One girl went to the University Gym in her [college branded] shirt to have a bunch of students from another college tell her she wasn't allowed to be there.

Other heads of college [in Australia] came after me [and] slammed the article. The comments thread on my article was full of vitriol and mocking tags.

"I would sit down at dinner to have whole tables of people turn away from me. People in the hallways refused to make eye contact when I said 'hi'. People would talk about me behind my back, and yet the rumours had an awful way of finding their way back to me. People said that I did it for attention, that I did it to make [my own college] seem better than every other college. I never said anything about any of this because I understood where they were coming from."

One thing that oddly got to me the most was having my door defaced. At college, people often decorate each other's doors. One of my best friends had stuck Snapchat pictures of me she had saved from last year all over my door as a cute surprise on my birthday in February. The day the article went out, I came home to find one of them missing. Every week onwards in semester 1, one would be taken down. I found myself feeling incredibly low. On top of all the rest, I felt like scum.

I knew I hadn't done a bad thing, but I was made to feel like I did. I didn't feel safe on campus. I didn't feel safe at home.

I remember I came back to my room one night, feeling like I had thrown away my one chance at having home again, took out a razor, and ran it down my palms until they bled.

I can't explain this means of escape other than I just wanted to have control over the pain being inflicted on me. I would go to uni with bandages under my long sleeved shirts. I hid the pain from as many people as I could. I wanted to appear strong.

In second semester I came back to college thinking that it was all finally over, that everyone would have forgotten their hatred for the piece, and their hatred of me.

But every night of the first week I went back, another picture was taken from my door, until there was one left. It's not that I cared about those little pieces of paper people stole. What hurt so much was the fact that people I lived with, whom I had come to think of as my family, would purposely try to make me feel like shit. They were trying, albeit in a pretty pathetic and cowardly way, to run me out of my home.

That weekend, I took the last picture down myself. I was taken to hospital that night for being suicidal.

I've come to accept that things will never be the same. Some people still don't look at me, or say 'hi' like they used to.

I have found myself retreat from the place I used to love more than anywhere else in the world."

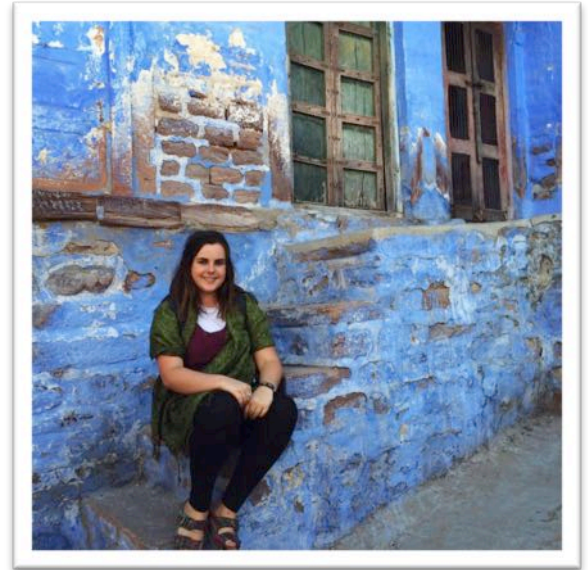
Justine has moved out of college and is now a casual columnist for *The Sydney Morning Herald*.



## 4.3. CASE STUDY: GABRIELLE LYNCH

Gabrielle (Gabbie) attended St John's College at the University of Sydney between 2016 and 2017. Having grown up in Newcastle, Gabbie knew little about the college until she commenced her residency.

"I first learnt about the college during a university open day. I thought it was so beautiful and I fell in love. It had such a sense of history. But I had no idea about the reputation of the USyd colleges. I had never even heard of St John's and certainly didn't know anything about the 2012 scandal. I didn't go to a private school, so I was quite naive about all of it and what to expect."



During Orientation week the freshers were each given a fresher name. "I was called Fresher White Knight, because my last name is 'Lynch'. Some names do stick like "Fresher squirter" or "Fresher Tampon" or "Fresher Chode".

Gabbie says that during Orientation fresher students were forced to sit cross legged on the filthy ground in the college bar, The An Dail for hours on end.

"Anyone caught talking would be yelled at and forced to skol alcohol".

Later that week Gabbie, during a college O Week event, Gabbie became intoxicated. She passed out in her room but awoke to find three men, including two men believed to be former St John's students, in her room. Gabbie did not know how they had gained entry into her room or what their intentions were.

"It was terrifying. I felt so unsafe in my own room, it was a real intrusion".

When Gabbie complained about finding strange men in her room, she says she was told to be "grateful" that she had one of the better rooms in the college.

Throughout 2016 Gabbie and the other freshers underwent a series of other initiation rituals and traditions, culminating in a final initiation ritual at the end of the year.

"All the male and female freshers were locked in the unisex bathrooms. We were then completely doused with buckets of dead rotting fish. It was revolting and it stunk."

Gabbie says that this sort of hazing is how the college student hierarchy is maintained.

“There is a sense among the older students of ‘we had to be at the bottom... I had to experience that and now so will you’.”

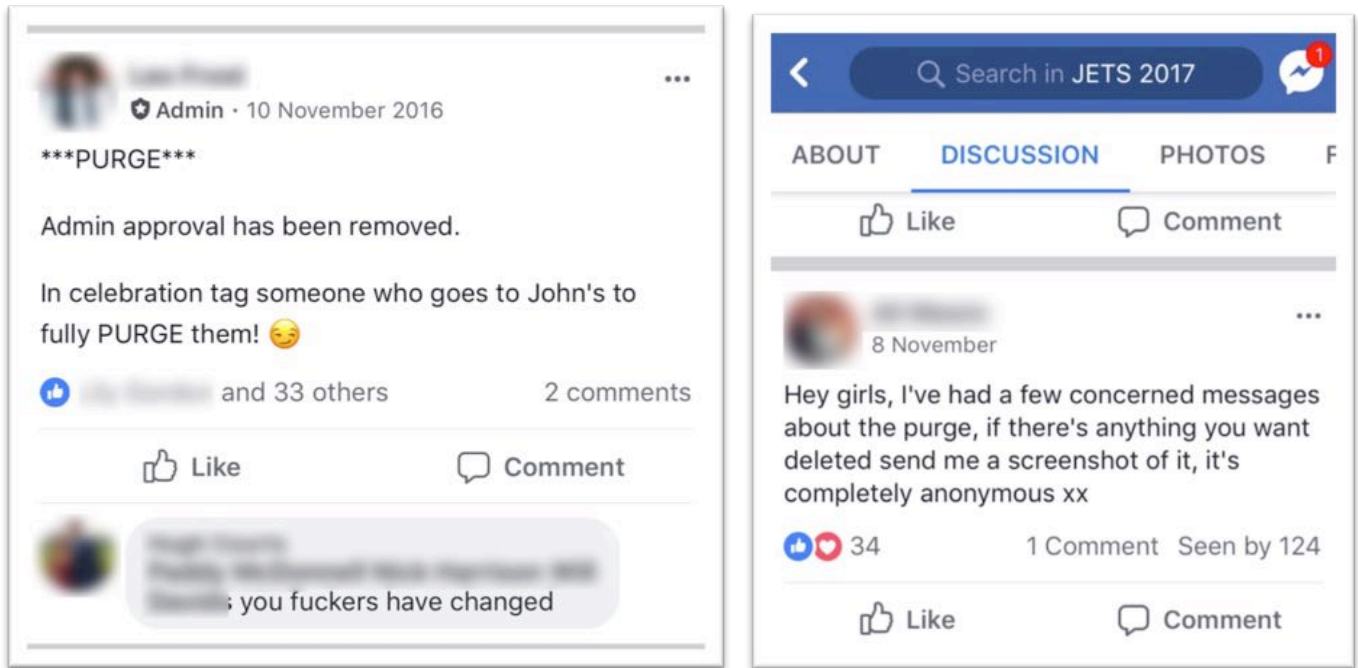
The hierarchy is embedded throughout multiple aspects of the college experience, down to seating arrangements at meals, where freshers are divided from sophomores and seniors.

Other traditions and rituals which were held throughout the two years Gabbie attended St John’s include:

- **Green Goblin:** a tradition held in the first few weeks of Semester 1, where returning ‘Goblins’ (a select group of 2nd year male students) select a fresher ‘Goblin’ (a male first year male student). The Goblins are then taken on a drinking bender and covered in green paint as an initiation. In 2017 the Goblins returned to the college and tried to bash down the doors of girls. One female student was rushed to hospital and received stitches after her face was split open, when her bedroom door was bashed in by a goblin. Graphic photos of the girl show her eyebrow split open.
- **Pony Club:** a girl’s night in, where the girls dress in horse riding gear and play drinking games while watching a male stripper
- **Fishing Club:** A boy’s night in with various drinking games and initiations
- **Lock-ins in the An Dail:** students who run the college bar have “Drink the bar dry” events
- **Boy Roo Courts:** the various male sporting teams at the college will have end of season drinking sessions in which they are required to reveal details of all the girls they have slept with
- **Girl Roo Courts:** the various female sporting teams will have end of season drinking sessions where they play a game called ‘Fresher Goss’. Each girl has to confess a secret or piece of gossip about another girl at the college. If people are already familiar with that piece of gossip, the girl who shared it will have to skol alcohol and then come up with a different piece of gossip that people are unfamiliar with.
- **Soap Box:** Touch rugby players have to kneel down in front of the other team players and start their story with the line “So there I was...” and begin providing information about a girl they have slept with. Sometimes they physically re-enact it.
- **The Purge:** Once a year, in November, the students hold an event on the college’s closed Facebook group called The Purge. Students are encouraged to ‘purge’ any embarrassing or humiliating photos or screenshots of others at the college.
- **Heavyweight:** During the 2016 Purge, it emerged that men in the college had sent snapchat screenshots of themselves holding the underwear or bra of girls after they had allegedly slept with them, along with a caption such as “The reigning heavyweight champion” or simply “Heavyweight”.
- **Impromptus:** before formal dinners, students have to give impromptu accounts of their sex lives.
- **Meniscus Master:** At the AGM at the beginning of the year, second or third year male students are nominated for Meniscus master- usually red heads. The male students have to stand up in front of the college and set their public hair on fire. Whoever lasts the longest becomes the meniscus captain. Meniscus is the college term for cordial. There are lots of rules around cordial consumption such as that you have to drink out of your right hand. If students are caught breaking the rules, students hiss and the Meniscus Master can pour cordial all over the head of the offending student.

- **Two Man wrestling:** Following formal dinner on Monday nights, two male fresher students will be selected by the student leaders for a wrestling match. The boys are stripped to their underwear and fight until one of the boys breaks the other’s underwear. Witnesses – who often chant- have also been injured during these matches, including girls who have been hit in the face or had their heads knocked against walls. Cameras in the college are covered with cloth items.

All of these, excluding Heavyweight, reportedly occurred in 2017.



Students discussing the purge in 2016, 2017. **Source:** Facebook

Gabbie says that the sexism is deeply embedded within the culture and that there is a hyper masculine feel to the place. “The guys play cricket in the corridors, they will do nudie runs through the college. They damage property and do really disgusting things like leave faeces on the floor in the bathroom or on the toilet seat. One time a poo was left outside a girl’s bedroom. Also the bathrooms are co-ed and the boys often don’t close the door when they are going to the toilet. They will pee on the seat.”

“The gym is also very masculine. Girls don’t go there, they would only go there if they were with a guy who they trusted. I went once, with a friend, but once three other guys came in I didn’t feel comfortable and just left.”

St John’s College has been co-educational since 2001, but Gabbie says that it will take several generations for women to be on equal footing.

“The reality is that even if 50% of the residents are female, the student leadership positions go to the men. All the portraits around the college are of male faces, and the guys will say things to you like ‘I’m a fourth generation Johnsmen’.

“None of our mums went to John’s because it wasn’t co-ed then, so we are all first generation. There’s a big power imbalance because of that. We’re just not part of that ‘old boys committee’.”

Gabbie says that while the media often focuses on sexual assaults, the daily sexism is far more pervasive. In a tradition known as ‘No Jets Friday’ the Johnmen treat all the girls as though they don’t exist, refusing to make eye contact or speak to them. (The female students at St John’s are collectively called ‘Jets’ which is an acronym for “Just excuse the slag”.)



Image: Photos published during The Purge of men engaging in Heavy Weight challenge. **Source:** Facebook

This generalised misogyny expresses itself in other ways too. In 2017 the fresher boys made a pact of stacking the student committee election by up-voting men and down-voting women. This ensured that the

all the top leadership positions went to men. The move angered the female students who have since formed a collective to discuss the entrenched sexism within the college.

“Going to St John’s was the first time in my life where I felt I couldn’t do something because of my gender,” says Gabbie.

“The guys do things like rate the girls on their attractiveness. In fact right from L-week, which occurs before O week, the older students will Facebook lurk the incoming freshers to assess how hot they are and also to assign them Fresher names.”

“There is sexism but there is also a real gender double standard, and it extends into other areas of college life too,” says Gabbie.



For example, the female college students are expected to attend the men’s sporting competition (Rawson cup) yet the boys rarely extend the same level of support to the girls sporting competition (Rosebowl cup) and when they do they will often shout abuse at the girls from opposing college.

“It’s awful. Guys from all the colleges will be yelling at the women athletes calling them fat and making comments. It’s sledging but they will target specific people and the umpires don’t stop it. It’s considered tit-for-tat between the colleges. St Andrew’s are particularly vicious. The [St John’s] team captain will spend the whole season preparing you for the sledging at the St Andrew’s match.”

Like drinking, sport is integral to college culture and students are expected to attend and barrack.

“You’re often expected to attend up to three or four [sporting or cultural] events a week at college. Having uni work is not considered an excuse. It makes it hard to maintain friendships outside of college because all your time is spent on college things. It’s consuming. College is so demanding. I spent more time on college stuff than university stuff, time-wise.”

Gabbie says people who don’t participate as expected are called “myths” or “lemons” and that it affects which room they get allocated the following year.

“The more sports you play and participate in, the more ‘room points’ you get. At the end of the year the amount of room points you have determines which room you get next year.”



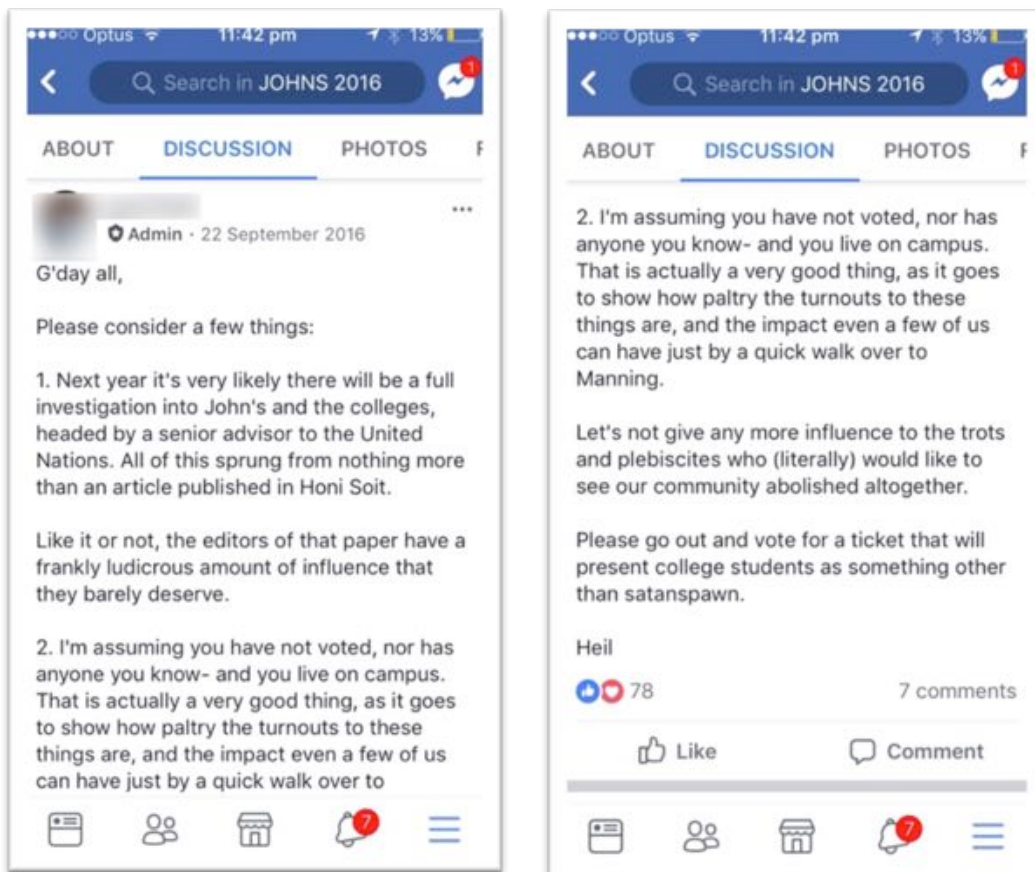
While the room point system might be designed to incentivize participation, over time it also means that college students spend less and less time interacting with the outside world, and this can isolate them from other networks of support.

It also contributes to the insularity of college culture, which Gabbie says makes it difficult for people still living at college to gain perspective on how distorted the culture can be. “When you’re in it, you just want to be part of it, so you don’t have the distance to see it. It’s once you leave the ‘bubble’ that you gain perspective.”

“But there’s a lot of strange things. The corridors at the college have names such as “Cougar Cage’, “Ghetto” and “The Pit”.

“There’s also a heavy culture of drinking. The parties have themes like toga theme, gender-benders (where students dress in drag), Aussie Legend’s Night, Fluoro parties and Hawaiian theme.

“We’re not supposed to talk about all this. We were told never to speak to media and if we ever see media out the front of college, to alert the college immediately. We were also told not to share or discuss articles about the Rackweb on social media.”



Facebook post encouraging students to vote for college Ticket. Ends with the word ‘Heil’.

Source: Facebook

Gabbie says the students were also warned about *Honi Soit*. “I remember I once walked into college carrying a copy of *Honi Soit* and it was like I was carrying the Communist Manifesto during the 1970s.”

In 2016 a coalition of college students from multiple colleges tried to usurp control of *Honi Soit*: “Each year students vote in the editorial team for *Honi*. So the colleges ran a ticket called ‘Time’ and tried to get elected so they could ensure no more negative press for the colleges.”

Gabbie participated in the Broderick & Co review but says that it was difficult to speak openly in group settings.

“I had a lot of issues with the focus groups. You couldn’t say anything because people who support the college would destroy you. How could you openly share your experience? It doesn’t give anyone the opportunity to really share. There was also a lot of pressure from senior students not to talk. It was clear we would be shunned.... I expected John’s to get fried in the report, but they actually came out looking like one of the best. I suspect that’s because people were too intimidated to speak up. They didn’t feel comfortable. You can’t stand out and say something because you will get targeted. I’m frustrated that it didn’t highlight the real issues within college culture, especially the sexist culture.”

Gabbie says she is speaking out now to “rattle and shake the alumni awake”.

Gabbie’s account is not unique. EROC Australia has also spoken with several other women still at the college who confirm the above traditions as well as former students who have established that these traditions date back years, and sometimes decades.

Journalist Zoe Arnold, who was part of the inaugural group of women at St John’s in 2001 has also written the following account of her time at college for *Mamamia*:

*I don’t exactly remember the moment I realised life at St John’s College wasn’t for me. Maybe it was after witnessing the spectacle of flaming “man-ginas”, where brutish young Johnians would set alight their pubic hair in front of a bellowing, chanting crowd as some kind of test of their manhood.*

*Maybe it was after watching the beautiful, heritage listed library being drowned in beer and then used as a slip ‘n’ slide as another drunken night in house got underway....*

*Binge drinking was only part of the problem at St John’s, and certainly not unique to that College. Other friends on campus told me of their drinking rituals, which involved swimming the length of a pool, downing a shot of alcohol, then swimming another length before eating something disgusting – a raw egg, or a dry Weetbix – the challenge was to see how long one could continue before vomiting. A former boss of mine was an Old Boy at another College, and gained the moniker “Toxic” – for the taste of his vomit. Not his judgement on contents of his stomach, but his fellow Collegiate mates who would drink enough to throw up, then taste each other’s sick. I’m sure their parents would be proud....*

*Don't get me wrong, I participated. I drank until I threw up and there are nights that are a fuzzy haze when I try and remember how I crawled home. But the endless drinking games, and pressure to be permanently wasted got boring and unimaginative. The culture of drinking, to be one of the boys, was constant. As were the overt attempts to make the women feel uncomfortable. Someone made the poor choice to keep our bathrooms unisex – fine in theory – but not great when you regularly walked in on one of your male collegiates emptying their bowels with the door of the cubicle wide open. It's funny, I never saw a woman doing the same, or changing a tampon in the open.*

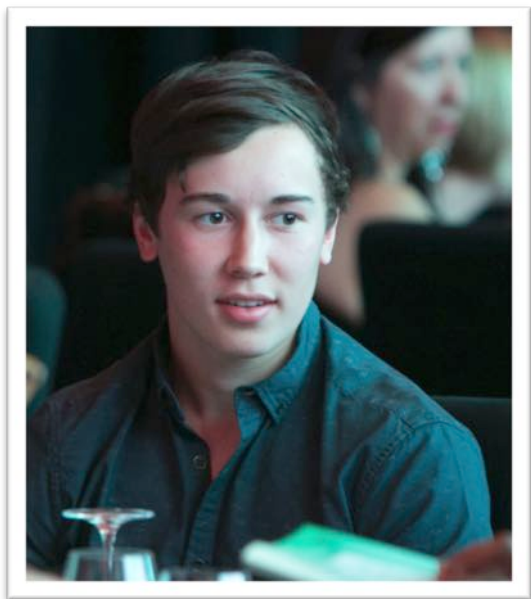
*The morbid fascination with faeces seemed to extend beyond the toilet; on several occasions I found a turd sitting proudly in the middle of a shower cubicle – clearly it wasn't put there by mistake. Or the hilarious ritual of boys pooing in each others shoes outside their bedroom doors in the dead of night – an hilarious surprise when you went to get ready the next day...I had some lovely friends at St John's: both men and women. But for me, I felt compelled to fit-in a culture that I didn't sit comfortably with, and when I'd had enough of drinking myself to near-death or when I questioned the animalistic bathroom habits of my fellow Johnians I felt like I was the odd one out.<sup>158</sup>*

Gabbie left St John's at the end of 2017 and will now complete her degree living in other accommodation.

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<sup>158</sup> <https://www.mamamia.com.au/binge-drinking-and-sexism-just-another-day-at-uni/>

## 4.4. CASE STUDY: STUART KELLY



In October 2015, Doctor Timothy F. Hawkes, the Headmaster of The King's School called Stuart Kelly "one of our most impressive young men, possessed of the capacity to lead, serve and to be a fine role model both inside and outside of the classroom". He praised Stuart for having achieved the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award and noted that The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme "can be a useful indicator as to the quality of a person" and that participating in the Scheme "enhances a variety of skills including initiative, endurance and the willingness to assist others". Stuart's Housemaster, Mr. Mansfield, noted that Stuart had served The King's School as a School Monitor, as Captain of Broughton Forrest House, as a Sergeant in the Cadet Corps and had represented the School in 5th XI Cricket and 5th XV Rugby. Mr. Mansfield

called Stuart "an outstanding young man" noting that he had "little doubt that he will thrive in his life outside The King's School". Stuart's teachers spoke highly of him in his final high school report, calling him "a fine young man", "a pleasure to teach", "a confident and highly capable young man" and "industrious and self-disciplined". By all accounts Stuart was an incredibly well liked, socially competent and adjusted young man who had the world at his feet.

This was all the more impressive as, tragically, when Stuart was 14 years old, his 18-year-old brother Thomas was assaulted in the Sydney nightclub district of Kings Cross by a stranger, and died in hospital two days later, on a Monday night. The 'one-punch' death received significant media coverage, and the O'Farrell state government later introduced the lock-out laws. After the sentencing of the man who assaulted Thomas in the Court of Criminal Appeal, Stuart spoke publicly to the media. He stated, "It's been difficult for me. I've watched my family suffer on a daily basis, trying to somehow regain anything in their lives. I want Thomas's short life to have some meaning in his death so we can see change, a new fresh start, one where I believe we should have respect for one another." Although it was clear that Thomas' death had a terrible impact on the Kelly family, Stuart continued to excel at school and achieve success in his academic, student leadership and sporting pursuits. He was well-liked and highly respected by both his peers and teachers.

After receiving an ATAR of 85 in the Higher School Certificate, Stuart was accepted to USyd and received a scholarship to reside at St Paul's College. His father, Ralph Kelly, said that after visiting St Paul's during USyd's Open Day early in 2015, Stuart had found his "home" for 2016, a place he could "relate to and start the next chapter in life". Stuart had been a boarder at The King's School, a place that had provided a supportive environment following the death of his older brother Thomas in 2012. St Paul's, it seemed,

would provide a similar “home” for Stuart as he transitioned from high school to university. As Kathy later reflected, Stuart would not have been shocked by aspects of college life like drinking and partying:

*He was familiar with the way young men and women drink. He had seen underage drinking over the years at school and am sure he was not naive in any way. He knew that young people drank, took drugs and many did numerous things that were outside the law.*

On Monday, February 22nd 2016, Stuart, accompanied by Kathy and Ralph, arrived at St Paul’s College. It was the beginning of Orientation Week at the College and parents of the residents were invited to join their sons and College staff for afternoon tea where the students were asked to sign a roll-book of ‘Paulines’ along with a disclaimer about Orientation week. The parents were then invited to stay on for dinner that evening. The Kellys recall the dinner as a pleasant one. Staff made a number of speeches, and the parents were assured that their sons would be well looked after.

Following the dinner, residents and their parents were invited to have a drink in the College bar, The Salisbury. The Kelly’s recall that alcohol was sold and that parents were encouraged put down a “tab” for their sons, so that they could purchase drinks in the coming weeks. Kathy started a tab of \$50.00 for Stuart, before parents were invited to leave at approximately 9:30 pm, while the residents were instructed to go change into the shorts and t-shirts they had been provided with for O’Week and return to their initiation. Ralph and Kathy left the College, feeling that their son would be safe and happy as he settled into his new life.

The following morning, February 23rd 2016, Stuart attempted to call his parents five times, beginning around 8:00 am. Ralph spoke to their son on one occasion, when Stuart informed his father that he had a headache, but didn’t say much more. Later analysis of his phone records show that these calls were made from Newtown and Camperdown. The Kelly’s were driving to Sydney University later that afternoon to take more of Stuart’s belongings to him, when he called two additional times. In the first call, Stuart asked his parents where they were and asked them to meet him outside of the University grounds. His mother replied telling him not to be silly, and that they would meet him at St Paul’s College, but Stuart refused and stated that he wasn’t at the College. Kathy asked where he was, and Stuart told her he would call back and ended the call. A few minutes later, around 3:45 pm, Stuart called again. He told his parents that he was at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Medical Centre and asked them to “come now”. The Kelly’s asked if he was okay, but Stuart did not answer, simply repeating his request that they pick him up as soon as possible.

When Kathy and Ralph arrived at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Medical Centre, they found Stuart sitting in the gutter, with his head in his hands. He got in the car and began sobbing, unable to speak. His parents had not seen Stuart cry since the day his older brother’s life support had been turned off.

“He didn’t cry at the funeral. It was the first time I’d seen him cry since,” said Ralph.

Kathy and Ralph became increasingly concerned and tried to get Stuart to tell them what had happened, but he wouldn’t reply. When they arrived at the family home, Stuart told Ralph and Kathy that he was



“never going back” to St Paul’s. He barely left his room over the following week, but his parents asked him to attempt attending USyd as a day student. He reluctantly agreed, but returned after the first day telling his parents that he would never go to the University of Sydney, or any other university in Australia. Around a week after Stuart left, the Kelly’s returned to St Paul’s College to collect his personal belongings. Stuart did not want to go with them. As they were packing his clothes, they noticed that Stuart’s bed was untouched, left exactly as Kathy had made it on February 22nd. Stuart had not slept at the College on his first and only night as a resident.

Over the months that followed, Stuart refused to share what had taken place at St Paul’s College on the night of February 22nd 2016, but Ralph and Kathy say that their son changed significantly. He withdrew from his friends and deleted photos and personal information from his Facebook account. He began investigating universities in the United Kingdom and the United States, telling his father that he wanted to get away from Australia and start a new life. A friend of his later wrote to the Kelly family and the police stating:

*The only negative thing Stuart ever spoke to me about was his university experience. Although he never told me directly what happened he told me that he had left [college] early and the reason being was that the students there were spoiled and snotty. (However, I believe there was more to it as he was very hesitant about talking about it. I never pushed because I knew it was a touchy subject) ... I strongly believe that something terrible happened to Stuart while in university. He also told me how I shouldn't look forward to university and that highschool is a good experience but everything changes when you go into university. Because of this I have reason to believe something awful happened there and it could be likely that that contributed to his death. I think if the police were to look into anything, it should definitely be that. Stuart deserves justice.*

After leaving St Pauls, Stuart got a casual job at Royal North Shore private hospital and began coaching an under-14’s rugby team, but still would not share any information about what occurred at the College and continued to refuse to consider attending an Australian university.

On Monday July 25th 2016, Stuart Kelly took his own life. Since then, the Kelly family have spoken to the media, including to Channel 9, *60 Minutes* and Fairfax Media to confirm their strong suspicion that Stuart was hazed at St Paul’s College. Kathy is adamant that “something terrible” happened to Stuart during his time at St Paul’s College, something “that he wasn’t prepared to discuss”.

In February 2018, Ralph Kelly requested a final copy of the police report that was tabled with the NSW Coroner. However, the investigating Senior Constable informed Ralph that such reports are “never provided to the public or family in any circumstance”.



Image: Email from a police investigator to Ralph Kelly. **Source:** supplied.

In February 2018, journalists again approached St Paul’s for comment on the matter. The college responded saying that they had conducted an internal investigation and that “these investigations found that the allegations made were not substantiated....College residents and their parents should very much look forward to the start of the new academic year and to participating in the balanced programme of activities offered by the College. The College is committed to the values of respect and dignity, including equality of respect for women and men, and actions inconsistent with these values will not be tolerated.”

In concert with End Rape On Campus Australia, the Kelly family are now calling for an coronial inquest into Stuart’s death and his time at St Paul’s College.

# 5. THEMES AND ISSUES

*It is depressing that students in their first week at university should see uniformity and submission paraded as supreme virtues. But quite apart from fresher initiation, the general attitude of the students in College is less than enlightened...Intellectual activity in the College is non-existent, no enthusiasm is shown for debating or the intercol oration or for inviting or listening to speakers, the choir is defunct, and this year several students failed all of their exams. The damages bill, although not as high as it has been, is still absurd....In short, the College is an anachronism and it is becoming an increasingly offensive anachronism. It seems to have nothing really to show for itself, other than consistent success in the Rawson Cup and, among ex-Andrewsmen, a vague sentimentality about 'the best years of my life'. It has the potential to be a great institution – academically, educationally, morally. But as it is I am becoming reluctant to admit that I am connected with it.*

- Peter Cameron, former Principal of St Andrew's College, 1997<sup>159</sup>

## 5.1. THE RED ZONE: O WEEK

In 2017, the Elizabeth Broderick & Co review into USYD Colleges found that 12% of all attempted and completed sexual assaults occurred during a single week: Orientation week.<sup>160</sup> In relation to rape and sexual assault, this makes O Week the most dangerous week to be a female college student on campus. Karen Willis, the Executive Director of the NSW Rape Crisis Centre, has previously told the ABC that her service receives an increase in the numbers of calls for help from female university and college students during and immediately following O Week in NSW<sup>161</sup>. Speaking to the ABC in 2017, Ms Willis said:

*The [residential colleges] give us a stack of work. [College students] who are outside of the normal controls and measures of the communities back home [may] feel they now have the freedom and the entitlement to act out on their impulses. Others have heard stories from older brothers and dads about 'sowing wild oats' and enter university thinking that it's now their time to enjoy 'sex on tap'. It leads to a culture of sexual entitlement.<sup>162</sup>*

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<sup>159</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 132-133

<sup>160</sup> Broderick & Co., *Cultural Renewal*, p. 51.

<sup>161</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) 'Sexual assault: What is your university doing to prevent it?' *ABC News*, 25 Feb 2017. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-25/what-is-your-university-doing-to-prevent-sexual-assault/8295604>> [Accessed 10 November 2017]

<sup>162</sup> *Ibid.*

Around the country, other sexual assault services have also highlighted an increase in calls for help during and immediately following University O Week events. For example, Chrystina Stanford, CEO of the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre says:

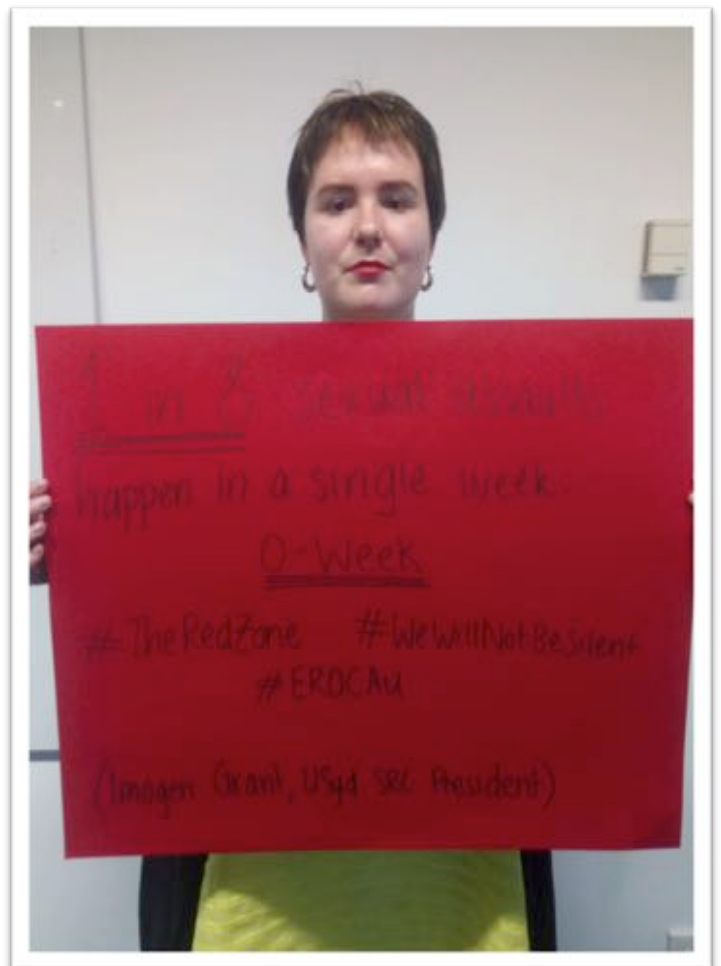
*There are always increased reports of sexual assault around O-week... Sometimes the increase comes just after O-week when things have settled down a bit.*

These accounts are reinforced by international research, which has found evidence for a 'Red Zone' at the beginning of the university year, especially for first year students. For example, a 2008 study published by the *Journal of American College Health* found that first year female students were at an elevated risk for unwanted sexual experiences, compared to second year female students, and that the early months of first semester posed a particular risk for first year female students. The study concluded that there is significant evidence that the Red Zone does in fact exist and that universities have a responsibility to address this.<sup>163</sup>

End Rape On Campus Australia has also noted an increased number of allegations stemming from O Week events, and we believe that this is a time of increased vulnerability for students for several reasons. For first year students especially, this is often a time of marked transition in several areas of life, including:

- The transition from high school to university (including changes to styles of learning and friendship groups)
- The transition from living at home to living out of home for the first time
- The transition from being under 18 (and unable to legally drink or attend over-18 venues) to being of drinking age.

Periods of extreme transition and marked change can often leave young people more vulnerable, as their routines, boundaries, and support networks are in flux. First year students (particularly those who are moving to college) may experience this as an exciting time in life, but many also experience anxiety and emotional insecurity. The desire to be accepted by their new peers means that first year students may be vulnerable to exploitation and those who do experience problematic or inappropriate conduct (especially during their first few weeks of



<sup>163</sup> Kimble, M., Neacsu, A., Flack, W., & Horner, J. (2010) Risk of unwanted sex for college women: Evidence for a Red Zone. *Journal of American College Health*, 55(3): 331-338.

university), may be less likely to report those behaviours. This situation is exacerbated by the fact that many new students are not at all familiar with college and university reporting processes and options.

Further, first year students who experience unwanted or inappropriate conduct in their first few weeks, may not feel socially powerful enough to question or challenge those behaviours, or assert their own moral boundaries and expectations. The strong desire first year students have to fit in and be accepted means that some students are more likely to adopt the viewpoints of the dominant and established majority. This enables the first year student to signal their obedience, acceptance and respect for the dominant order - a move which both ingratiates the fresher student with the older students, while in turn allowing the fresher student to increase their own social capital in their new environment. Some fresher students may also question or cast off their own moral frameworks as “too high-school”, especially if those frameworks are at odds with the views of the dominant and established majority at university.

## **5.2. STUDY ABROAD AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

EROC Australia has supported several international and study abroad students who report experiencing sexual assault during their placements in Australia, including those living in residences at the University of Sydney, University of NSW, University of Queensland, James Cook University and Wollongong University. These students are particularly vulnerable to exploitation, and it has been our experience that a disproportionate number of assaults against this cohort occur within the first month of them arriving in Australia.

There may be several reasons for this. During their first few weeks in Australia, many international and study abroad students are in culture shock. They may also be jet-lagged, and the combination may throw their boundaries into flux. Newly arrived students may also be exploring and experimenting with their newly found freedom, both sexually and with alcohol: those students who are accustomed to a drinking age of 21, often embrace the freedom of a lower drinking age of 18, especially during their first few weeks. This can increase a student’s vulnerability to experiencing sexual assault or exploitation. Similarly, students who have only been in the country for a short period of time are often yet to make strong friendships and in most cases they are geographically estranged from their support networks. This lack of support makes disclosure significantly more difficult. International students and study abroad students also face multiple additional barriers to disclosure compared to domestic students, and in some cases, there is evidence to suggest that they may be targeted by offenders, due to the low likelihood of reporting. In particular, international students may be reluctant to formally report sexual assault because:

- International students may not know their legal rights in Australia and may be unfamiliar with the Australian policing and judicial system;
- International students may not be familiar with the medical system in Australia, or may have difficulty accessing that system, especially if they do not have a Medicare card;



- International students often will not know what services and supports exist on the ground in Australia, such as rape crisis centres, or how to access those services;
- Study Abroad students are often only here for six months to a year. In Australia, sexual assault cases often take up to two years to proceed to trial. In these circumstances, survivors may consider it pointless to report to police, especially if they are unwilling to return to Australia to attend court dates. EROC Australia is also aware of cases where police have discouraged International students from lodging a formal complaint for this reason;
- International students often worry that lodging a complaint with police could impact on their Visa situation;
- Students who do not speak English as their first language face additional barriers to reporting their experiences. Disclosing sexual assault is never easy. Disclosing sexual assault in a second language is even harder: translators are not always available, and even highly proficient ESL speakers may not be familiar with technical terminology required when reporting sexual assault, including terms such as vulva, penis, anus, rape, or consent;
- In addition to the shame that many sexual assault survivors experiencing following sexual assault due to societal stigma, international and study abroad students often experience a secondary form of shame and guilt about informing their families back home. Many report a fear of upsetting their families, who are often already worried about the safety of their child while studying in another country. This concern for their family, and sense of guilt may be exacerbated if a student feels that their families have had to save large sums of money to invest in their education in Australia;
- Some international students also come from ‘face saving’ cultures, where the prospect of admitting to sexual assault would bring shame on the family;
- Sex education varies considerably around the world as do sexual mores. This can create significant confusion about what constitutes sexual assault and some students may dismiss their experiences of sexual assault in Australia, or have difficulty labelling them correctly;
- Not all students who come to Australia have had comprehensive sex education, or in some cases, any sex education;
- Some students come from countries where sexual assault victims can be charged with adultery;
- Some students come from countries where rape victims who report to police face police mistreatment or exploitation.

Finally, a large proportion of International students live in student accommodation including colleges, residential halls, and other accommodation such as Urbanest. In 2014, a national census found that there were 74,482 students in student accommodation and of them 40% were international.<sup>164</sup>

In 2017 The Australian Human Rights Commission found that students living in university owned or affiliated residential accommodation were more likely than other students to have been sexually assaulted or harassed.<sup>165</sup>

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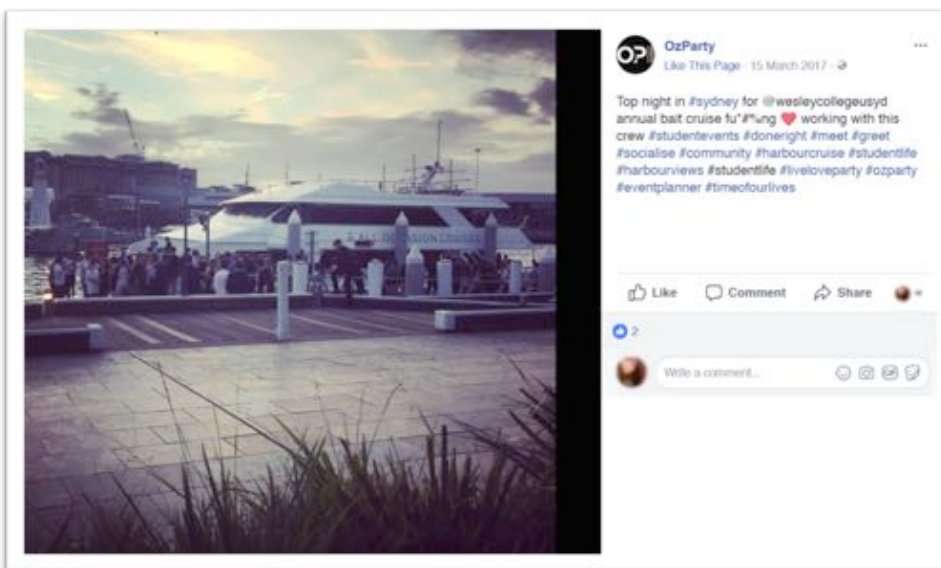
<sup>164</sup> University Colleges of Australia (2015) ‘National Census on University Student Accommodation Providers 2014’. Available online at <[http://universitycollegesaustralia.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/2015-05-27\\_uca\\_census\\_2014\\_report\\_final\\_lowres\\_sec.pdf](http://universitycollegesaustralia.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/2015-05-27_uca_census_2014_report_final_lowres_sec.pdf)>, p.13 [Accessed 21 February 2018]

## 5.3. 'FRESHER GROOMING'

As with some other colleges around Australia there is a culture at some Sydney University colleges of older students sexually preying on first year students who may be more vulnerable to pressure or coercion from students who are both older and who often have more social and sexual capital. The power imbalance between older students and fresher students is also reinforced and exacerbated by highly stratified and entrenched student hierarchies, which privilege older students at the expense of first year students.

EROC Australia has received several reports of various 'traditions' at the USYD colleges which encourage Fresher Grooming.

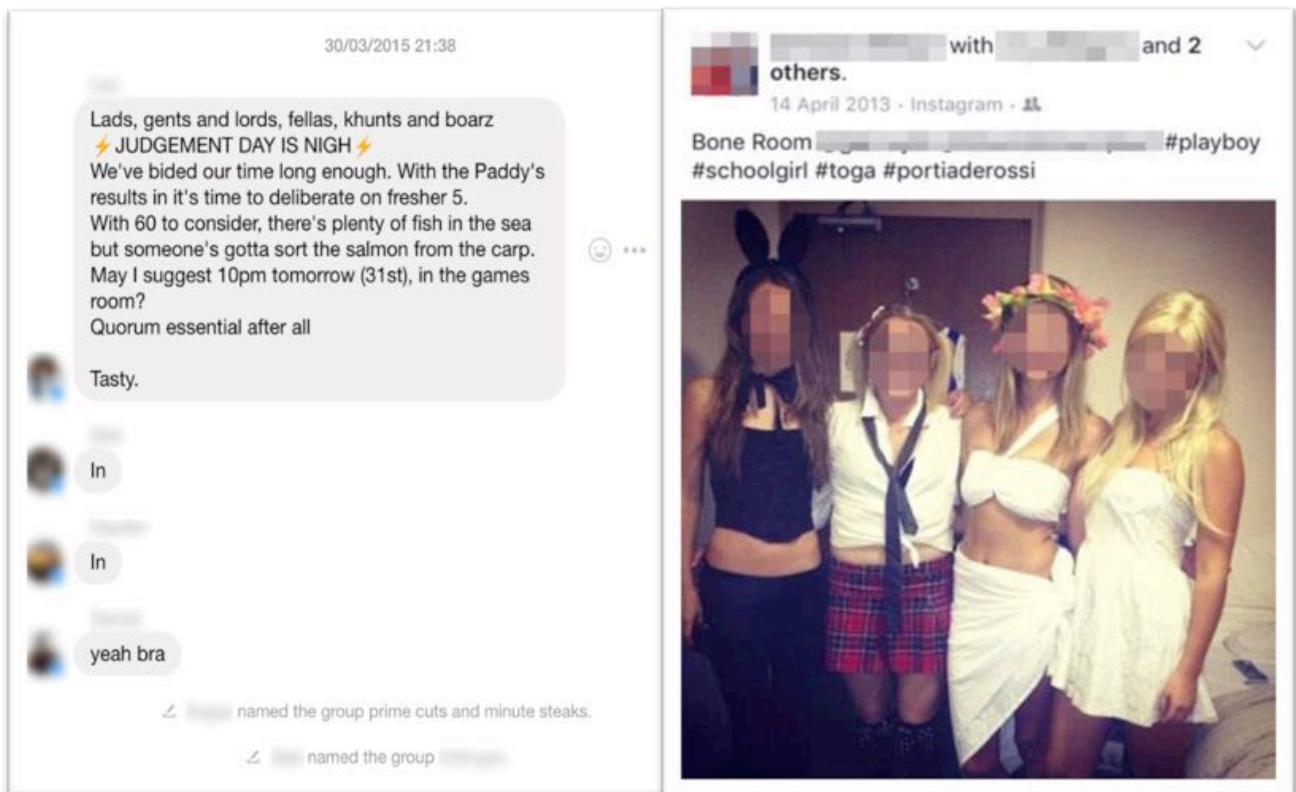
- **'Fresher fishing'**: refers to an activity engaged in by older students, who sexually target fresher students. EROC Australia has received reports that in 2017 at St John's College the older students collectively Facebook 'stalk' the incoming Fresher students, prior to O-Week to give them Fresher names and assess their relative attractiveness.
- **'Bait cruise'**: during an O-Week tradition at Wesley college known as 'bait cruise' a second or third year male student invites a fresher girl as their 'bait' for the night. The fresher boys will also be chosen by a second or third year female student.<sup>166</sup> The annual cruise was last run in 2017.



<sup>165</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 66.

<sup>166</sup> Lambert, O. (2016) 'Sydney University's colleges have a toxic culture that has forced some students out', *news.com.au*, 8 July 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/sydney-universitys-colleges-have-a-toxic-culture-that-has-forced-some-students-out/news-story/173fdd28b2a6c57261ed1843d79a2025>> [Accessed 17 November 2017]

- **Fresher queen:** On their first night at college, fresher women at one of the colleges have been made to kneel in a line, blindfolded, while drunk third year male students select the hottest twenty fresher women via applause. The hottest fresher woman is then labelled the 'Fresher Queen'.
- **'Fresher Five':** second and third year male students at St John's College have a tradition of voting for the five hottest fresher girls. In March, following O-Week and the "St Patrick's formal" the male students congregate in the Games Room, and vote on the attractiveness of the fresher women. In a closed Facebook group organizing the event in 2015, a male student posts: "Lads, gents and lords, fellas, khunts and boarz. JUDGEMENT DAY IS NIGH. We've bided our time long enough.... It's time to deliberate on fresher five. With 60 [fresher women] to consider, there's plenty of fish in the sea, but someone's got to sort the salmon from the carp." The name of the group is "Prime cuts and minute steaks".



- **'Bone Room parties':** St Paul's College has reportedly hosted Bone-room parties which have been described as "drug and alcohol fuelled sex parties"<sup>167</sup>. It has been reported that St Paul's students single out and then invite only the most attractive fresher women from Women's College as dates. The women are expected to feel flattered to be invited to the exclusive event. Each woman is instructed to dress in a specific fancy dress theme, such as Playboy bunnies, togas, or school girl. The floor of the Rogers Room - where the parties are reportedly held - is covered in mattresses. St Paul's College has denied the existence

<sup>167</sup> McPhee, S. (2017) 'Exclusive – Inside the 'Bone Room'', *Daily Mail Australia*, 5 June 2017. Available online at <<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4564976/Sydney-University-students-DECADES-degrading-St-Paul-s.html>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

of Bone Room parties,<sup>168</sup> despite consistent media reports of the Bone Room, including in *Honi Soit* in 2016<sup>169</sup> and in the mainstream media in 2017<sup>170</sup>. An old copy of *Honi Soit* from 1990 also makes reference to the bone room. It reads:

*Women's College residents live very much in the shadow of our brother colleges...Our importance is proportional to the number of invitations we receive to formals, lunches and 'bone room' sporting dinners. We cannot visit male colleges on our own without seriously damaging our reputations. And yet we suffer drunken men wandering our corridors late at night pounding upon our doors...We passive women have tolerated the 'mole call' on the grounds that it is a tradition when it is an extremely obvious and intimidating example of sexual harassment. (Emphasis added)*



*Honi Soit*, 1990. Source: supplied

<sup>168</sup> Head, I. (2016) 'Ivan's Head', letter to the editors, *Honi Soit*, 3 March 2016. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2016/03/week-1-letters-2016/>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>169</sup> Buckett, N. & Zerbst, V. (2017) 'The Bone Room', *Honi Soit*, 24 February 2017. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2016/02/the-bone-room/>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>170</sup> McPhee, 'Inside the Bone Room'



## 5.4. HAZING AND INITIATION RITUALS

One of the most significant ways in which the experience of college students differs from that of other university students is the presence of 'hazing' or initiation rituals. These rituals are often seen as rites of passage for 'freshers' (first-year college students), who are expected to prove their fortitude and loyalty to the college through demeaning, abusive, and sometimes bizarre tests. Described in detail elsewhere in this report, some common hazing rituals include forcing freshers to strip naked, forcing them to drink large quantities of alcohol, and 'Walkabout', in which first-year students are blindfolded and dropped



many kilometres from the college in the middle of the night, sometimes without shoes, money or a phone. In some cases freshers who go on Walkabout have had their heads or eyebrows shaved, or had Vegemite put in their hair. They are often blindfolded and dressed in op-shop outfits. In one alleged incident a student was left tied to train tracks.



Source: News.com.au



At some colleges, such as St Andrew's, Walkabout is often performed later in the year, such as during the first weekend of second semester. Students say that, generally speaking, only students who have been on Walkabout are permitted to bid on the freshers at the 'cattle-market'. There are two competitions: one for freshers and one for seniors. The fresher who gets back first wins the fresher competition. The senior students who drop the student in the most bizarre, unusual or creative location win. Other initiation rituals across the USyd colleges over several decades have included:

- St Andrew's first years being required to carry a brick during O week (often stolen from local building sites), the brick is given a girl's name and they must introduce the brick before speaking. Students must also walk backwards across the oval outside St Andrews. Students who break the rules are given a second, third or fourth brick;
- Forcing students - some of whom were crying - to crawl up and down stairs while holding each other's ankles;
- Forcing students to stand with their nose against the wall for hours;
- Forcing students to roll around in a mix of sawdust, molasses, and rotting fruit;
- Room turving, where a student's room is ransacked or flipped;
- A tradition known as 'fresher sacrifice' where one fresher is specifically chosen to be punished and forced to drink alcohol until they pass out;
- Students being given degrading 'fresher names' in a bid to erase personal identity;
- Students being forced to do boot camp-style calisthenics.



Wesley O Week, freshers sit cross-legged surrounded by older students. **Source:** Facebook

One social function of these rituals is to enforce a strict hierarchy based on seniority. Control is given to the senior students, who order freshers around at their own discretion. This works to produce a sense of respect and submission to authority in junior students, not only to the seniors as individuals, but to what they represent - the college as an institution, with all its historic traditions and rituals. These traditions often resemble military exercises; first-year students are reportedly forced to wake up at dawn, 'stand at attention' and carry out physical exercises in the rain. Such rites are often defended as necessary to instil a sense of discipline and 'good behaviour' in junior students - a paradoxical idea, given the degrading and abusive behaviours of senior students and student leaders during hazing rituals. As Professor Roslyn Arnold, an ex-fellow of St John's College, told the ABC that college seniors have little respect for freshers and "the behaviours are barbaric"<sup>171</sup>.

Dr Peter Cameron, a former principal of St Andrew's describes the way in which hazing rituals include an initiation into the 'folklore' of the colleges, including chants, college history and traditions:

*The fresher system was uncontrolled and terrific; College property was there to be smashed or damaged without excuse or reason... The origins of the fresher system at Andrew's are obscure... Those who have survived unscathed tend to play the whole thing down, because they want to be in a position to inflict it on next year's freshers. Those who have been traumatised are unlikely to want to talk about it. Indeed, they may be unable to talk about it: I met one Andrewsman of the 1980s who said that his experiences as a fresher had damaged him forever, but he couldn't tell me about them because he had blotted them out of his memory.*<sup>172</sup>

Cameron, however, was able to provide a more detailed description:

*All the freshers sit cross-legged on the floor at one end of the room, the rest of the students reclining in armchairs at the other end, with large supplies of beer on hand. The Senior Student and his executive sit at a table in the middle of the room with their backs to the freshers. At my first AGM I stood beside the Senior Student's table and said my piece and then, catching sight of all the freshers out of the corner of my eye, I remarked that I hadn't realised there were people behind me. 'Principal' said the senior student, 'there are no people behind you'. And the remaining part of the evening is devoted to establishing in everyone's mind that the freshers are not people. Traditionally this has been done by a process of individual humiliation – the fresher must remember above all else to be humble... The general idea is that each fresher in turn is stood up in front of the student body (most of whom are drunk by this time) and interrogated on his background, his personal idiosyncrasies, his first sexual experience, and so on. The students, however drunk they are, are remarkably sensitive to any indications of scorn or arrogance or superiority on the part of the fresher: the one who takes it all in good part escapes the soonest. The remaining humiliation is communal.*

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<sup>171</sup> Alberici, E. (2012) 'Interview with Professor Roslyn Arnold', *ABC Lateline*, 6 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/lateline/interview-with-professor-roslyn-arnold/4354772>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>172</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 26-27

*The freshers are all crammed into a narrow corridor with their gowns over their heads and subjected to various forms of abuse. This can get out of hand, if, for example a fresher is asthmatic or a sophomore is aggressively drunk. And of course the whole thing can get out of hand, at any time....It is the sophomores who are most anxious to visit the sins of the fathers upon the children and get their own back for the last year's trauma...At a later stage in the evening the bricks are distributed. Each fresher is given his brick and for the next three days he will be inseparable from it. He must carry it with him wherever he goes and always wear his academic gown. The brick must have a name, a girl's name, and whenever he is spoken to he must say nothing until he has introduced his brick. In the corridors of College he must avoid stepping on a certain part of the carpet pattern, and when he crosses the Oval on his way to lectures he must do so backward. If he is found without his brick, or traversing the corridors or the Oval normally, or if he fails to introduce his brick he is given another. For a second offence he is given a third. And so on. If he accumulates more than four he really has to remain in his room until the closing ceremony at the end of the week. He is told that if he fails to comply with all these regulations then at the closing ceremony he will have to push his brick or bricks across the Junior Common Room floor with his nose...Over the next few weeks the fresher will be gradually acclimatised or broken in. He will miss several lectures in order to 'chalk' – advertise the College Informal 'Ball' by daubing extravagant and occasionally lewd messages all over the University campus. Every year the Vice Chancellor complains that the Andrewsmen have chalked where they ought not to have chalked, causing embarrassment and delays at important graduation ceremonies, and every year the Senior Student cheerfully promises the Principal that it will never happen again. Equally ritualistic are the complaints from the parents of freshers that their sons are having to miss lectures in order to prepare for the Informal. ... there is nothing civilised about the so-called Recovery the morning after the Informal. This takes place outside of the front of the main building, and consists of the survivors from the previous night milling around a keg and a two-man band crooning painfully into a loudspeaker...The fresher will have to attend a 'brew group', where the seniors will teach him some of the College songs and folklore and where he will probably get very drunk....Less damaging than the brew groups but more exhausting is Fresher Education Night. Fresher Education in fact lasts all night. All the freshers armed with gown, pen and paper, assemble in the Reading Room after dinner and remain there until breakfast. There are four lectures, on College folklore, given by distinguished seniors-distinguished that is by their capacity to remain on their feet for several hours while severely inebriated.<sup>173</sup>*

More recently, a St Andrew's student has described to EROC Australia how during her O-Week the freshers were ordered to learn the songs:

*Two bins were placed in the centre of a circle of about 20 fresher students. One bin contained either mixed drinks or 'Paradise punch' (an alcoholic mix of pineapple juice, vodka and cask wine which was 'for the girls'). The other is for vomiting. We had to learn the songs and when we made mistakes we had to skol. It went on for hours and people would get so drunk they had to spew in the*

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<sup>173</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 43-48

*spew bucket. Some people were yelled at or had their keys taken off them. I began hiding my key above the ledge on my door so it couldn't be taken off me.*<sup>174</sup>

While some students maintain that these events are entirely voluntary, it would appear that there is often a large degree of coercion present in these rituals. The normalisation of hazing traditions creates an enormous sense of pressure for first-year students to comply with the seniors' demands, meaning that these acts are not undertaken in a consensual way. As Dr Cameron writes, while "it is, strictly speaking 'voluntary' ... it is made clear that unless you have been on Walkabout, you can never truly say you know what it is to be an Andrewsman."<sup>175</sup> Indeed, the Broderick task-force found that 1 in 2 students reported that they have witnessed 'bullying or intimidation', 'pressure to participate in activities that were humiliating to them or other students' or 'hazing' since commencing at college.<sup>176</sup>

The risk of non-compliance with these activities is significant and students often recognise - either overtly or subconsciously - that refusing to take part may result in taunting or social ostracism. EROC Australia believes that there is a clear link between the coercion of hazing rituals, and the high rates of sexual assault and harassment at colleges. Through these rituals, college students are initiated into a culture in which personal boundaries and consent are routinely disregarded. In such a culture, those in positions of power feel entitled to demand physical acts from those in subordinate positions, whether this entails drinking alcohol, removing clothing, carrying out hazing practices, or indeed sexual activities, wanted or unwanted. Hazing rituals also often normalise the invasion of personal spaces such as rooms and the theft or destruction of personal property. One student reported being "wakened from my sleep by a group of seniors and asked more questions. They come into your room in packs of six or seven. If you don't open the door they bash it in". As described elsewhere in this report, survivors of sexual assault often report students entering or remaining in their rooms without permission.

The 'reward' offered to first-year students for their compliance, in addition to social acceptance, is that they will go on to occupy the position of power held by the seniors. As one student from St Andrew's told Cameron, "I will get my chance to dish out the punishment next year". Cameron comments that "those who have survived unscathed tend to play the whole thing down, because they want to be in a position to inflict it on next year's freshers ... It is the sophomores who are most anxious to visit the sins of the fathers upon the children and get their own back for the last year's trauma."<sup>177</sup> This creates a circular, self-perpetuating culture, in which surviving the experience of hazing directly motivates college students to carry out hazing rituals, with a perverse sense of justice or fairness. Further attempts to end these hazing rituals are often fought by those who have already survived them, as to eliminate them would divest that prior suffering of its meaning and reframe those experiences not as rites of passage, but as disturbing and unnecessary acts carried out by people who lacked the courage, integrity and moral fortitude to speak out against them at the time.

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<sup>174</sup> Obtained via interview with Nina Funnell in February 2018

<sup>175</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes* p. 55

<sup>176</sup> Broderick & Co., *Cultural Renewal*, p. 39

<sup>177</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 26, p. 55

EROC Australia has often found that college alumni have ambivalent feelings about their college days. Many value the strong friendships but feel conflicted about many of the initiation rituals.

Time and again, these rituals are described as being phased out, or as a ‘thing of the past’. In 1965, students from USyd colleges told *The Sydney Morning Herald* that ‘fresher baiting’ had ‘almost stopped’, but that there was always a group of students at the top “who liked to have their fun”.<sup>178</sup> Cameron writes,

*It has been officially pronounced dead in the 1930’s, the 1940’s, the 1950s, ‘finally’ in the 1960s, and again in the 1980s; and the annual student magazine regularly bemoans its passing or justifies its resurrection. It seems to be more difficult to finish off than the dragon in a Wagner opera, which is always reinflating itself for another aria even as the hero proclaims its extinction...*<sup>179</sup>

While the powerful alumni groups play a role in reproducing these traditions (including by imparting ‘war stories’ to their own children who later attend the same college), these practices also appear to remain intact because, historically, they have been implicitly or explicitly endorsed by college administrations. For example, in 1965 the principal of St Andrew’s College, the Rev. A Douglas, said that “we have to rub off the rough edges, the fresher system [hazing] is sound sociology.” In more recent years, leaders of the University of Sydney colleges would not be so naive as to publicly defend hazing. However, of note, in 2012, following the St John’s O Week scandal, Prof Arnold revealed that when she raised her concerns over the hazing incident she was told by others that she was ‘over-reacting’.<sup>180</sup>

## 5.5. CHANTS AND SONGS

Like the hazing and initiation rituals, the USyd colleges have had a problematic history of chants and songs with sexist, homophobic and racist themes. Many of the chants have been recited at inter-college sporting events and are aimed at degrading the other college students. In recent years there have been various attempts to stamp out some of the college chants with some success; however, current students say that other chants remain. For example, students say that one of the current chants at St John’s College includes the lyrics “at night time we all go and fuck moles, and day time we suck on the piss”. (‘Moles’ is a degrading term for female students from Sancta Sophia).

In 1993, a booklet of songs from St Andrew’s College was published and distributed among college students. A copy of that booklet is still available in Fisher Library and EROC Australia has obtained a photocopy (See Appendix). Writing about the book in 1997, former Principal of St Andrews, Peter Cameron, wrote:

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<sup>178</sup> McGregor, C. (1958) ‘They call it team spirit’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 March 1958. Retrieved from <http://smharchives.smedia.com.au> [Accessed 2 November 2017]

<sup>179</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 26-27.

<sup>180</sup> Leaver, K. (2012) ‘Fix St John’s: How Roslyn Arnold got the church, state and university involved’, *Women’s Agenda*, 8 November 2012. Available online at <<https://womensagenda.com.au/latest/fix-st-john-s-how-roslyn-arnold-got-the-church-state-and-university-involved/>> [Accessed 10 February 2018]



*Most of the songs are of a nature to make those of normal sensibility almost physically sick...What these songs do is degrade women in the most violent and obscene manner to the level of beasts. The appetites which they reflect and encourage are in fact bestial. There seems to be a feeling that women have let the side down by being female and not male and they are to be punished accordingly. Their genitalia, which figure in these songs in the most unappetising way are the site of their disgrace and therefore the target for all the abuse. This is not healthy. (1997: 47)*

However, the students who produced the booklet took a very different view. Indeed the booklet itself begins with an introduction which explains the purpose of the chants and their significance to college life:

*The singing of songs, both in the confines of Andrew's at various dinners, and in the general public while providing support for our sporting teams, is one of the more prominent aspects that distinguish Andrew's from the other colleges; simply put, no other college comes close to the content or volume that Andrew's can produce. It is important that this 'tradition' is maintained and collegemen endeavour to not only continue to sing the songs currently popular, but make an effort to learn (and teach) new songs. It is for this reason that this edition has been written.*

Some of the poems from 1993 are reproduced below:

HERE THEY COME

Here they come just a sucking on a cock  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la  
Any poof will do so long as he's a chock  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la

Fuck each other (repeat)  
Up the arse (repeat)  
Fuck each other up the arse  
Never let a poofter pass

There they go with a keg of vaseline  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la  
Pummelling the Warden like you've never seen  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la

Fuck each other (repeat)  
And their brother (repeat)  
Fuck each other and their brother  
And their mother!

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THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN

Those magnificent men from St. Andrew's are here,  
Rooting the women and drinking the beer,



During the game we win all the rucks,  
And in the night we get all of the fucks,  
Ruck, ruck, maul, maul,  
Jumping in line outs and winning the ball,  
We are those magnificent men,  
Those magnificent men,  
Those magnificent men,  
Those magnificent men form St. Andrew's are here.

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BARBARIBA

I wish all the ladies,  
Were fish in the sea,  
And I was a minnow,  
So they could eat me.

Chorus:

Hey Barbariba,  
Oh Barbariba.

I wish all the ladies,  
Were pies on the shelf,  
And I was a baker,  
So I could eat them all myself.

(Repeat Chorus)

I wish all the ladies,  
Were bricks in the wall,  
And I was a mason,  
So I could lay them all.

(Repeat Chorus)

I wish all the ladies,  
Were little red foxes,  
And I was a hunter,  
So I could shoot them up their boxes.

(Repeat Chorus)

I wish all the ladies,  
Were holes in the road,  
And I was a dump truck,  
So I could fill them with my load.

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## THE END OF THE MONTH

### Chorus

Blood goes here, blood goes there,  
Blood goes every-fuckin where,  
When the end of the month comes around,  
There's a jamboree, at the tampon factory,  
Shout out your orders loud and clea (loud and clear),  
We've got small medium large, super-doooper, fille a barge,  
When the end of the month comes around

You can tell by the rope, that you haven't got a hope.

etc. etc

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## THE ENGINEER'S SONG

An engineer told me before he died, uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch,  
An engineer told me before he died, uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch,  
An engineer told me before he died,  
And I've no reason to believe he lied, uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch,  
Uh-hum-diddly-um-diddly-um-ch-ch

He said "my wife had a cunt so wide", uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch,(3)  
"That she could never be satisfied".

So I built for her a prick of steel,(3)  
And mounted it all on a bloody great wheel.

Two brass balls I filled with cream,(3)  
And the whole bloody issue was driven by steam.

I laid her down upon the bed,(3)  
and tied her feet behind her head

So she was in a position to fuck,(3)  
I switched it on and wished her luck.

In and out went the prick of steel,(3)  
And round round went the bloody great wheel.

Up and up went the level of steam, (3)  
Down and down went the level of cream.

Until at last enough she cried, (3)  
"Enough, enough, I'm satisfied!"

And now we come to the tragic bit, (3)

There was no way of stopping it.

And she was split from arse to tit, (3)  
And the whole bloody lot was covered in shit.

But the monstrous wheel just rolled on through, (3)  
After his wife was split in two.

And as if possessed by a monstrous whim, (3)  
Turned around and buggered him.

Then it rolled to the gate steaming real fast, (3)  
Mounting folk just a strolling past.

It covered them over with grease and cream, (3)  
And disappeared in a cloud of steam.

The moral of the story is sad but true, (3)  
Don't use steel when meat will do!

## 5.6. INSULARITY

Colleges are often highly insular institutions, with strict regulations controlling information within the colleges, as well as the relationships between 'insiders' and 'outsiders'. One pertinent aspect of this insularity is a systemic and entrenched distrust of the media. Former and current USyd college students report that they have previously been told not to speak to the media about anything to do with the colleges. Katie Thorburn, a former resident at St John's College at Sydney University, explains:

*From day one in O week, you are told do not speak to the media. Do not engage. At O week parties we couldn't have our phones on us, so no one could leak photos. They are really scary places to speak out against, because you're indoctrinated from day one [to remain loyal]. When I was at college there [was] no way I would have said a bad word [about college], because then everyone would know I said it. You're not just speaking out against the Old Boys Network, you're speaking out against a future Old Boys' Network too.<sup>181</sup>*

This creates a collective 'siege mentality', in which any scrutiny of the colleges is perceived as a targeted attack. In such an environment, there is intense pressure on members of the college community to remain loyal to their institution, and refrain from criticising the colleges. Those who 'break ranks' may be punished with ostracism and banishment. This is exemplified by the case study of Justine Landis-Hanley (see chapter 4.2), who was a USyd college student when she published an article, 'Combatting College Culture', in the

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<sup>181</sup> Quotes obtained during interview with Nina Funnell, December 2017.

student newspaper *Honi Soit*. Following the publication of this piece, she reports that her fellow college students refused to talk to her, spread rumours about her, and eventually removed personal photos that she had stuck on the door of her room.

In addition to developing a 'siege mentality', some students develop a heightened persecution complex which - when combined with a sense of entitlement - can lead them to lashing out at journalists. Journalists including Eamonn Duff, Eryk Bagshaw and Nina Funnell have received either aggressive or threatening messages following reports, and Duff has also experienced physical intimidation. When Fairfax journalist Ruth Pollard broke the St Paul's Pro-rape Facebook group story in 2009, some students responded by putting on a play where the anti-hero was named 'Ruth Pollard' and students allegedly threw rubbish at the actor playing 'Ruth'. Tellingly, the students posted a sign outside the theatre saying 'No media welcome'.

The response of college administrations to media reporting on cultural issues at the colleges might also be best described as damage control - protecting the public reputation of the colleges above all else. In the first instance, they may seek to limit media exposure, by directing students not to speak to media about any college issues. They frequently also attempt to prevent public scrutiny by handling complaints internally, rather than collaborating with the university; for example, following the publication of the Wesley College journal "Rackweb" in 2016, the master of Wesley College refused to hand over the names of those responsible for the journal to the University.<sup>182</sup> When stories about sexual assault, hazing, or harassment at the colleges do make it into the media, college representatives consistently assure the public that they "take these matters very seriously" and are "investigating" and "handling the issue internally".

In perhaps the most extreme response to media scrutiny, in 2016 college students ran to be elected as editors of *Honi Soit*. Their vision statement for the paper stated that they wanted to "to end the bullshit filtering of ideas and the culture of outrage that governs so much of student journalism at present" and create an "objective and open student newspaper that isn't out to get you".<sup>183</sup> EROC Australia has received screenshots from a student posting in the St John's Facebook page during this campaign, calling on college students to vote for this ticket en masse and noting that the upcoming investigation into the colleges was sparked by an article in *Honi Soit*. The post reads, "let's not give any more influence to the trots and the plebiscites who (literally) would like to see our community abolished altogether", and is signed off, disturbingly, with 'Heil'. Although the campaign was ultimately unsuccessful, it exemplifies the way in which media reporting on the colleges provokes defensiveness, anger and, ultimately, an attempt to control student media and suppress these stories from being published.

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<sup>182</sup> Bagshaw, E. & Balakumar, A. (2016) 'Wesley College won't hand over names of students to Sydney University', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/wesley-college-wont-hand-over-names-of-students-to-sydney-university-20160513-goukip.html>> [Accessed 15 July 2017]

<sup>183</sup> 'Time for Honi' public page, Facebook. Available online at <[https://www.facebook.com/pg/TimeForHoni/about/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/TimeForHoni/about/?ref=page_internal)> [Accessed 15 February 2018]

This case also highlights the views of college students towards non-college students, who are demonised and stigmatised as ‘outsiders’. Non-college students are frequently referred to as “day rats” (only attending campus for classes during the day, rather than living on campus full-time). Those in the ‘college community’ often harbour a sense of superiority and detachment from others in the broader university community. This is strengthened by hazing and initiation rituals, which demarcate those who, as a result of their suffering and fortitude, properly belong to the college community and those who do not.

This calls into question the assertion of a student in the Broderick review that “there’s definitely a culture at Sydney Uni of college bashing”, suggesting that students at colleges suffer unfair discrimination from non-college students.<sup>184</sup> While, undoubtedly, there is significant hostility between these two groups, it is critical to understand this dynamic as embedded within a specific power hierarchy. Colleges occupy a position of economic, social and cultural power on campus, and their students inherit this power by virtue of their connection to the colleges as institutions. Moreover, given the ‘siege mentality’ explained above, it is likely that in some cases, justified criticism of colleges is perceived as “college bashing”. For any significant cultural transformation at the colleges to occur, greater transparency and accountability is critical, in conjunction to greater integration with the broader university community. It would also appear that there is a gap between perception and reality. As outlined in Chapter 2 of this report, the overwhelming majority of harassment, abuse and assault experienced by college students is perpetrated by other college students, and despite significantly outnumbering them on campus, only a tiny fraction involved non college students.

## 5.7. INDIVIDUAL VS. COMMUNITY

Another effect of insular college cultures, and in particular hazing rituals, is to promote uniformity and conformity at the expense of individual identity. College students are encouraged to see themselves first and foremost as members of the college community. Other commitments and relationships, such as family, friendships or cultural groups external to the college, are often seen as secondary. Describing the culture at St Andrew’s College, Peter Cameron writes:

*Any manifestation of individuality or personal vision is perceived as an infringement of the collective will and a challenge to the validity of the institution ... The only important thing is that everyone who belongs to the group should think in the same way, so that they know exactly where they are and so that they can be certain that they belong and what is they belong to- even if it means that they make themselves a laughing stock in the process, and cut themselves off from the rest of the world and actually contradict the essence of the religion they profess to follow.*<sup>185</sup>

As outlined in Gabrielle Lynch’s case study, students are also expected to dedicate a large amount of time to attending college events. This effectively isolates them from forming other networks outside of the

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<sup>184</sup> Broderick & Co., *Cultural Renewal*, p. 24

<sup>185</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School For Blokes*, p.195



college community. It is worth noting that one of the markers of any toxic or abusive relationship is an attempt to isolate a person from other networks and supports.

Through intimidation, bullying, and abusive initiation rituals, new students come to understand that they are to place the college as an institution above their own sense of personal pride or individuality. However, a sense of individual personhood is critical for moral reflection; without their own sense of values and ethics, the individual is unable to reflect on and assess the behaviours of other people around them. Over time, the homogeneous moral standards of the college community become the only standard against which individuals' behaviour can be judged; this, in part, explains the reticence of students within the colleges to condemn sexism, harassment and abuse. As Cameron writes:

*This is what the fresher system is designed to achieve: the kind of thinking, or non-thinking, according to which the individual is at all times subordinate to the institution. There are three rules for the fresher: he must be humble, he must be humble, and he must be humble. In other words, he must merge with all the other freshers and be indistinguishable from them, he must forget all his past achievements and that he had a position of authority and respect at school and even that he ever had a separate personality, because only then will he learn to put the College before everything else, only then will he be accepted and become a real Andrewsman.<sup>186</sup>*

By contrast, those students who withdraw into themselves are also ostracised from the community and might be labelled 'Phantoms', 'Myths' or 'Lemons'. As Cameron explains,

*The Phantom is intelligent, too intelligent. But he is less robust, and his solution is to resist or complain but to take evasive action. Like Thurber's deer, he is so shy that he 'rarely comes out from behind anything'. When he passes you in the corridor you don't see him. Indeed it is only sometime in his fourth year that his contemporaries will notice him for the first time and think that he is a fresher. He mixes only with other Phantoms. Surprisingly however, he will come to Rawson Cup events and support the College, though he shuns the victory dinners. He has therefore an ambivalent attitude. You would have expected him to have left after the first term, if not the first week, but something holds him – perhaps a longing to be recognised and accepted.<sup>187</sup>*

## 5.8. DRINKING RITUALS AND ALCOHOL USE

Drinking initiation rituals also have a long history. Writing in 1997, Cameron described a scene which took place just days after he had first arrived at St Andrew's college in 1991. The students had won the coveted Rawson cup, the inter-collegiate trophy for men's sport at USyd, and were celebrating in their usual style:

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<sup>186</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School For Blokes*, p.195

<sup>187</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School For Blokes*, p.157

*Throughout the meal there is continual movement. Servers scurry backwards and forwards carrying buckets of foaming ale. There is a constant traffic of students departing and returning to relieve themselves or to vomit ... But gradually the journey downstairs becomes too daunting and they make use of the windows instead, using the long sleeves of their academic gowns to wipe their mouths afterwards. As for one or two at the team table the prospect of getting even as far as the windows is too much and they vomit where they sit, their heads between their knees. No one pays attention. When they have finished they replenish their glasses. (pg 2)*

Cameron also describes a particular role, held by a student, who is known as the “Chundermarker”:

*[The function of the ‘Chundermarker’ is to] referee the spew competitions which form an indispensable part of the postprandial festivities. With a piece of chalk he encircles each pool of vomit, measuring its circumference and its distance from the point of origin and then inspects it for its contents, and even, using his finger, tastes it for acidity. Marks are awarded in each category, particularly for the contents...In my day, if you were sick that was the writing on the wall and you crept off to bed feeling ghastly and ashamed. The Andrewsman on the contrary has a Roman perspective on the subject: he vomits deliberately in order to make room for more.” (p. 5)*

Equally disturbing, Cameron explains another St Andrew’s College tradition known as the “Bachelor of Inebriation”:

*The BI or Bachelor of Inebriation.. is simply an accelerated pub crawl: if you consume fifteen middies in 105 minutes you graduate BI; fifteen schooners will give you an honours degree, a PhD requires fifteen pints. I’m relieved to say that there is no recorded instance of a PhD having been awarded.*

*The BI day was actually advertised in the printed College calendar when I arrived. I subsequently removed it, and made it clear that it had no official approval, but that what the students did unofficially was their own affair so long as no law was broken and no member of the public offended. And I succeeded in preventing the resurrection of an even more alarming event, the 57s. This used to take place on the Oval and extended over the whole day. It involved drinking 50 7oz. bottles of beer, and every time you vomited you had to run round the Oval naked.<sup>188</sup>*

Cameron was eventually pushed from the position of Principal after he tried to make St Andrew’s co-educational, arguing that the only way these ‘traditions’ would end would be if women were introduced to have a civilising effect on the men. The students, alumni and council all initially opposed the introduction of women. Yet since the reversal of that decision in 2001 and the introduction of women in 2002, the drinking rituals have not been eliminated. On the contrary, in May 2016 *The Sydney Morning Herald* and The ABC both published screenshots of a St Andrew’s College Facebook group which demonstrated that the Bachelor Of Inebriation was still very much alive:

*Groups of 4 (ideally) will attempt the examination. Each group will have a 5th assigned runner who will travel ahead to order drinks. Make no mistake BI is not a chea test; you will need money to cover the cost of 12 beverages at 8 pubs... NB: DO NOT WEAR ANY IDENTIFIABLE DREWS MERCH!... Students will graduate with Honours if they do not urinate though-out the course of the*

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<sup>188</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School For Blokes*, p. 152

*examination. Soiling oneself, whilst generally dissuaded, is an acceptable form of excretion to sustain a Honours proposal.*<sup>189</sup>

The screenshots also make reference to the “Chundermarker” and students are encouraged to vomit on them. While Cameron was writing in 1997, he states that this tradition was in existence from at least the time he commenced his role in 1991, indicating that the BI has now been an established part of St Andrew’s culture for at least 25 years, and in all likelihood, far longer.

While these traditions are evidently hard to kill off, the repercussions of this drinking culture can be severe. In the 1990’s a St Andrew’s student was killed following a night of heavy drinking. The college students commiserated after his funeral with a keg of beer.<sup>190</sup>

Cameron also describes other flow on effects of the heavy drinking culture:

*During the aftermath of that particular BI when all of the graduates were milling around on the Oval, one [naked] fresher spied a woman in the distance walking through the College grounds. Like an unruly puppy he had run up to her and frolicked around her and attempted either to embrace her or rugby tackle her (he was probably confused himself about his precise intentions). She had indignantly beaten him with her umbrella and then written a furious letter of complaint. I was tempted to throw him out instantly, but when I spoke to him the next day he was so crestfallen and apologetic, and so restored to his former quiet and likeable self, that I put off the decision until I had interviewed the woman.*

*When she came to see me she was not surprisingly in a highly agitated state, and I found it difficult to convince her that I agreed with her completely and that my abhorrence for what the student’s behaviour symbolised was total. And I indicated to her that if she wanted me to, I would expel the student. It was of course quite improper to allow the victim to choose the punishment, but I took the risk because I wanted to persuade her that the fault lay not so much with the youth himself as with the attitudes he had been brought up with, and which the College was reinforcing.*<sup>191</sup>

The relationship between sexual assault victimisation and alcohol is complicated and bi-directional, and is still a topic of contention in sociological and health research.<sup>192</sup>

EROC Australia also notes the need for greater nuance in how the problem of drinking culture at colleges is framed in relation to sexual assault. However troubling the prevalence of binge drinking at colleges is, it is

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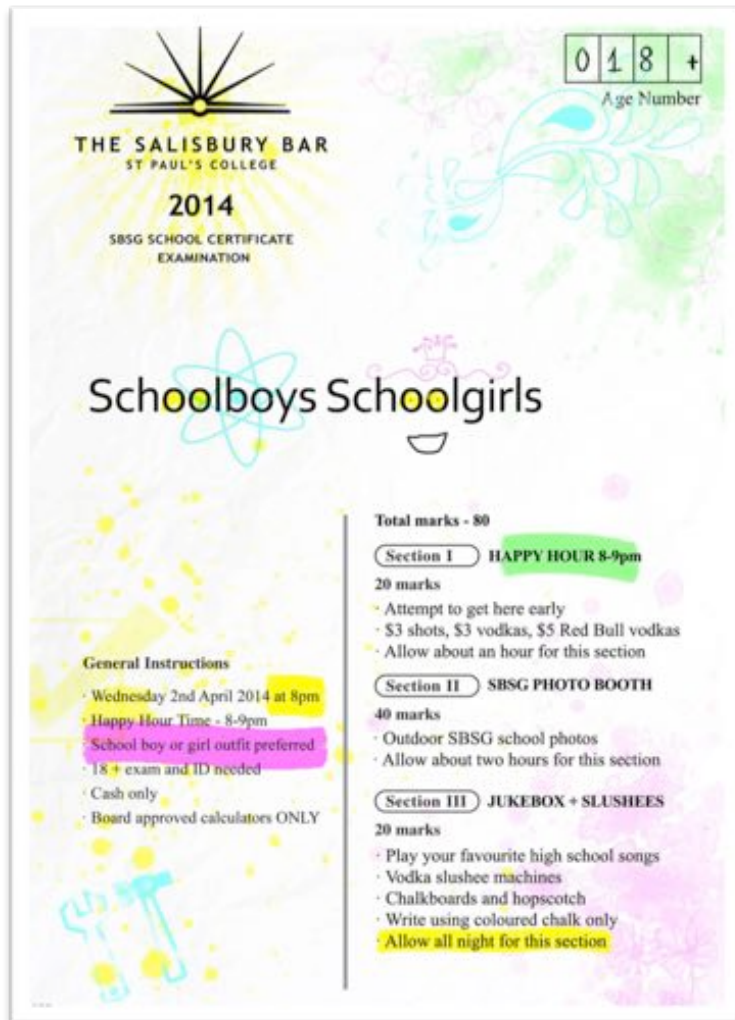
<sup>189</sup> Whyte, S. (2016) ‘St Andrew’s university college initiation ritual ‘out of control’, student reveals’, *ABC News*, 20 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-20/st-andrews-university-college-initiation-ritual-out-of-control/7429824>> [Accessed 27 December 2017]; Bagshaw, E. (2016) ‘St Andrew’s College at University of Sydney in ‘ritualistic humiliation’ controversy’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-andrews-college-at-university-of-sydney-in-ritualistic-humiliation-controversy-20160518-goxu16.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

<sup>190</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School For Blokes*, p. 20

<sup>191</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 52-53

<sup>192</sup> Lorenz, K. & Ullman, S. (2016) Alcohol and sexual assault victimization: Research findings and future directions. *Aggression and Violent Behaviour*, 31: 82-94.

important to recognise that alcohol is not a cause of sexual assault, although it may often be a contributing factor or a tool used by perpetrators of sexual violence to facilitate such acts. Instances of drink-spiking (whether with extra alcohol, or with illicit substances) or of students plying others with large quantities of alcohol are common at colleges. Alcohol is used in this way to lower the boundaries of potential victims, impairing their decision-making capacities.



Many discussions of sexual assault at colleges tend to focus primarily on risky drinking behaviour and ‘party culture’. While these behaviours undoubtedly have their own harms for the individuals and communities involved, it is important that drinking culture is not conflated with rape culture. Until the primary drivers of sexual assault - namely, gender inequality, traditional gender roles and other social imbalances and arrangements of power<sup>193</sup> - are addressed, strategies targeting alcohol usage are unlikely to be effective in reducing the prevalence of sexual violence. This was noted in the public response to Stanford University’s ban on hard liquor on campus in 2016, following the Brock Turner case.<sup>194</sup>

The nature of college parties should also be discussed. Alcohol is often very cheap featuring, for example, \$3 shots, and the college parties often have sexualised themes such as ‘school boys and school girls’, ‘tight and white night’<sup>195</sup> (which often become wet t-shirt competitions),

<sup>193</sup> Our Watch (2015) *Change the Story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia*. Available online at <<https://www.ourwatch.org.au/getmedia/0aa0109b-6b03-43f2-85fe-a9f5ec92ae4e/Change-the-story-framework-prevent-violence-women-children-AA-new.pdf.aspx>> [Accessed 1 February 2018] p. 23.

<sup>194</sup> Reilly, K. (2016) ‘Why banning hard alcohol on college campuses may not be the answer’, *Time*, 24 August 2016. Available online at <<http://time.com/4463227/stanford-hard-liquor-ban/>> [Accessed 5 February 2018]

<sup>195</sup> Vasek, L. & Robinson, N. (2009) ‘University of Sydney to drag primal colleges into line’, *The Australian*, 11 November 2009. Available online at <<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/university-of-sydney-to-drag-primal-colleges-into-line/news-story/0e61c433ef58c01979a6a518366f8ca0?sv=dcfbf7556a1d31fb8982ec2b969b8f0c>> [Accessed 10 November 2017]



'pyjama party', 'emergency services', 'naughty nautical.' The intersection of drinking and misogyny has also been evidence in how the colleges promote these parties, for example with chalkings which read "cheap wine and cheap women".



Left: USyd College students with a portrait of Charles Salisbury, **Source:** Daily Mail, Right: college student at tight and white event in the Salisbury bar. **Source:** Facebook. Previous page, School boys and school girls poster. **Source:** Facebook.

## 5.9. SEXISM AND MISOGYNY

The evidence collated in this report points to a comprehensive and deeply entrenched culture of sexism within the colleges. In such cultures, women are frequently treated as sexualised objects, rather than subjects. Women are advertised as draw-cards for college social events (for example, the St Andrew's formal in 2008 was advertised with the slogan "\$3 beer and \$0 girls"), suggesting that they are sexually available to men on demand. College chants and songs are littered with sexist terms for women, such as 'Dyke Moll', 'slut', 'virgin queen', 'lecherous lesbian', 'naughty nympho' and 'dirty old harlot'<sup>196</sup>. Such terms demonstrate a highly sexualised perception of women, as mere vehicles for male sexual pleasure. These songs also contain various scenes of violent sexual encounters, which are either portrayed as heroic conquests by men, or as desired by sex-crazed women. This is also demonstrated in traditions such as the 'moll call' where men yell abuse at women walking by, and other traditions where in which women's clothing is removed without their consent. Graffiti has also appeared on college campus which reads 'she can't say no with a cock in her mouth' and 'any hole's a goal'.

In college communities, women are frequently rated on the basis of their appearance and their conformity to beauty standards. Those who successfully meet these standards are rewarded with acceptance into elite events - which are also sexualized - such as the 'Bone Room', and those who don't are shamed and

<sup>196</sup> St Andrew's Songbook 1993



taunted. This frequent need to reduce women to their physical appearance and their attractiveness to men, also reinforces the power and authority of men. Anecdotal reports suggest that such an intense focus on physical appearance and slimness leads to high rates of eating disorders among women college students.

EROC Australia has also received various reports of body scrutiny at the USyd colleges. In addition to being rated, St Andrew's college has previously practised a tradition where if first year students put on weight (known as 'fresher spread') the female students will be yelled at when they enter the dining room.

Reflecting on the gender dynamics at play in St Andrew's College in the 1990s, Dr Cameron explained the prevailing logic as follows:

*Women are there to be rooted, or to rear children, or to make the tea in the church hall. If they are allowed any higher purpose they will inevitably challenge the autonomy and the validity of the male preserve. The college will no longer be a glorious pleasure-dome, the club will no longer be a haven of peace and civilised living, the Church will no longer be a place where the opinions and behaviours of others can be rigidly controlled; instead the student will be exposed as infantile and squalid, the club member as pompous and boring, and the minister as ignorant and vain.*

*Women must therefore be kept down, and the only way to keep them down nowadays is to keep them out – out of the few remaining institutions which are still unpolluted. And there is undoubtedly something sexual not only in the downgrading of women, but also in the male bonding and mateship.<sup>197</sup>*

From the evidence in this report, it seems that little has changed over the past decades. Women are still seen, first and foremost, as sex objects - otherwise, they are brought into the colleges only as civilising influences.

## 5.10. COMMUNAL POLICING OF SEXUALITY

Although college communities are often portrayed as a sexual free-for-all, there are in fact strict systems of rules and norms that govern the sexual activity of their members. The enforcement of these rules depends on the public and ongoing disclosure of sexual activity, which is achieved in various ways. In St Andrew's College, for example, the details of 'hook-ups' are broadcast over PA systems, and a slideshow of 'embarrassing' sexual encounters is exhibited during O Week.<sup>198</sup> In other instances, information about

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<sup>197</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 195-197

<sup>198</sup> Bagshaw, E. (2016) 'St Andrew's College at University of Sydney in 'ritualistic humiliation' controversy', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-andrews-college-at-university-of-sydney-in-ritualistic-humiliation-controversy-20160518-goxu16.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

residents' sexual activity is circulated through more informal methods such as gossiping. The "Rackweb" published in the Wesley College student journal exemplifies how such information is pooled and shared.<sup>199</sup> EROC Australia has received reports of 'spooning', in which, when two people who are recently thought to have 'hooked up' enter the dining hall, other residents loudly tap their spoons on the table. Such practices serve to broadcast intimate details of residents' sexual activity. In previous years a college intranet housed shared porn. Each week, a list would be published of which students watched which porn. EROC Australia has been told that one conservative male student attempted suicide when it was revealed that he had been consuming gay-porn.

Beyond the sharing of information, other practices reward or punish students for sexual behaviours deemed acceptable or unacceptable by the community. Such practices are evidence of a culture in which sexuality is highly policed and regulated. Of particular concern are the norms demanding high levels of sexual activity from students, with the threat of punishment if this standard is not met. More broadly, such a culture erodes any sense of privacy and autonomy, and contributes to a general disregard for the value of consent. It promotes the notion that bodies and lives are publicly owned by the college collective. The constant imperative to confess consolidates the power of those demanding confession, and, as Michel Foucault would argue, enables a regime of surveillance and discipline.<sup>200</sup> It casts younger students as disciples seeking absolution, and older students as figures of absolution, holding the power to forgive or to punish.

## 5.11. WEALTH AND PRIVILEGE

An integral aspect of college culture, and one that is often elided in discussions of the cultural issues at Australian colleges, is the social privilege held by those who attend colleges. This privilege is, first and foremost, underpinned by the material wealth of many college students. The cost of attending college is prohibitive for most families. A review of the cost of attending college by EROC Australia has found that the starting cost is generally between \$584 and \$831 per week depending on the college (this includes meals and board):

- St Andrew's College: \$784 per week (for 39 weeks)
- Women's College: \$675 per week (38 weeks)
- Wesley College: between \$575 per week and \$720 per week depending on whether sharing a room and room size (38 weeks)
- Sancta Sophia: \$584 per week for 39 weeks
- St John's \$645 per week for 41 weeks

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<sup>199</sup> Balakumar, A. (2016) 'Exclusive: Wesley College 'Rackweb' slut-shames female students, calls them 'bitches' and 'hoes'', Pulp Media. Available online at <<http://www.usu.edu.au/News/EXCLUSIVE-Wesley-College-Rackweb-slut-shames-fem.aspx>> [accessed 10 October 2017]

<sup>200</sup> Foucault, M. (1977) *The Government of self and others: Lectures at the College de France, 1982-1983*, Vol. 7. London: Macmillan.

- St Paul's \$831 per week for 35 weeks.

To put those figures in context, four non-college students could rent a 4 bedroom house, in the same suburb of Camperdown for around \$830 per week total, \$208 each<sup>201</sup>. The effect of these prices is that for the most part, it is only students from very wealthy backgrounds - or those on scholarship - who are able to attend college. As institutions, colleges literally select their constituents on the basis of wealth. There is also a pervasive 'legacy bias'; prospective college students whose family members attended the college are far more likely to gain entry. There are some scholarships awarded, but, as former college student Georgia Kriz noted in an article for *Honi Soit*, these are often awarded to those whose families have given philanthropic donations to the college in the past.<sup>202</sup>

As sexual assault and harassment are crimes of power, underpinned by authority and entitlement, it is important to interrogate how other structural forms of power - such as wealth and financial privilege- may feed into a culture of privilege and entitlement. These wealthy families are often also highly connected to others in positions of power, such as politicians and lawyers. For example, following an incident at St John's O Week in 2012, when a woman was rushed to hospital after being forced to drink a toxic cocktail, an internal 'mock court' was set up by the college, with a Federal Court Justice presiding. In the mock court, the mother of one of the 33 students accused represented 32 of the 33 young men. The verdict was that these men could not be compelled to do community service, and had the right to stand for election to the students' council.<sup>203</sup> When children of wealthy and powerful families are accused of sexual assault, harassment, or bullying, their parents are able to draw on these connections to suppress the allegations.

A common feature of hazing rituals, and of college life more generally, is the destruction of property. Students report windows being smashed, and furniture and other parts of the college grounds being vandalised. Dr Cameron, writing in 1997, recalls the following:

*An Andrewsman was caught on the way back to College in possession of a portrait of one of the former rectors of St John's College. Unfortunately the portrait, which had been cut out of its frame, had itself been caught, in a fence, and was very badly damaged. The cost of repair was estimated at \$40,000. It seemed to me inconceivable that any portrait of any head of any college could be worth anything like that, but the student, or his family, was able to pay and did, and so avoided expulsion (somewhat questionably, I think).<sup>204</sup> p. 13*

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<sup>201</sup> According to searches of *realestate.com.au* carried out in December 2017.

<sup>202</sup> Kriz, G. (2013) 'The right reason to hate college', *Honi Soit*, 9 April 2013. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2013/04/the-right-reason-to-hate-college/>> [Accessed 10 February 2018]

<sup>203</sup> Duff, E., Armitage, C. (2012) 'Meet the pride of St John's – the Untouchables', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 November 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/meet-the-pride-of-st-johns--the-untouchables-20121105-28u8d.html>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

<sup>204</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 13

Further, the lifestyle that college students are afforded is one of extreme privilege. The college grounds occupy almost half the land on the University's main campus,<sup>205</sup> and students are housed in ancient, heritage-listed sandstone buildings. College students have their meals cooked for them, students at St Andrew's have their rooms cleaned on a weekly basis, and Women's College residents have wines hand-selected each week to complement their dinners.<sup>206</sup> This stands in stark contrast to the lifestyle of the average university student, working part-time to afford their rent in a share-house. This culture of wealth is showcased and celebrated in the colleges' extravagant and expensive social events. The 'Great Occasions' page of the St Paul's College website boasts that past formals have included 'dodgem cars, a casino, spas, hot air balloon rides and a Ferris wheel, and there are always fireworks'.<sup>207</sup> In 2014, St Paul's converted the interior of their Quad into a lake for formal night, so as to host Gondola rides (the theme of the formal was Carnivale de Venezia). In 2016, St Paul's then converted the inside of their Quad into an ice rink for a winter themed formal held in Spring. They also had fake snow, huskies and figure skaters. Photos of both events are available online. Other photos, also show boys drinking alcohol with flecks of real gold in it.

Students who have contacted EROC Australia have also detailed the antics that occur at some of these events.

*I was at a big formal college event and there were goldfish in goldfish bowls on the table. As the evening progressed and the boys got increasingly drunk, some of the boys started drinking from the gold fish bowls and swallowing the fish live.*

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<sup>205</sup> Joyner, T. (2017) 'College scandals obscure the need for student housing', *Honi Soit*, 10 June 2017. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2017/06/college-scandals-obscure-the-need-for-student-housing/>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

<sup>206</sup> Ibid.

<sup>207</sup> St Paul's College, 'Great Occasions' webpage. Available online at <<http://www.stpauls.edu.au/home/explore/events-and-conferences/great-occasions>> [Accessed 7 January 2018]

## 5.12. FEEDER SCHOOLS

It is clear that the culture ingrained within colleges is also connected to students' histories at 'feeder schools' - secondary schools from which significant numbers of students go on to attend college. There are close ties between particular private boys' schools in Sydney and certain colleges. For example, St Paul's College has high numbers of students who attended schools such as Trinity Grammar, The Kings School, St Joseph's College, and Cranbrook School. A number of these students lived in boarding houses during their time in high school, and may have become accustomed to the lifestyle associated with boarding. This suggests that intervention in these cultures cannot be focused on the colleges alone - it must address the network of institutions, including private secondary schools, that entrenches such behaviours.

*Now if you have been boarding at a boys' school for the past five years and you come to an all-male College, and half your mates were at similar schools, and you don't really know what to make of women and the only women you see in college are there in their capacity as objects of sexual pleasure, and if the talk is all of scoring and rooting and so on, then you are not making much progress in the art of seeing women as fellow human beings. And it is not in the least surprising that if when you get drunk and make a fool of yourself and try to impress your mates by shouting obscenities at passers-by, or by running up to a total stranger and putting your arms round her. This is how you cover up your deficiencies, of which you are dimly aware. You don't understand women and you are frightened of them and confused by them, but you overcome all this by pretending that you don't need them at all – except for rooting. You reassure yourself by asserting your superiority and your independence and your self-sufficiency and you retreat into the male fortress.*<sup>208</sup>

*The College as it is at present appeals to a certain type of private school boy who sees it as a continuation and development of what he is accustomed to: the boarding-school mentality (with a hierarchy among students, tending to bullying and intimidation), now seasoned with heavy drinking and an incapacity or unwillingness to treat women at all adequately.*

*(Letter from Cameron in his capacity as the Principal of St. Andrew's to the College Council, 1994)*<sup>209</sup>

## 5.13. RACISM AND COLONIALISM

The college lifestyle is modelled in the tradition of the British elite classes, and the social mores of these classes are readily adopted by the students. In 1997, Peter Cameron wrote, "the [students] become exaggeratedly English, and call each other 'old boy' and sprawl in leather chairs under newspapers and talk

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<sup>208</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 126-127

<sup>209</sup> Cameron, p. 132

loudly and artificially”<sup>210</sup>. Mr Cameron also recalls an annual dinner for St Andrew’s, held at the Australian Club - a “socially exclusive, heavily traditional, and unashamedly chauvinistic” gentleman’s club.<sup>211</sup> He writes, “when I was elected to the membership a year later (really in my capacity as Principal of the College), I was told in an introductory talk that I should not invite guests of Asian extraction as this might offend some of the older members.”<sup>212</sup> These incidents betray the colonial and imperial history of the colleges. St Paul’s College, for example, was founded in 1846 when New South Wales was still formally considered a colony. The colleges were established to promote British values of liberalism and ‘collegiality’, along with the religious commitments particular to each college’s church. Even today, St Paul’s College hosts an annual Victoriana events.

However, colonial values are not merely relics of the colleges’ histories. In 2012, St Paul’s College held a ‘British Raj’ themed party, in which students were served food and drinks by South Asian wait-staff who were dressed in Indian clothing. This was criticised widely in the student body as racist and inappropriate - one student, in a letter to *Honi Soit*, described it as a ‘celebration of imperialism’.<sup>213</sup> Seemingly undeterred by this criticism, St Paul’s held another event in May 2015 called ‘Soiree on the Silk Road’. The invitation to another event held that month, the Full Moon Party, read:

*I was sitting on the train this morning opposite a really sexy Thai lady. I thought to myself, ‘Please don’t get an erection. Please don’t get an erection.’*<sup>214</sup>

The overtones of racism in these events - in which other cultures are stereotyped and reduced merely to exotic and exciting themes for parties - are symptomatic of college cultures in which whiteness is dominant and unquestioned. College students’ responses to criticism of these events were highly defensive. One St Paul’s student wrote on Facebook, “if you can find me anyone of Indian heritage who was at all offended by the evening at St. Paul’s for [the Jazz Dinner Dance] I’d be astounded”; another wrote, “that’s it, ban ALL the upscale parties!!”.<sup>215</sup> Such responses are indicative of the way in which racism and other forms of discrimination are legitimated within the social bubble of the colleges - a culture which values, as USyd student Tom Joyner wrote for *Honi Soit*, ‘tradition above progress, lineage above diversity’.<sup>216</sup> Reflecting on his experience at St Andrew’s, Dr Cameron argued that college students “are encouraged to think that the College, like the Club, is the last fortress for the Australian male, and



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<sup>210</sup> Cameron, p. 19

<sup>211</sup> Ibid.

<sup>212</sup> Ibid.

<sup>213</sup> Whyte, S. & Lewis, D. (2012) ‘Was this uni Raj night racist?’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 10 June 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/tertiary-education/was-this-uni-raj-night-racist-20120609-202q7.html>> [Accessed 10 February 2018]

<sup>214</sup> Joyner, T. (2015) ‘The neverending story’, *Honi Soit*, 4 June 2015. Available online at <<http://honisoit.com/2015/06/the-neverending-story/>> [Accessed 10 February 2018]

<sup>215</sup> Whyte & Lewis, ‘Was this uni Raj night racist?’

<sup>216</sup> Joyner, ‘The neverending story’



that any suggestion of infiltration by females or Asians to be fiercely resisted.”<sup>217</sup> Further, he wrote,

*“The common complaint among the Australian students was that the Asians deliberately isolated themselves and stuck together and refused to integrate, and showed no interest in learning about the Australian way of life ... And in the wider context all foreigners, if they want to integrate, must become Australians, and the quickest, or perhaps the only way of doing that is to worship beer, chicks and footy, because that is the dominant culture.”*<sup>218</sup>

Further (and perhaps more blatant) evidence of racism at the colleges can be found in the St Andrew’s College songbook, published in 1993. The lyrics of one song called ‘Manana’ read:

*Way down in Alabama, where the n\*\*\*\*\*s shovel coal,  
A n\*\*\*\*\* shoved his shovel up another n\*\*\*\*\*’s hole.  
Said the foreman to the n\*\*\*\*\*:  
“You’re here to shovel coal,  
And not to shove your shovel up another n\*\*\*\*\*’s hole.”*

EROC Australia has also received screenshots of St Paul’s students and St John’s students wearing pro-Trump merchandise as well as a message signed off with the word ‘Heil’. These examples illustrate how attitudes of white superiority can potentially pervade college culture, and how some college students, consciously or unconsciously, position themselves within racial hierarchies.

## 5.14. HOMOPHOBIA

There is also evidence of homophobia operating within college culture. In 2016, a rainbow gay pride flag was found partially burnt on the grounds of St Andrew’s College.<sup>219</sup> *The Sydney Morning Herald* reported that it had been burnt after a night of drinking at the college formal. The St Andrew’s song book from 1993 includes the following song, titled ‘Here They Come’:

*Here they come just a sucking on a cock  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la  
Any poof will do so long as he’s a chock  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la  
Fuck each other (repeat)  
Up the arse (repeat)  
Fuck each other up the arse*

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<sup>217</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, pp. 19-20

<sup>218</sup> Cameron, *Finishing School for Blokes*, p. 197

<sup>219</sup> Bagshaw, E. (2016) ‘St Andrew’s College at University of Sydney in ‘ritualistic humiliation’ controversy’, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 May 2016. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/st-andrews-college-at-university-of-sydney-in-ritualistic-humiliation-controversy-20160518-goxu16.html>> [Accessed 3 January 2018]

*Never let a poofter pass*

Although the Broderick & Co. report includes a quote from one student who reports that they ‘felt [they] could come out at College and it’s been fine’ (p.21), another student told the taskforce that college ‘is not a safe place to come out or to be different or express yourself about something that’s [different]’ (p. 39). One research study found that harassment was one of the major issues faced by LGBTIQ+ students at colleges.<sup>220</sup> In a culture where heterosexual sexual acts are encouraged, publicised and praised, homosexuality is denigrated as deviant and unacceptable. Appropriate performances of masculinity and femininity must include heterosexual desire. Gay, bisexual or queer men are taunted as ‘fags’ or ‘poofters’, and gay, bisexual or queer women are either sexualised as ‘hot lesbians’ or portrayed as sexually undesirable ‘dykes’. The strict regulation of sexuality in college culture operates to put immense pressure on students to engage in sexual acts with those of the opposite sex, forcing LGBTIQ+ students to suppress their sexuality or regulate it to conform with these demands.

## 5.15. HYGIENE

One of the common themes to emerge is the issue of hygiene. Multiple students- including Gabrielle Lynch- have described faeces being left in bathrooms and hallways. Cameron also wrote about this phenomenon:

*There was an unofficial competition for the Animal Act of the Year. Shortly before I came, the winner was alleged to be a student who had defecated during the night in the kitchen of one of the other colleges. And there is the famous College legend of the Phantom Arsehole. A student was working one day in his room when he smelt something, and on investigating found a turd on his windowsill. He ran upstairs but there was no one else around. Ever since then the sign of the Phantom Arsehole – the letter P surmounting a pair of buttocks – has been found traced in every piece of newly laid concrete within a half-mile radius of the College, but no one has ever been caught in the act.p. 55-56*

Eamonn Duff, a former journalist for *The Sydney Morning Herald* has also confirmed that he was supplied photos with faeces in St John’s College smeared on the bathroom walls, but the newspaper elected not to run the images on the grounds of bad taste.

In a particularly disturbing account, a former St Andrew’s college student has explained a practice where if women leave shampoo, conditioner or body milk in the bathroom, male students will habitually masturbate into the container so that the girls are then washing their hair or face with a mixture of semen and product: “I believe the preference was to masturbate into face and body wash but anything left in the showers was ‘fair game’.”

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<sup>220</sup> Evans, N.J. & Wall, V.A., eds. (1991) *Beyond tolerance: Gays, lesbians, and bisexuals on campus*. Alexandria, VA: ACPA Media.

## 5.16. ANIMAL CRUELTY

In addition to the aforementioned swallowing of live fish, other students have also mentioned other forms of animal cruelty. In particular, turtles which lived at Wesley College had to be removed during formal events (where students become intoxicated) as they would sometimes be deliberately hurt. In one year, a student carved the symbol for the 'Phantom asshole' into the shell of a turtle. The 1993 St Andrew's Song Book also included a chant about bestiality:

BEASTIALITY (sic)

Beastiality's best boys,  
Beastiality's best (fuck a wallaby),  
Beastiality's best boys,  
Beastiality's best.

Put your goo in a roo boys,  
Put your goo in a roo.

There have also been reports of animal cruelty or inappropriate conduct at other colleges around Australia, including placing dead rabbits in the beds of students at University of New England, throwing a live goat off a roof at University of Melbourne and at Monash University a horse heart was left outside the bedroom of a vegan and raw mince was smeared on her windows<sup>221</sup>.

## 5.17. COLLEGE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

EROC Australia has noted elsewhere the troubling frequency with which student misconduct at colleges and other university residences is handled internally, with seemingly minor consequences for offenders.<sup>222</sup> In our experience of supporting college students through these processes, we have found that – on a national basis- such complaints tend to be handled on an ad hoc basis, rather than through formal channels that comply with university policies. This presents a number of issues for survivors of sexual assault - survivors have no certainty as to how their report will be managed, are often not afforded procedural fairness or appropriate confidentiality and control over the process, and often have no ability to effectively advocate for themselves or exercise rights of appeal. In these processes, college students tend not to be informed of their right to lodge a separate complaint with the university, under student code of conduct and harassment or discrimination policies. EROC Australia believes that it is crucial for there to be greater cohesion between these reporting and complaint channels. This is best achieved by ensuring that

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<sup>221</sup> Hill, B. (2017) "'Absolutely terrifying": Vegan student, 18, has raw liver and offal thrown at her in her sleep by university bully', *Daily Mail*, 6 October 2017. Available online at <<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4951930/Vegan-student-raw-meat-thrown-her.html>> [Accessed 2 January 2018]

<sup>222</sup> EROC Australia, *Connecting the Dots*, p. 41

colleges comply with university complaint handling and resolution procedures, and that information is shared between the institutions to enable investigation of complaints.

A second issue with colleges' institutional approaches to sexual assault and harassment is the sub-par primary prevention efforts put in place. In 2017, Fair Agenda contacted 211 university residences around the country, seeking information about their implementation of training to prevent sexual assault. Of those 211 residences, only 57 were involving a sexual assault service in training for all students, and less than half of the 211 could say that their training included content around evidence-based violence prevention research.<sup>223</sup> EROC Australia is also aware of some colleges delegating sexual assault prevention training to Residential Assistants or other student leaders, rather than employing trained professionals to conduct training.

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<sup>223</sup> Fair Agenda (2017) 'Compare Uni residences' training to prevent sexual assault in 2017', webpage, available online at <[http://www.fairagenda.org/residences\\_survey\\_compare](http://www.fairagenda.org/residences_survey_compare)> [Accessed 28 December 2017]

## 6. THE BROADER CONTEXT

The USyd colleges are often described as some of the most toxic and misogynistic residential colleges in Australia, but EROC Australia recognises that such issues are by no means confined to the University of Sydney, or the USyd colleges. While similar cultures exist at other colleges and university residences around Australia, many of these institutions escape media scrutiny. There are a number of factors which impact on the visibility of the cultural problems at each university, including:

- **Location:** the proximity of major media outlets leads to increased visibility meaning that regional and remote universities tend to enjoy more shelter from mainstream media scrutiny, compared to universities located in capital cities;
- **Student media:** cultural problems at universities with highly active student publications are more likely to be publicly aired in student media and subsequently picked up by mainstream media. The University of Sydney's *Honi Soit* is the only weekly student publication in Australia, and has a long and proud history dating back to 1929 of breaking exclusive news stories;
- **Student activists:** universities with highly active and organised Women's Collectives tend to be subject to greater media scrutiny, particularly if students have had training in how to proactively work with the mainstream media. The University of Sydney Women's Collective has a reputation for being one of the most active Women's Collectives in the country, and unlike student Women's Officers at most other universities, the Women's Officers at USyd receive a small stipend and budget which enables them to be more proactive in their advocacy;
- **Alumni:** elite colleges with high profile alumni tend to attract more media interest.

The University of Sydney is a member of the 'Group of Eight', which also includes the University of Melbourne, Australian National University, University of Adelaide, University of Queensland, University of Western Australia, Monash University and the University of New South Wales.

The Go8 Universities promote themselves as a "coalition of Australia's leading universities".<sup>224</sup> In 2016 all Go8 Universities were ranked in the top 150 universities worldwide, with six in the top 100. In 2016 the Go8 universities also featured in the top 100 places for every subject area in the QS world university subject rankings.<sup>225</sup>

Currently the Go8 enrolls over 360,000 students, educating more than one quarter of all higher education students in Australia.<sup>226</sup> Of those 360,000 students, over 100,000 are international students and one in three international students who choose to study in Australia do so at a Go8. In 2015, Go8 universities

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<sup>224</sup> Group of Eight Australia (n.d.) 'Facts of Distinction'. Available online at <[https://go8.edu.au/sites/default/files/docs/page/facts-of-distinction\\_web.pdf](https://go8.edu.au/sites/default/files/docs/page/facts-of-distinction_web.pdf)> [accessed 10 October 2017]

<sup>225</sup> Ibid.

<sup>226</sup> Ibid.

earned over \$12 billion – 43% of the total sector revenue - and a significant portion of this came from international students.<sup>227</sup>

Yet despite their reputation for excellence, all eight of the Go8 universities have been plagued by sexual assault or harassment scandals in recent years. Here we chart some of the scandals that have plagued the Go8 universities in recent years.

## 6.1. UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES (UNSW)

In April 2016, a video surfaced which captured students at Philip Baxter College at UNSW reciting a chauvinistic chant on an annual “Boys Night Out” event.

The lyrics included:

I wish that all the ladies were little red foxes,  
And if I were a hunter I'd shoot up in their boxes.  
I wish that all the ladies were buns in the oven,  
And if I was a baker I'd cream them by the dozen.  
I wish that all the ladies were holes in the road,  
And if I was a dump truck, I'd fill them with my load.  
I wish that all the ladies were bells on a tower,  
And if I was a bellboy, I'd bang them every hour.  
I wish that all the ladies were sheep in the grass,  
And if I was a kiwi I'd do 'em up the arse.<sup>228</sup>



EROC Australia photo campaign, 2017. **Source:** EROC Australia

A snap demonstration was held by students on campus in response to the video. The 2016 UNSW student council Women's Officer Jocelyn Dracakis condemned the footage, telling the media that it was not an isolated incident and that there had previously been reports of male students chanting at football games about raping other players' girlfriends.<sup>229</sup>

In August 2016, it was reported that just two of the busload of UNSW students who participated in the chant had been identified, after they voluntarily came forward. At that time a UNSW spokesperson

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<sup>227</sup> Ibid.

<sup>228</sup> Palin, M. (2016) 'College scandal: Sydney male students' pro-rape chants caught on camera', news.com.au. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/national/nsw-act/news/college-scandal-sydney-male-students-prorape-chants-caught-on-camera/news-story/77d25418300d6756d7c478fb73df2ba3>> [accessed 15 October 2017]

<sup>229</sup> Ibid.



confirmed that the investigation was now complete and that no other students would be disciplined in connection with the incident.<sup>230</sup>

## 6.2. UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND (UQ)

In November 2017, a Student's Club Yearbook produced by residents from Emmanuel College at the University of Queensland was exposed by Channel 7 News. The Yearbook featured quotes attributed to students including:

- "I'd rather choke her to sleep, than talk her to sleep."
- "I could put my fist right through her face."
- "Consent is nothing."<sup>231</sup>



A quote from the Emmanuel College Yearbook, 2017. **Source:** Channel 7 News.

In April 2016, it was reported that a group of male students at St John's college at the University of Queensland had surrounded a female student chanting "No means yes, yes means anal."<sup>232</sup> The female student was reportedly very distressed and has since left the college and university as a result.

<sup>230</sup> Marriner, C. (2016) 'Just two UNSW college students punished for offensive bus chant', Sydney Morning Herald. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/just-two-unsw-college-students-punished-for-offensive-bus-chant-20160805-gqm6r4.html>> [accessed 15 October 2017]

<sup>231</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) 'University of Queensland's Emmanuel College in 2017 yearbook scandal', news.com.au. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/parenting/school-life/university-of-queenslands-emmanuel-college-in-2017-yearbook-scandal/news-story/bd8d79de92e9246afa11704ae6832cad>> [accessed 21 November 2017]

<sup>232</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) 'No means yes, yes means anal', The Daily Telegraph. Available online at <<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/rendezview/no-means-yes-yes-means-anal/news-story/c06c8f0587745e45d9bd70502c62ae0c>> [accessed 15 April 2016]

In 2002 Alistair Waite, a former student from King's College at UQ, filed a complaint with the Anti-Discrimination Commission, detailing a year of torment and harassment at the hands of fellow King's students. He was targeted for speaking up against hazing and harassment of first year students. Mr Waite described the college as a "Lord of the Flies situation" and said that the systemic abuse drove him from the college. Mr Waite's allegations, reported to the police and the media, included:

- Verbal abuse in the dining hall, including being told "get out of our college, faggot";
- Physical assault, including being punched in the jaw;
- Having his door urinated on over 35 times throughout a year;
- Having his bedroom at the college trashed six times;
- A newsletter that was circulated, falsely claiming that Mr Waite was a homosexual who preyed upon first year students;
- Being told that if he spoke up a student would cut his throat;
- A website describing in detail four ways to kill Mr Waite, which was viewed by more than 1300 people;
- Having his clothes stolen and burned in an effigy outside the college;
- The frequent vandalism of his car, with obscenities scratched into the paintwork and his tyres being deflated; and
- In August 2001, five drunk King's College students allegedly attacked Mr Waite at night in the cafeteria as he was cooking. The students allegedly held him down, grabbing his testicles and told him "I bet you like that, faggot". When Mr Waite tried to escape they allegedly pinned him down and kicked him in the testicles, before one of the students allegedly raped Mr Waite with a broken broom handle. He told *A Current Affair* that during the assault they yelled, "Get out of our college faggot, there is no one to protect you now."<sup>233</sup>

According to the *Courier Mail* and *A Current Affair*, Mr Waite repeatedly reported the abuse to authorities at the college and the church but little was done to stop the harassment.<sup>234</sup> A college document obtained by *A Current Affair* revealed the college had financial concerns about the matter: "The cost of this claim may run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. Our insurance policy apparently, doesn't cover this."<sup>235</sup> Following these revelations, students from rival colleges would chant "broomstick" while brandishing broomsticks at sporting events. Former college students from this era and more recently have also reported:

- Fresher Chess: A King's College tradition where freshers would take the roles of chess pieces and other years would line the balconies of the quad and pelt the freshers with missiles.

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<sup>233</sup> Vogler, S. & Mathewson, C. (2002) 'Man tells of 'Lord of Flies' harassment', *The Courier Mail*. Available online at <<https://global.factiva.com>> [accessed 19 November 2015] & Vincent Lui (2013) 'A Current Affair - The Kings broomstick incident', YouTube. Available online at <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOtG4LIbnZA>> [accessed 5 January 2018]

<sup>234</sup> Ibid.

<sup>235</sup> Ibid.

- Annual General Meetings were an opportunity for freshers to talk about how many girls they had had sex with. There was a lot of pressure to have good stories which resulted in both Kingsmen pushing themselves aggressively onto women ahead of AGMs to build their numbers, and the guys lying about conquests to avoid teasing.
- Centurion, a drinking game where 100 drinks were attempted to be consumed to 100 songs.
- St John's: a co-ed college at UQ has awarded the "silver spurs" to the John's boy who slept with the most John's girls.

## 6.3. ADELAIDE RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES

In February 2018, an O Week magazine previously produced by students from St Mark's College in Adelaide surfaced. The "O-Mag" included over a dozen highly graphic poems, many of which celebrate sexual violence against women. The 31 page booklet (included in full in the Appendix) also contains the college songs, a point scoring system for having sex with the student leaders, and a list of things to do at college including "fornicate on the Master's desk", "take a poo on the couch", and "watch porn in the JCR [Junior Common Room]". Aimed at first year students, known as "freshers", the tone of the O-Mag is highly degrading and provides insight into the tactics used to both dehumanise and acculturate first year students. The O-Mag begins:

*Attention Fresher Fucks: To this date your lives have resembled no more than that that of the smallest maggot in the stomach of a dying cow. By the pure miracle of chance, you find yourselves at College and at the absolute mercy of the great Gods [student leaders]... you are considered to be as important as an aborted foetus dangling from a coat hanger... you fuckwits must be proved worthy... you have one week in which to demonstrate this, and only the strongest of you pathetic fresher fucks will emerge with even a skerrick of dignity.*

*Failure is not an option fucks... The consequences of this are more unpleasant than your dim witted minds can even comprehend... Don't Fuck It Up... you will do what you are told, when you are told.*

*Firstly, do not show anyone outside of college this O'Mag... Secondly, this O'Mag will be the most valuable text book you will read in your time at University, so study it hard. Anyone caught breaking these rules, or any other rules, or just generally being a useless fresher fuck, will be in more shit than you could possibly imagine.*

The O'Mag contains 16 poems about individual senior students and college leaders. Interestingly, the poems about the male student leaders differ significantly from those about the female student leaders: the poems about the men focus on their sexual prowess, dominance and capacity for sexual violence (particularly against fresher girls who are depicted as craving and enjoying sexual violence). By contrast,

the poems about female student leaders stress their sexually unavailability to younger men in the college. For example, some of the poems about men include:

*Have you ever choked on 10 inches of rod?  
Just one of the reasons why this man is God.  
A basketball legend, you fresher girls quiver,  
As he rams his hard dick up into your liver.  
And while you lie yelping and bleeding in pain  
You find yourself shouting and screaming his name  
In your stretched arse his fist will be resident  
I give you [name redacted].*

*This beast from the river makes lochness look tame  
He puts girls in wheelchairs without knowing their name  
Your axe-wounds will grow and flow like the Nile  
His conquers, he nails and throws in a pile.  
Fresher boys stop and pay homage to this demon  
He makes you look like unwanted sprays of semen.*

*What's wet, frothing and squirting for more?  
A fresher girl's gash when she sees this man roar.  
A leader of men and warlord so great  
He'll come for you girls and knock down your gate.  
He's not here to fuck spiders and neither are you  
Cross him, and you'll swim in his steamy white goo.*

*You look up and whisper begging 'oh please'  
As your soaking wet pussy leaks down past your knees.  
He's concealing a footlong so girls run in fear  
Or he'll pounce on your rump like a small baby deer  
He'll tear and rip at your bits til they're trimmed  
And they'll cry from the girth that Jesus brought in.*

*He pounds like a God til your meat curtains are mince  
Mop up your dignity and try not to wince  
All that blood and semen, you'll need a big sponge  
To soak up the mess that is your rotting dead clunge.*

By contrast the poems about female student leaders emphasize that they are sexually off-limits to men, particularly fresher men:

*This smokin' hot biddle shoots flames from her eyes  
And scorches the balls of all fresher guys  
So don't even bother with this slammin' goddess  
Cos she'll laugh at your cock and the hair on your chest.*

*If you value your genitals and do want to live,  
The queen of the pub should not be fucked with.  
This babin' blonde makes the boys quiver,  
for none can match up to her ironclad liver.*

*You think she's cute? I'll tell you what is,  
Shaking a can until it goes 'fizz'  
Then shoving it so far up your arse with your thumb  
Then sending you home to explode on your mum  
She will send you packing, she will double team ya  
Give it up for the lady [name redacted]..*

*Get on your knees and show your respect,  
And no, dumb fresher, your chode's not getting wet  
She'll run rings around you with incredible speed  
And without even touching you, she'll make your dick bleed  
Don't run, don't hide, there's nowhere to go,  
Your penis period is starting to flow  
And when you awake to the sound of her shouting  
A small dick and herpes isn't all you're sprouting  
On your pants a small stain will appear  
But give up fresher and stick to your beer  
No she doesn't want to touch your Johnson,  
She's the one and only [name redacted].*

*Hot as a frypan she'll make your cock throb  
But you still need a microscope to see your small knob  
She's lean, she's mean, your premature cream  
Won't satisfy this goddess, do you know what I mean ?  
You fat fresher sluts, you think you compare?  
Perhaps to a dead cat without any hair.  
You worthless fresher boys will all dream and plead  
But 2 inches is too short for Miss [name redacted].*

The poems about male and female student leaders also offer telling and concerning insights into how gender double standards and stereotypes around sex and power inform the sexual economy which operates within the college. Notably, the more powerful (and idealised) women in the college (the female leaders) are seen as sexually desirable, but ultimately unattainable. By contrast, the fresher girls are portrayed as “fat fresher sluts” with insatiable sexual appetites, particularly for the male leaders. Male students are depicted in total reverse: the older men are portrayed as highly sexually available, virile and aggressive, while fresher men are portrayed as sexless virgins with “2 inch” penises.

These gendered constructions appear to be aimed at normalising and ensuring an unending supply of sex to the older male students. By sexually regulating the “young bucks” (i.e. by instructing fresher boys not to seek out sex with older female students), the male leaders are ensuring that ‘their women’ remain exclusively available to themselves. At the same time, by glorifying and normalising sex between fresher girls and older male students, the older men are maximising their potential pool of available sexual partners. This creates a sexual hierarchy where the male leaders are the “Gods” who control and dominate sexual exchanges; the female leaders are allowed to control sex, but only by turning it down; the fresher boys are not permitted to have sex; and at the very bottom of the hierarchy are the fresher girls who are entitled to have sex, but only on the violent and exploitative terms of the “Gods”.

This gender double standard and arrangement of sexual power is reflected further on in the O-Mag. On pages 22 and 23 (see Appendix), The St Mark’s Baseball chart appears. The chart lists the names of the student leaders along with the number of points a fresher will get for going to first base (kissing), second base (genital groping), third base (oral sex) or home run (penetrative intercourse) with the student leader.

*This could be the only sport you Fresher Fucks will get to play. The rules are simple enough, even for the most brain-dead fuckwit fresher. Below is the value of getting to each base, with people in College. Simply add up your points (which are out of 100 you dumb fuck) if you get lucky. The person with the most points gets crowned the College bike.*

According to the chart, going to first base with the male student president will earn the fresher 97 points, second base: 98 points, third base: 99 points, and a home run will earn 100 points. Interestingly, kissing, groping, oral sex or intercourse with other freshers result in point deductions as punishment. In this way, the point scoring system appears to be designed to groom the female freshers to have sex with older students while explicitly stigmatizing sex within their own cohort of same-aged peers. (This trend has been observed elsewhere at other colleges, including at the events at Sydney University colleges known as the “Bait Cruise” and “Fresher Fishing” referenced earlier in this document).

The O-Mag also includes a “College Dick-tionary” which translates the college slang for incoming freshers. Again, the “Dick-tionary” is used to prescribe the sexual rules within the college. For example, “Floorcest” is defined as “a particularly heinous sexual act carried out by two Fresher Fucks from the same floor.” In addition to prohibiting relationships between freshers, the document also prohibits exclusive couples who separate off from the rest of the college community: “Truck and Trailer [a couple who choose to be



*exclusive]: An awful habit for both parties involved and the wider college community, in which an inter-college couple are too pathetic to communicate with anyone but themselves. i.e. they walk, talk, shit, go to uni, go to all meals and NEVER attend a college function.”*

Forbidding exclusive relationships within the college appears to serve two functions: first it ensures that female students are not permanently removed from the sexual marketplace. Second, prohibiting close relationships ensures that a student’s primary loyalty is to the college and the college community, rather than to any individual. In this way, students are socialised to believe that the relationship with the college comes above all else.

This blind loyalty to the college is also fostered in the way St Mark’s students are taught to view the residents of other colleges. On page 28 and 29 (see Appendix 4), the O-Mag includes a description of “The Lesser Colleges”:

*When God envisages heaven, he thinks of [our] College. Outside our revered utopia exists fiendish, self loathing dickheads of inferior intellect who are thus confined to “special” homes for the blind, dumb, deaf and retarded.*

**St Ann’s College:** *If you get taken home by one of them during an open show, vomit all over them ... Eggs are to be thrown at St Ann’s collegians specifically.*

**Lincoln College:** *Every year they think they are in contention for the High Table Cup, this would be true if it were a disabled Olympics. As they have the chromosomal condition that causes Down Syndrome, they are not to be copulated with as to do so would risk bringing another potential Lincoln applicant into the world.*

**Aquinas College:** *Commonly referred to as “Micks on the Hill”, dildo bashers, cum-dumpsters etc. ...Made up of people who didn’t get into St Mark’s. If you get caught in Aquinas for any reason except stealing their property, you will be sacrificed to the pond. In general, the guys are wankers and the girls have STIs.*

Finally, the O’Mag finishes with a message for the freshers:

*You now know that your position within the College hierarchy is at a subterranean level, directly below the shit eating insects that roam the earth’s core... You are probably a pimply faced virgin, unable to locate your dick. You don’t know shit. O’Week will most probably get the better of you, even if you try your teeny tiny little heart out. You ARE a Fresher Fuck. You will be looked upon more kindly by your Gods if you inform [the student leaders] of ANY stories involving sexual misbehaviour or drunken tomfoolery. We leave you with the [following] wise words... : “Life’s short. Get fucked and spew!*

## 6.4. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE (UNIMELB)

In July 2016, posters appeared around the University of Melbourne campus which read “Why don’t the UniMelb colleges record the number of sexual assaults that happen there?” and “College Crescent is a Hunting Ground” (College Crescent is the address of four of the university’s colleges including Ormond College, Queen’s College, St Hilda’s College and University College).<sup>236</sup>



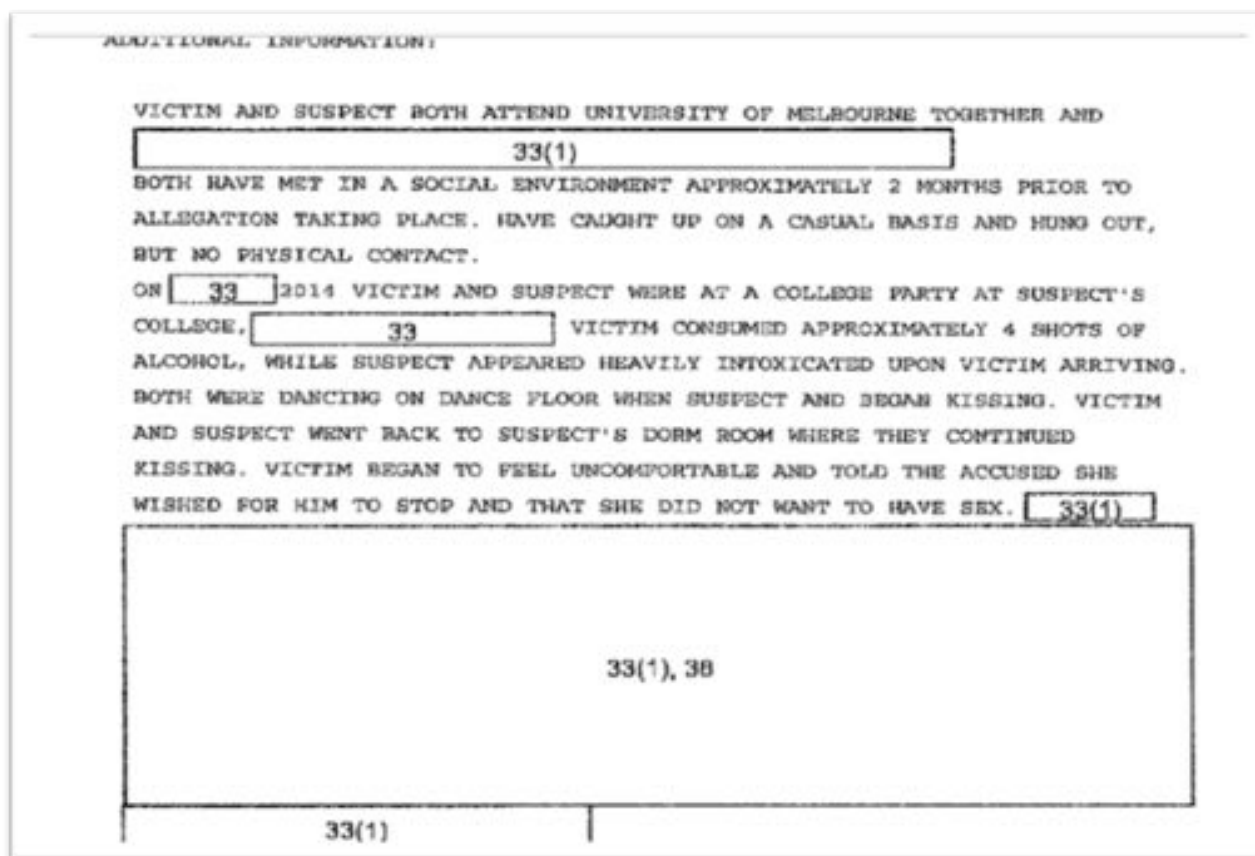
Posters at the University of Melbourne in 2016. **Source:** Image supplied.

Students who had been sexually assaulted while at the colleges had recently spoken out to the media, including one woman who wrote an extensive account of her rape and the subsequent college cover up for online current affairs site, *Mamamia*.<sup>237</sup> Yet when the university refused to comply with a Freedom of Information inquiry into numbers of sexual assault reports, Channel 7 FOI editor Alison Sandy then used FOI legislation to target the Victorian Police for any reports of rape or sexual assault which occurred at

<sup>236</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) ‘Shocking sexual assault statistics revealed as more victims come forward to news.com.au’, *news.com.au*, 6 July 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/shocking-sexual-assault-statistics-revealed-as-more-victims-come-forward-to-newscomau/news-story/7430ae1f269d97cc020fdc92b312abf9>> [Accessed 19 October 2017]

<sup>237</sup> Anonymous (2016) ‘I was raped on a university campus and silenced’, *Mamamia*, 31 May 2016. Available online at <<https://www.mamamia.com.au/rape-at-university-of-melbourne/>> [Accessed 30 June 2017]

Melbourne University.<sup>238</sup> That second FOI request revealed numerous cases of sexual assault occurring at Melbourne University, including within the college grounds. For example, in one police report it states that in 2014 two students from the University of Melbourne “were at a college party at the suspect’s college. [The] victim consumed approximately 4 shots of alcohol, while [the] suspect appeared heavily intoxicated upon [the] victim arriving. Both were dancing on dance floor when [the] suspect and [victim] began kissing. [The] victim and suspect went back to [the] suspect’s dorm room where they continued kissing. [The] victim began to feel uncomfortable and told the accused she wished for him to stop and did not want to have sex.” The remainder of the report is largely redacted, however the complaint was listed as vaginal sexual penetration.



Police report uncovered by Freedom of Information request. **Source:** Channel 7 News.

The FOI investigation also uncovered several other sexual assault police reports including one case in 2015 where a woman was allegedly sexually assaulted after meeting up with a man she met on Tinder at the university gates. In another instance, a cleaner was allegedly sexually assaulted by a University staff member.

<sup>238</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) ‘Police reveal what ‘secretive’ universities didn’t want you to know’, *news.com.au*, 6 December 2016. Available at: [www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/police-reveal-what-the-secretive-universities-didnt-wantyou-to-know/news-story/0dbef6b5d42ed402e39b47010e570f1c](http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/police-reveal-what-the-secretive-universities-didnt-wantyou-to-know/news-story/0dbef6b5d42ed402e39b47010e570f1c). [Accessed 6 December 2016]

Earlier that year, the culture of the University of Melbourne had been called into question. In April 2016, Facebook removed a “Hotties of Melbourne University” group after over 23,000 people signed a petition to have it removed. The page invited members to rate photos of girls on their attractiveness and featured comments like “this girl is a 0/10 I would not bang her even if they PAID me! Fucking hell” and “she’s a bitch and has bad breath”. Other comments read “geez she’d get it” and “shoot me with tranquilliser right now before I go out and hunt”. Other posters also listed where certain women would be at various times of the day.<sup>239</sup>



EROC Australia photo campaign, 2017. Source: EROC Australia

## 6.5. UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (UWA)

In 2012 UWA made headlines<sup>240</sup> after students complained about a university Orientation week camp. Allegations included:

- That older students stuck their fingers down the throats of younger students to make them vomit, to enable them to drink more;
- Students had sex on tables while organisers handed out condoms;
- Students who passed out were urinated on;
- Teenage girls were forced to expose themselves to more than 50 people in a drinking game.<sup>241</sup>

<sup>239</sup> Triple J Hack (2016) “Hotties of Melbourne Uni” page removed from Facebook after viral petition’, *Triple J Hack*, 15 April 2016. Available online at <<http://www.abc.net.au/triplej/programs/hack/hotties-of-melbourne-uni-page-removed-from-facebook/7331218>> [Accessed 19 December 2017]; Cook, H. (2016) ‘Calls to remove ‘creepy’ Facebook page which ranks hot University of Melbourne students’, *The Age*, 12 April 2016. Available online at <<https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/calls-to-remove-creepy-facebook-page-which-ranks-hot-university-of-melbourne-students-20160412-go49lt.html>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]

<sup>240</sup> Phillips, Y. (2012) ‘University of Western Australia’s ‘sex’ camps on hold’, *Perth Now*, 12 May 2012. Available online at <<https://www.perthnow.com.au/news/wa/university-of-western-australias-sex-camps-on-hold-ng-4a10cfa678b692b68ac344a505f3024>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]



The scandal came just three weeks after a Facebook page was set up by male students at UWA inviting “sluts” to join them for a drunken party on Rottneest Island.<sup>242</sup> That same year signs appeared on campus saying “rape jokes = hate speech” after male students mocked those who had raised concerns about O-week parties.<sup>243</sup>

In 2016, former UWA college student Jannika Jacky described on Channel 7’s *Sunday Night* program how she had been raped on her 18th birthday in a fellow college student’s bedroom<sup>244</sup>. Jacky had been celebrating her 18th birthday at a bar before becoming violently ill. She asked a friend to help her back to college. On arriving, she realised she no longer had her college room key as she had left it with a friend at the bar. As it was winter and cold outside, Jacky asked if she could wait in her friend’s room until she got her key back.<sup>245</sup>

According to Jacky, her friend replied, “yeah sure, no worries, what are friends for?” But once Jacky entered the room, she says her friend raped her:

*I remember walking into the room. I remember turning the light switch on and then I remember him walking up behind me [and] turning the light switch off and then having me against the wall and kissing me. I remember quite clearly saying, ‘No, I don’t want to do this, I don’t think this is a good idea because we’re just friends,’ [but] he just didn’t stop. ...I was repeating myself [saying], ‘No, I don’t want to do this’ ... I couldn’t tell you how many times I repeated it because I just kept saying it and it wasn’t working and I did not know what to do. I was petrified.<sup>246</sup>*

Jacky suffered from depression, anxiety and flashbacks. She would also see her alleged offender on campus. Eventually Jacky dropped out of her degree. Three years later, a Facebook notification would alert her to the fact that her alleged perpetrator had graduated.

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<sup>241</sup> Phillips, Y. (2012) ‘UWA hit with more sex claims’, *news.com.au*, 25 June 2012. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/national/uwa-hit-with-more-sex-claims/news-story/3cee69c80a2a4298fdee412e29f00770>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]

Orr, A. (2012) ‘UWA reputation under threat as ‘O-week’ reports travel overseas’, *WA Today*, 7 May 2012. Available online at <<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/uwa-reputation-under-threat-as-oweek-reports-travel-overseas-20120506-1y6qt.html>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]

<sup>242</sup> Hickey, P. (2012) ‘UWA students seek ‘sluts’ for Rotto party’, *Perth Now*, 9 June 2012. Available online at <<https://www.perthnow.com.au/news/wa/uwa-students-seek-sluts-for-rotto-party-ng-ab4e78b122e0eafaa4200e2ad58af733>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]

<sup>243</sup> Emanuel, K. (2012) ‘Students confront rape culture at University of Western Australia’, *Green Left Weekly*, 1 June 2012. Available online at <<https://www.greenleft.org.au/content/students-confront-rape-culture-university-western-australia>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]

<sup>244</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) ‘Largest ever FOI request paints a dirty picture of sexual assault at Australian unis’, *news.com.au*, 7 October 2016. Available online at <[www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/largest-ever-foi-request-paints-a-dirty-picture-of-sexual-assault-at-australian-unis/news-story/798508bfcc3a6b2a684c5dcb9ed67fb3](http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/largest-ever-foi-request-paints-a-dirty-picture-of-sexual-assault-at-australian-unis/news-story/798508bfcc3a6b2a684c5dcb9ed67fb3)> [Accessed 7 October 2016]

<sup>245</sup> Ibid.

<sup>246</sup> Ibid.

*I don't think it's affected his life at all ... When the photo of him in a graduation gown came up on my newsfeed via a mutual friend's photo, I was absolutely livid. It seems totally unfair that he gets to do something that I couldn't really do because of what happened. He gets to graduate and float through university, and float through life totally unhindered by everything that happened.<sup>247</sup>*

As part of the *Sunday Night* investigation, Channel 7 Freedom of Information Editor Alison Sandy lodged requests with all 39 universities for their sexual assault data, including numbers of reports and any disciplinary punishments that had been handed down. University of Western Australia refused to comply with the FOI request at the time of airing. Ms Jacky was critical of that decision:



Jannika Jacky. **Source:** Channel 7's *Sunday Night*

*It is definitely a transparency issue and when you don't have that transparency they also don't have that accountability for things that have happened. I think they should release it. It's such a huge problem. It's hugely undiscussed and swept under the rug and I think transparency is absolutely key to improving the way that we ensure the safety of women.<sup>248</sup>*

## 6.6. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (ANU)

In 2011, *Crikey* published allegations that ANU students at John XXIII college engaged in a “game” called “rock-spidering” where during Orientation week, students would knock on the door of fresher students. If the student opened the door, this was taken as consent to have sex. The “game” had allegedly resulted in multiple sexual assaults and the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre confirmed they were familiar with the practice.<sup>249</sup>

That same year ANU student Raveena Tor also described a scene at John XXIII where she opened her bedroom door to find a naked, unconscious female student who had allegedly been left there after being raped, bruised and photographed.<sup>250</sup>

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<sup>247</sup> Ibid.

<sup>248</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) ‘Full list of universities exposed by sexual assault investigation’, *news.com.au*, 10 October 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/true-stories/full-list-of-universities-exposed-by-sexual-assault-investigation/news-story/f7c39dcacce8a9c839bc8b881172173b>> [Accessed 12 January 2017]

<sup>249</sup> Mackintosh, E. (2011) ‘Sexual assault, harassment plague female university students’, *Crikey*, 24 March 2011. Available online at <<https://www.crikey.com.au/2011/03/24/s-xual-assault-harassment-plague-female-university-students/>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>250</sup> Ibid.





EROC Australia photo campaign, 2017. **Source:** EROC Australia

In May 2012 three John XXIII students were taken into custody following an annual college formal after they damaged property, ripping doors from hinges at The Deck restaurant at Regatta Point and refusing to move on when asked.<sup>251</sup>

In 2013, an ANU Confessions Facebook<sup>252</sup> page was set up for students to post anonymous confessions including graphic sexist or misogynistic confessions.<sup>253</sup>

For example, one post from October 2013 read:

*Sometimes I want to beat the fuck out of my girlfriend because she says the dumbest things. I've slapped her and pushed her (she slaps and pushes me too, OK?) but sometimes I just want to give*

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<sup>251</sup> Macdonald, E. (2012) 'Drunk uni students cop warning', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 June 2012. Available online at <<http://www.smh.com.au/national/tertiary-education/drunk-uni-students-cop-warning-20120612-207sy.html>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>252</sup> Several Australian universities have non-official Facebook pages set up by students, where students can anonymously post 'confessions' or other content. These Facebook groups are not endorsed by the university and are titled "[University name] Confessions" or "[University name] Stalkerspace". The posts often make light of violence against women. It is not always clear whether the posts are serious or in jest.

<sup>253</sup> 'ANU Confessions' Facebook page, accessed 16 February 2018, available at <<https://www.facebook.com/pg/NotANUConfessions/>>

*her a full fledged beating. The kind to leave bruises and blood. I know this won't end well for me so I resist but holy fuck sometimes it's hard ... Maybe I should get some girls to do it for me so I don't get into shit.*

A later post read:

*The best thing about living at B & G [Burton and Garran Hall — a college residence] is the laundry room — and girls who forget to bring their laundry in. Sometimes when I go in to do my laundry and they've left their stuff unattended, I'll snoop through someone's stuff and nick a pair of panties or bra. I take them and pretend girls have been sleeping with me in my room when my friends come over and discover they've 'accidentally' left them behind.*



A third post from an ANU Stalkerspace reproduced Ellie Greenwood's honours thesis, which examined the sexist culture at the ANU colleges; one comment read, "If fucking women with knives is wrong, I don't want to be right."<sup>254</sup>

In 2016 it was reported that five male students from John XXIII college were expelled, and another two suspended, after they set up a secret male-only Facebook group to share "creepshots" taken down the tops of unwitting female collegians living in the same college. The Facebook group, which had around 30 members, judged "the best moeys (breasts) on show" with sexist slurs and proposals of rape written below the photos. Some of the photos had been taken during a formal commencement dinner.<sup>254</sup>

In August 2016, state and federal police investigations were triggered into a porn ring where male users were trading non-consensual nude images of underage teenage girls and other young women like playground swap cards. The website allowed users to post the name of female students who they were 'hunting', and other men would offer exchanges of other nude images. The website was first discovered by media after an ANU student raised the alarm having discovered that one thread on the website contained men soliciting nude photos of fellow female students living at Bruce Hall - a co-educational residential hall at ANU.<sup>255</sup>

<sup>254</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) 'ANU college students expelled over creepy Facebook page', *news.com.au*, 20 July 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/canberra-college-students-expelled-over-creepy-facebook-page/news-story/f6a7e3e08860dcd22ccd542e4d6d74d1>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>255</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) 'Exclusive: Students from 71 Australian schools targeted by sick pornography ring', *news.com.au*, 17 August 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/students-from-70-australian-schools-targeted-by-sick-pornography-ring/news-story/53288536e0ce3bba7955e92c7f7fa8da>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

In February 2017, four students at John XXIII were suspended following O Week events where they were caught reciting the familiar college chant: “I wish that all the ladies.”<sup>256</sup> According to *The Daily Telegraph*, the first year students chanted “I wish all the women were nails in my shed, then I’d grab my hammer and nail ‘em in my bed”.<sup>257</sup>

In April 2017, ANU Burton and Garran Hall student Emily Jones wrote an article about the backlash she received from her peers after penning an article in late 2016 about the culture of objectification that exists at her ANU college.<sup>258</sup> In the original article<sup>259</sup> Jones describes an “Eagle House Rock” tradition where men encircle a group of female students on the dance floor, dropping their trousers, while the women remove their blouses:

*I felt someone tugging at my own shirt. “Take it off Emily”, urged a friend of mine, continuing her attempts to lift my shirt off. Surprised, and a little shocked, I pulled away from her. Now uncomfortable, I turned to leave the dance floor. Only I couldn’t. We had been encircled by a group of my male college mates, who had linked arms with one another, effectively leaving us women trapped in the circle. Many of these men had dropped their pants to their ankles, exposing their underwear. However unlike my shirtless friends in the middle of the circle most of the men weren’t dancing. They were watching us. Though some were laughing, others were watching on with hungry expressions, looking at us like we were meat. I can only describe my feelings in that moment as a mixture of helplessness, anger and disappointment, that all-too-familiar feeling that comes with being objectified, yet again, against one’s will.... When you strip us of our ability to walk away, your strip us of our ability to give consent.*<sup>260</sup>

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<sup>256</sup> “I wish that all the ladies” is a familiar college chant which has been recited at UNSW, University of New England, St Mark’s College, and ANU. The lyrics vary slightly between universities. The St Mark’s College O’Mag includes a copy of the chant which includes “I wish that all the ladies/ were fruits and berries/ I’d handle their melons/ And nibble on their cherries... I wish that all the ladies/ were stutues of Venus/ ‘Cause then they’d have no arms/ To push away my penis.... I wish that all the ladies were sheep grazing grass/ And if I was a shepherd/ I’d shag em up the arse.”

<sup>257</sup> Elsworth, S. (2017) ‘Four male students suspended at Australian National University over derogatory chants’, *The Daily Telegraph*, 7 March 2017. Available at <<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/national/four-male-students-suspended-at-australian-national-university-over-derogatory-chants/news-story/a278657008e1f89f1b954887cf013dc6>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

Baker, E. (2017) ‘ANU students suspended from John XXIII College over chants’, *Canberra Times*, 7 March 2017. Available online at <<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/anu-students-suspended-from-john-xxiii-college-over-chants-20170307-gusgz4.html>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>258</sup> Jones, E. (2017) ‘Don’t ‘Eagle Rock’ the boat: A story about disclosure and response’, *Woroni*, 18 April 2017. Available online at <<https://www.woroni.com.au/words/dont-eagle-rock-the-boat-a-story-about-disclosure-and-response/>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>259</sup> Jones, E. (2017) ‘Daddy not-so-cool: More female objectification in campus residential colleges’, *Woroni*, 4 October 2017. Available online at <<https://www.woroni.com.au/words/daddy-not-so-cool-more-female-objectification-in-campus-residential-colleges/>> [Accessed 15 December 2017]

<sup>260</sup> Ibid.

Jones later wrote about the backlash she received from her college peers for publicly criticizing the college tradition:

*Though I had expected some controversy to arise upon the publication of the article, I could never have anticipated the backlash that I was to receive when someone posted the article in a B&G Facebook group. What ensued was a whirlwind of comments, 'angry' reactions and heated online arguments. Many accused me of overreacting and of misrepresenting what had happened to me. I was told that it was all 'just a bit of fun' and that I was attacking a much-loved B&G 'tradition' that was central to college culture. The backlash continued to escalate throughout the night, with some residents blasting the 'Eagle Rock' song down the hallways in protest...What was less heartening was the treatment I received from many of my peers. Despite the article describing the helplessness and shock I felt at finding myself trapped in the circle, many still found it appropriate to berate me for speaking out. A number of those posting angry comments clearly hadn't even bothered to read the article at all. However, I was most disappointed by peers who did read the article. Evidently, these residents (predominantly men) decided very quickly that being able to have a good time with their mates was more important than ensuring peers felt safe at parties in their home.<sup>261</sup>*

The issue of reprisals and college backlash was picked up in both the Australian media<sup>262</sup> and the *New York Times*<sup>263</sup> who relayed Jones' experience.

In August 2017 Anna Miley described a hazing ritual at John XXIII called "Dead Possum" in ANU student publication *Woroni*:

*The second and third year guys would pick a mix of freshers... The seniors told them to climb a big tree with bottles of straight liquor and goon bags and sit on branches at different heights. They kept drinking and would start to piss and vomit on each other. One fresher would eventually fall from the tree. The 'dead possum' was kicked, beaten and abused.<sup>264</sup>*

EROC Australia has previously heard reports of a wig game which has occurred during O week, in which college students compete to wear a wig for as long as possible. If a student is caught without their wig on they are out of the competition. The game has led to students barging in on one another in the shower to 'catch out' a student not wearing their wig. While intended as a 'fun game', these initiation rituals can

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<sup>261</sup> Ganko, J. (2017) 'National attention for Eagle Rock controversy', *Woroni*, 2 May 2017. Available online at <<https://www.woroni.com.au/words/national-attention-for-eagle-rock-controversy/>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>262</sup> Baker, E. (2017) 'Burton and Garran Hall bans Eagle Rock from student events', *The Canberra Times*, 19 April 2017. Available online at <<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/burton-and-garran-hall-bans-eagle-rock-from-some-student-events-20170419-gvnilf.html>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

<sup>263</sup> Williams, J. & Cave, D. (2017) 'Australia grapples with campus assaults, and reprisals against victims', *The New York Times*, 21 June 2017. Available online at <<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/21/world/australia/australia-land-of-bro-culture-grapples-with-campus-assaults.html>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]

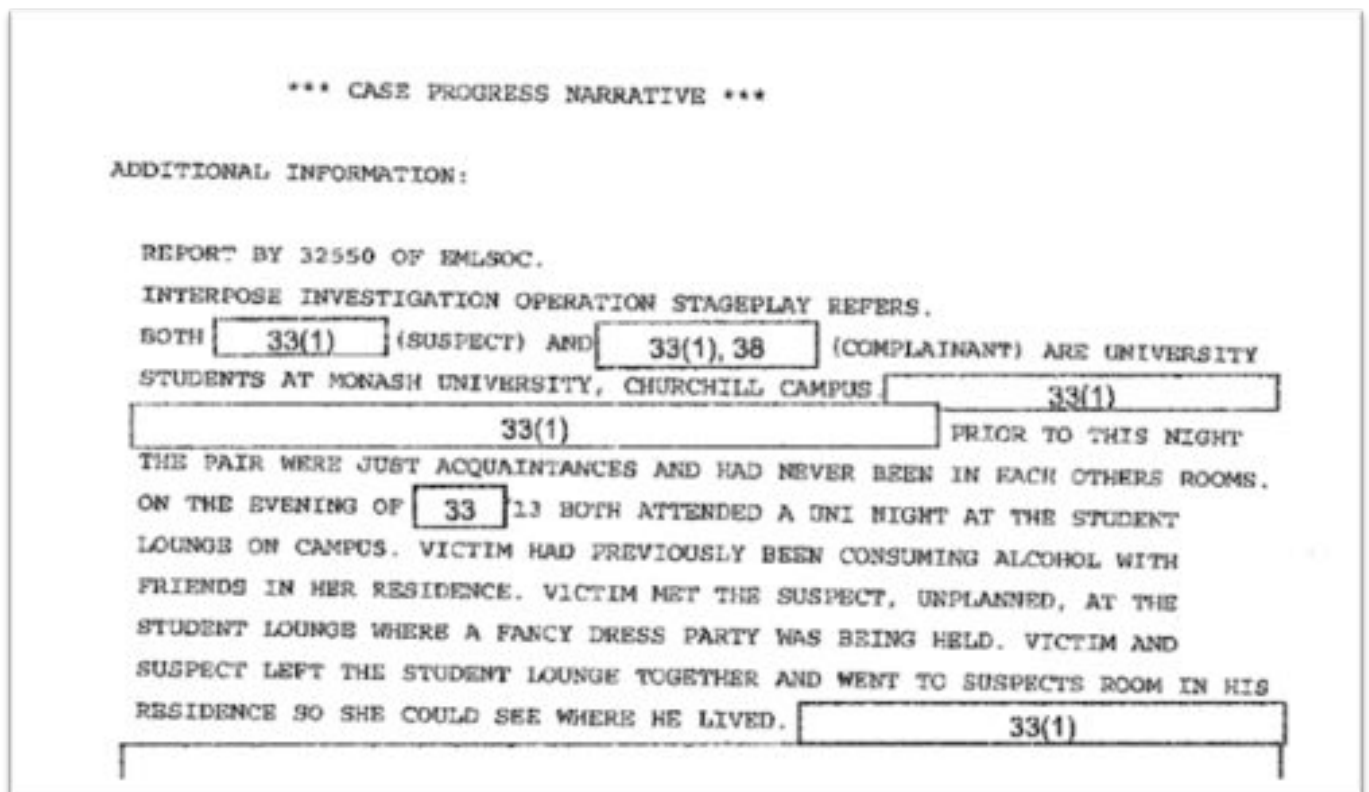
<sup>264</sup> Miley, A. (2017) 'The lottery: hazing at G08 university colleges', *Woroni*, 10 August 2017. Available online at <<https://www.woroni.com.au/words/the-lottery-hazing-at-go8-university-colleges/>> [Accessed 9 November 2017]



contribute to a culture where personal boundaries and privacy are gradually eroded. This, in turn, normalises a culture where the violation of personal boundaries or privacy is downplayed or minimised. EROC Australia also notes previous reports of students referring to a main oval near John XXIII college as “Rape Oval”. According to the 2016 AHRC ‘Change the Course’ report, ANU had one of the highest rate of on-campus sexual assault of all universities in Australia. It is likely that this is largely because of the high proportion of students who live in on-campus accommodation at ANU compared to other universities.

## 6.7. MONASH

Like UWA, Monash initially refused to comply with Channel 7’s Freedom of Information requests for the university’s sexual assault data. A subsequent FOI investigation revealed multiple police reports about sexual assaults occurring at the street address of Monash University, including the colleges. For example, in 2013 a male student was arrested by police for allegedly raping a female student following a fancy dress party at the student lounge.<sup>265</sup>



Police report of sexual assault at Monash college. **Source:** Freedom of Information request, Channel 7

<sup>265</sup> Funnell, N. (2016) ‘Police reveal what ‘secretive’ universities didn’t want you to know’, *news.com.au*, 6 December 2016. Available at: [www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/police-reveal-what-the-secretive-universities-didnt-wantyou-to-know/news-story/0dbef6b5d42ed402e39b47010e570f1c](http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/police-reveal-what-the-secretive-universities-didnt-wantyou-to-know/news-story/0dbef6b5d42ed402e39b47010e570f1c). [Accessed 6 December 2016]

In another case in 2013, a student at Monash University Clayton campus reported to police that she woke up in her dorm room at approximately 4.50am on a Sunday morning to find that someone had entered her room and was sexually attacking her in her bed.<sup>266</sup>

Monash University has also attracted controversy after student Emma Hunt spoke out about her experience of rape at an O week camp. Hunt was also critical of the university's refusal to comply with the Channel 7 FOI request, telling news.com.au that she was "so disappointed":

*The fact that they refuse to say anything gives you the answer. It shows there is a problem they don't want to admit to. I know so many girls this has happened to, but [the university] is just trying to save face.*



Monash University student Emma Hunt at 2017 Women's March, Melbourne. **Source:** image supplied.

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<sup>266</sup> Ibid.



EROC Australia has also received reports from students about two O-Week traditions at Monash, including:

- A tradition known as 'Hoover': if a student vomits, people will chant 'Hoover, Hoover, Hoover' at the student pressuring them to kneel down and 'hoover up' the vomit with their mouth.
- Another tradition known as 'Baby bird' where students vomit into one another's mouths. This tradition is most commonly associated with the engineering students.

## TOXIC CULTURES AT OTHER AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

As evidenced, the Group of Eight universities may be considered the most prestigious universities in Australia and yet all have been the subject of media scandals in connection with sexual assault and harassment in recent years. However, EROC Australia notes that these issues are not confined to the colleges at Go8 universities, and in fact can be found across Australia. Indeed, in our experience, the geographical isolation of regional and remote universities often means that problematic cultures can operate without detection.

### 6.8. UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE (UON)

In 2018, the residential colleges at the University of Newcastle made headlines after a series of explosive YouTube videos produced by students surfaced through a *news.com.au* investigation. The footage, which had been shot and edited between 2012 and 2017, included over 200 scenes documenting the college students O-week traditions along with other traditions and rituals throughout the year. It included:

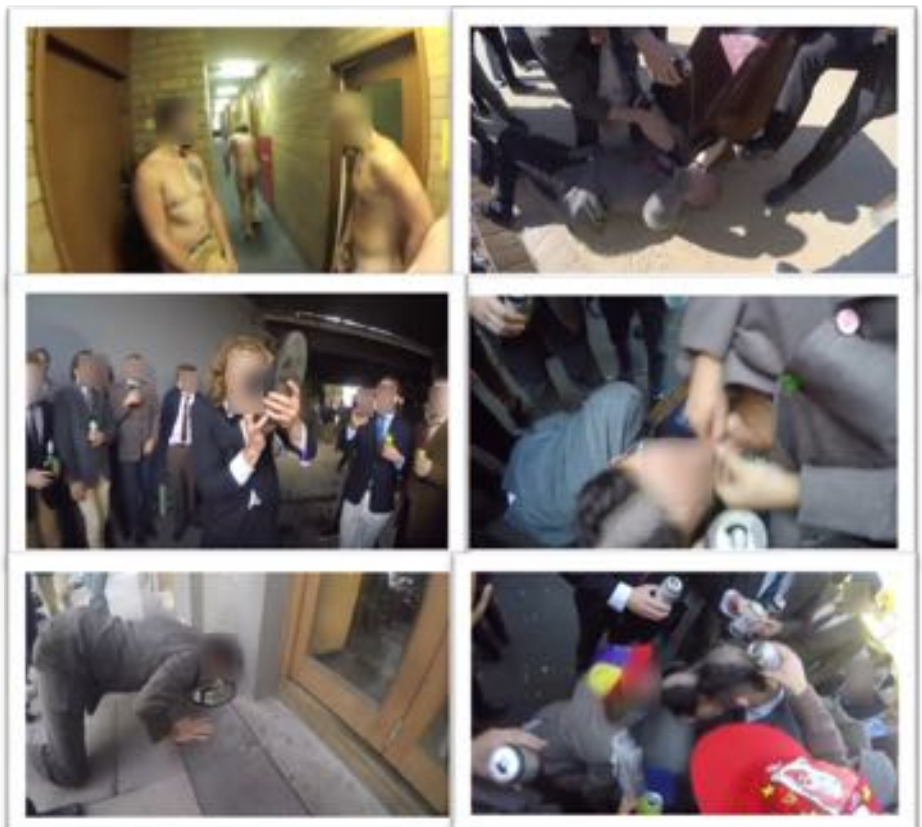
- Footage from 2014, 2015 and 2016 of a 'lad's trip' to Melbourne, of male students engaging in a ritual known as 'bid bathing' where a male student kneels on the ground as another student places his penis into the mouth of the kneeling student, and a third student pours beer or other alcohol down the penis into the mouth of the kneeling student;
- Male students having their heads shaved in humiliating styles. The boys with shaved heads then have beer poured over their heads while a third boy drinks that alcohol;
- A student drinking off the wheel of a wheelie bin
- A tradition known as 'shoey's' where male students drink alcohol out of their own shoe;

- Students wearing dog collars must act like dogs. To pass the collar on to another student they must sing 'Who let the dogs out?'. Students are seen crawling through traffic and in one case kneeling on the ground and drinking water out of a dog bowl in the street.



- Male students skateboarding naked in college hallways and doing nudie runs;
- A student being cling-wrapped to a pole at night
- Significant sexual pressure to 'hook up', including a group of students repeatedly chanting "hook-up, hook-up, hook-up, hook-up" to a female and male student

- A student yelling to the camera "someone stole my fucking phone, I'm looking at you cunt! I'm going to rape you";
- Students dancing in the nude, or with their pants around their ankles;
- Footage of a group of around 30 young men standing around laughing as an intoxicated student rolls around on the ground. Rather than assisting him, a student opens his mouth and pours more beer down his throat. A second student then grabs the intoxicated student's pants, pulling them down to his ankles.



Screenshots from YouTube videos posted by University of Newcastle college students.

Three of the videos from 2012, 2013 and 2015 document a tradition at Evatt House (a co-ed residential college at UoN) known as ‘Throwie Cup’. According to the rules, in pairs of two, the students are required to drink 24 beers (12 each) in the minimum amount of time. The winners are required to keep the beer down for at least one hour after finishing, but are then “free to projectile [vomit] wherever [they] like”.

According to the ‘Throwie cup’ rules, students who vomit during the competition are required to drink their own vomit to remain in the competition. The videos released included footage of students vomiting and appearing to then drink that vomit.

In 2012, a new time record was set by “Team America”, who consumed the beers in 26 minutes (the previous time record was 42 minutes). The college website notes that Throwie Cup has been a tradition since 2009, when the cup was donated by three now former students, all of whom were awarded the Robbie Davis Scholarship for their “Outstanding dedication and contribution to Evatt House” and two of whom have formerly been Presidents of the Evatt College Association.<sup>267</sup>

## 6.9. MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

In August 2016, Macquarie University made headlines when it was revealed that students had set up a Facebook group called “Village Party Central 2016” to share photos of students engaged in sexual acts, nudity and public urination.<sup>268</sup> The Facebook group, which had more than 900 members, was used to share photos of students hooking up or having sex. Many of those photos were taken without the student’s knowledge or consent. Members of the group were invited to “NTV” (Name That Villager) - a reference to residents at Macquarie University Village. Members would then comment on the photos, often with derogatory or sexually explicit comments, particularly about women.



Screenshot from the Macquarie University ‘Village Party Central 2016’ group. **Source:** image supplied.

<sup>267</sup> Evatt House website, ‘Sport Archives’. Available at <[http://evatthouse.com.au/?page\\_id=305](http://evatthouse.com.au/?page_id=305)> [Accessed 16 February 2018]

<sup>268</sup> news.com.au (2016) ‘Macquarie University students posted explicit photos of couples and drunk, urinating students to secret Facebook group’, *news.com.au*, 18 August 2016. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/technology/online/macquarie-university-students-posted-explicit-photos-of-couples-and-drunk-urinating-students-to-secret-facebook-group/news-story/f68885e7d7e3d7e6ddd5ea645311893d>> [Accessed 10 July 2017]



## 6.10. JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY (JCU)

In 2017, *news.com.au* exclusively revealed that James Cook University had promoted a staff member charged with raping an Indigenous student, making him academic advisor to Indigenous students.<sup>269</sup> Douglas Steele pleaded guilty to the rape in September 2016, but again the university allowed him to remain in the role for four months while he awaited sentencing. The reporting triggered other sexual assault survivors to come forward to the media, including one JCU student who told *news.com.au*:

*Someone put a date rape drug in my drink at a sanctioned college function. I was 20. When I reported it to the college manager, the reaction I got was 'what were you wearing? How much did you have to drink? Are you sure you weren't encouraging this guy's advances?' ...*

<sup>269</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) 'Exclusive: James Cook University adviser Douglas Steele promoted after raping student', *news.com.au*, 20 January 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/exclusive-james-cook-university-adviser-douglas-steele-was-promoted-after-pleading-guilty-to-raping-a-student/news-story/fd0b00c9aa8eb528e1f43c3a5ac9c223>> [Accessed 28 June 2017]

*There are systemic issues regarding sexual harassment and the way [JCU] tries to resolve issues. The people we report this to, they really have no idea how to actually deal with it in reality ... I think the training they get is completely inadequate.*<sup>270</sup>

The media furore surrounding the Steele case eventually triggered a review of the university and its residential colleges, which was led by former Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick.<sup>271</sup> That review found students living in residential colleges experienced hazing, and were particularly vulnerable to sexual harassment and assault by fellow residents. The report also quoted students who said:

*We had 4th years sleeping with first years when I was a first year at JCU events. [Yeah, the girls were over 16] so they were over the age of consent but drunk and not really able to consent. And it was older students in positions of power. It was older students on the exec. (Female college resident)*<sup>272</sup>

*What really did it for me, what made me [report it to the university] was that they had an event called quad cricket, where the boys could play cricket, and there could be one female in each team. And the girls had two choices: they could walk around as 'bikini girls' and serve sandwiches and beers to the boys, or they could perform something called a slut dance where they danced in their underwear for the boys...If you looked up [the College] on Youtube, the second video that showed up showed a group of mainly under age women dancing in their underwear and they didn't know they were being filmed... That was in 2015... I don't know if quad cricket still happens. (Female College resident)*<sup>273</sup>

## 6.11. UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

The national series of Freedom of Information requests lodged by Channel 7 FOI editor Alison Sandy revealed a number of incidents of sexual assault and harassment at the University of New England. In one case, a student admitted to repeatedly touching women's breasts and kissing them without their consent. Multiple complainants also alleged that he had put his hand down their underpants without consent, which he denied. The University's response was to order the offender to undertake eight hours of community service and make written apologies to the complainants.

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<sup>270</sup> Funnell, N. (2017) 'Exclusive: James Cook University knew Douglas Steele was guilty of rape', *news.com.au*, 25 January 2017. Available online at <<http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/exclusive-james-cook-university-knew-douglas-steele-was-guilty-of-rape/news-story/686a17970273325239e703b8d97591e2>> [Accessed 28 June 2017]

<sup>271</sup> Elizabeth Broderick & Co. (2017) *Effectively Responding to Sexual Harassment and Assault at James Cook University*. Available online at <<https://www.jcu.edu.au/safety-and-wellbeing/broderick-review/Broderick-Review-Report-JCU-2017.pdf>> [Accessed 16 February 2018]

<sup>272</sup> Ibid, p. 40.

<sup>273</sup> Ibid, p. 40.



Another student from UNE alleged that she and a number of friends had been sexually assaulted by a fellow college resident. When they made complaints to the college, no action was taken. The student also reported the matter to police, but it was never followed up. The offending student was given a leadership position in the college, and was given a key that allowed him to access all rooms in the college.

Other incidents revealed by FOI include students nonconsensually filming women while showering, a staff member purchasing massage oils for a student and asking her to massage him, men following women back to their rooms in college and banging on their doors, and repeated harassment via online messaging platforms.

In addition to the multiple complaints obtained through Freedom Of Information by Channel 7, EROC Australia has supported sexual assault survivors from UNE colleges. We have also been contacted by several current and former students who have described some of the hazing traditions at the UNE colleges:

*The two biggest hazing events of the year at St Albert's were 'rugby kegs' and 'feral women's'. Rugby kegs was boys only, and it involved fresher boys being called 'dog' and their 'senior buddy' (a second, third or fourth year student) assigned to them as a 'master'. There was a lot of build up in the weeks before where fresher boys would have their rooms 'turfed' (their bed tossed upside down, their clothes thrown out the window, prawns hidden in a student's bedroom, bean-bag balls poured out everywhere, and so on). Messages were written on their mirrors such as '9 days left dog. Be scared fucking cunt!' and other intimidating things. On the night of 'Rugby kegs' the fresher boys are made to eat their food off their plates on the floor, hands behind their backs, so they're eating like dogs. They are also made to eat red and green vegetables so they spew up the college colours during the night. They then take a bus to a lake outside of Armidale. When they arrive they are made to do all sorts of things like drink until they spew. The freshers have to go in the lake naked (it's zero degrees Celcius in the winter) and tackle one another and then run up the banks towards utes which have their headlights on bright so that the students can't see and are disoriented. The seniors then run at them and tackle them. This has resulted in broken bones.*

*Girls do 'feral women's' on the same night. Fresher girls are labelled 'feral god-daughters' and have a senior girl 'feral godmother' allocated to them. These are self-organised in advance of the event. The feral godmothers dress up their goddaughters in old clothes from Vinnies and tease their hair, and put terrible makeup on your face to the point where you can't recognise your friends in the room. The feral god-daughters are not allowed to walk, they move on all fours and can only speak if spoken to. There's a vomit bucket in the middle of the circle. One senior student leads the evening and there are different challenges and activities. If you lose a race or activity you go to the punishment room where an egg is cracked into your hair and you have to do shots as you do sit ups. The idea of masters and feral godmothers is actually that they look after you during these challenges. (Personal communications with former student, St Alberts College)*



A second student who has recently left St Albert's has described other 'traditions' including forcing the women to sit separately from the men at meals, singing offensive college songs including "I wish that all the ladies", and drinking to dangerous levels during initiation ceremonies:

*In 'Albies Week', which happened in the middle of the year, we were made to drink a tonne one night. We were then blindfolded and driven all over town and then dumped in pairs. You weren't meant to have money or a phone but we snuck a phone and rang our mate to come and pick us up. It was pretty dangerous.*

*There is another event in 'Albies Week' called Recovery Day. Everyone drinks in a field all day and some of the fresher boys get 'ordered up' to participate in the Leader's Jersey. Basically they line up and use a hose to drink from a bucket full of alcohol, cow shit, piss and vomit and other vile things. They each take turns to drink it and once you vomit you're 'out'. The last man standing gets to keep the jersey for the year. It's considered a massive honor. There was also the Albies B+S [Bachelor and Spinsters' ball] where everyone would get hammered and spit food dye on everyone. (Personal communications with former student, St Alberts College)*

In yet another St Albert's tradition known as 'Morality Court' students are required to divulge graphic details of sexual experiences on a weekly basis. Those who fail to 'hook up' are fined, while others are rewarded for engaging in threesomes or other adventurous forms of sex.

*Morality Court takes place every Monday night directly after weekly Floor Meetings, where the members of each floor would have a compulsory get-together for housekeeping matters, announcements of events, and so on. The meeting was led by the floor Residential Assistant and was monitored by two Morality Court Officers, nominated at the beginning of each year, who would either fine or reward students for their sexual behaviour, or lack of sexual behaviour. Students were encouraged to tell the floor who they had "picked up" that week and "how far" they went. Students who had not hooked up that week had to declare whether they were "masturbating" or "in drought". Students who failed to "pick up" for six or more weeks would incur the highest fine. Fines ranged from 50 cents to \$5. Those students who relayed the "best" sexual stories would be given rewards. The money collected from meetings would go towards a floor event at the end of each semester, such as a bar tab or paintballing. (Personal communications with former student, St Alberts College)*

The rules of morality court were as follows:

### **Punishments**

- Batting/Flicking [male/female masturbation]
- Pick up: Stropper [picking up a student from St Albert's rival college, Robb College]
- Swinging [a college term for picking up the same person more than three times in a row, deeming it a semi-relationship]

- Page girls [picking up a female student from rival college, Page College]
- Stro Hoe [picking up a student from the University of New England bar, known as The Bistro, or The Stro]
- Town rat [picking up someone from the town of Armidale]
- Drought 6/52 [failing to pick up for six consecutive weeks]
- Noise complaints [if someone on the same floor overhears a student having sex, that student must disclose details including who, what, where, what positions, etc.]
- Dawn dash [if a student is caught dawn dashing from a block that isn't their own]
- Obsessive compulsive sleazing disorders
- False speckies [false speculations or rumours]

Floor incest [hooking up with someone from the same floor. In addition to being fined, the students would be punished in front of the group in a humiliating manner].

### Rewards

- Threesomes [however, same-sex threesomes are frowned upon]
- Story of the week [best hook-up story of the week is rewarded with \$2]
- Best mates, sisters/brothers
- Challenge of the week [each week a male and female student would be named as the 'target'. Students who managed to hook up with last week's target would be rewarded]
- Multiple pickups

The document also named specific women and men who students would be either rewarded or punished for hooking up with. One former St Albert's student told EROC Australia that she was sexually assaulted by a fellow St Albert's student who then boasted about it in Morality Court:

*The guy that raped me told everyone in his Morality Court about it. So not only did it happen but people found out because he was bragging about it. (Personal communications with former student, St Alberts College)*

## OTHER REPORTS

In 2017 The Australian Human Rights Commission released a landmark report into sexual assault at Australian universities. The report also included a section specifically on residential colleges, which drew on 203 submissions received by the commission which described experiences of sexual assault and harassment at colleges. According to the report:

- Submissions described hazing and traditions being used to initiate new residents into the college community. People reported feeling pressure to participate in these practices, which often entail excessive alcohol consumption and humiliating and degrading acts.<sup>274</sup>
- The residential setting of colleges was identified as providing opportunities for sexual assault and sexual harassment to occur. People described being sexually assaulted in private bedrooms in residential colleges. Another issue reported was women being filmed in showers or bathrooms within their college. The residential setting also contributes to a lack of privacy in relation to residents' personal lives; there is a sense that sexual relationships in particular are considered 'public knowledge'.<sup>275</sup>
- Where people did experience sexual assault or sexual harassment by a fellow college resident, the impacts were exacerbated by the fact that they had to live in close proximity to the perpetrator and see them on a regular basis.<sup>276</sup>
- Students reported that it is acceptable in colleges to have sex with someone who is heavily intoxicated.<sup>277</sup>
- A feature unique to residential colleges is the employment of residential advisors. Residential assistants or advisors (RAs) are senior residents tasked with providing pastoral support to other college residents. RAs may also assist in organising college social events, and are tasked with looking after other residents' safety after hours. In some colleges, RAs are given master keys that provide them with access to the rooms of other residents. Students reported that RAs in their college used their master keys inappropriately ... Students also reported incidents of RAs sexually assaulting other college residents.<sup>278</sup>

The Commission's report also included a number of quotes and case studies drawn from the submissions about colleges, which included the following:

- One female student described a hazing practice for new female students called the 'run the gauntlet' challenge. Female students were required to run down a corridor lined with male residents. The male residents had cask wine sacks in their trousers with the nozzles hanging out of their fly. Female students were required to kneel before each male resident and 'drink from his sack'.<sup>279</sup>
- An all-male college organised annual O-Week trips for first-years. As part of the trip, first-year residents were woken up early to march past the all-female college while singing songs describing sexual assault. Some songs identified female college residents by their name.<sup>280</sup>

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<sup>274</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 78.

<sup>275</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 78.

<sup>276</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 81.

<sup>277</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 84.

<sup>278</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 86.

<sup>279</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 79.

<sup>280</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 79.

- One quote included: “I am a staff member...and have worked within student residences for 26 years...I am also finding a growth in photos and vision, of consensual sex acts being shown to friends of one of the partners without their permission. Particularly males, taking photos and vision of a female partner, when both are usually heavily affected by alcohol or an illicit substance.”<sup>281</sup>
- Chalk on a footpath advertising a college party: ‘Beer \$2, bitches free’.<sup>282</sup>
- One resident who had been drinking with friends in the room of a fellow resident said she had been drinking heavily and fell asleep on the bed while her friends were still talking, but woke up to a friend having sex with her.<sup>283</sup>
- One individual reported that on a date with a fellow resident, he told her to ‘drink more wine’ after she refused to have sex with him. He then pinned her to the bed and sexually assaulted her.<sup>284</sup>
- A young woman’s drink was spiked by a college resident at the end of semester college ball. He had been trying to dance with her all night and kept offering to buy her drinks. She took the drink and he later raped her in her room at college.<sup>285</sup>

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<sup>281</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 83.

<sup>282</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 84.

<sup>283</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 85.

<sup>284</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 85.

<sup>285</sup> AHRC, *Change the Course*, p. 86.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS



Recommendations made in previous reports, such as the Elizabeth Broderick & Co *Cultural Renewal at the University of Sydney Residential Colleges*,<sup>286</sup> have focused on reforms that may be made within residential colleges - for example, increasing the number of women in leadership positions or formalising 'zero-tolerance' stances in policy frameworks. However, it is our belief that such reforms do not go far enough in addressing the pervasive, entrenched and resilient culture of sexism in these institutions. As such, the recommendations in this report are primarily targeted at the social and legislative framework that underpins the colleges, and towards other institutions that could hold colleges accountable and act to transform their culture. We believe that university administrations, as well as state and federal governments, have critical roles to play in shaping residential colleges' responses to sexual violence. This is not to absolve the colleges of responsibility for addressing these issues, but rather to make clear that self-led internal reforms, in isolation, will rarely be effective in transforming the problematic cultures that are embedded within many residential colleges.

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<sup>286</sup> Broderick & Co., *Cultural Renewal*



# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNIVERSITIES

## 1. IMPROVED OVERSIGHT OF STUDENT RESIDENCES

Too often, university leaders use residential colleges as a scapegoat to abrogate their own responsibility for addressing sexual violence. Universities are quick to portray colleges as separate institutions, with their own responsibility to manage college culture. However, college residents are also university students, and as such fall under the disciplinary policies and procedures that apply to non-college students. Information barriers often prevent perpetrators of violence within colleges from being held responsible under broader university policies. Instances of sexual violence are generally handled internally by college staff, under a different set of policies and procedures, with little transparency or accountability to the broader university community. As such, EROC Australia recommends that:

- a) Australian universities require that any residences owned by the university comply with university policies and procedures regarding sexual assault and harassment, rather than using their own ad hoc procedures.
- b) Where the legal relationship between a privately-owned residence and a university allows, the university should require that:
  - i) Disclosures or reports of sexual assault made to staff at the residence are reported to the university administration. Such reports must be de-identified unless the survivor consents to their name being included.
  - ii) The residence complies with university policies and procedures regarding sexual assault and harassment, rather than using their own.
- c) Where the legal relationship between a privately-owned residence and the university does not allow the university to place requirements on the residence, the university should actively encourage it to comply with the above requirements regardless. In any case where such a residence does not comply with university policies and procedures regarding sexual assault and harassment, the university should work with the residence as far as possible to ensure its policies and procedures are consistent with university policies and procedures.
- d) University administrations should take active steps to inform students living at residential colleges about their rights to access university reporting processes and disciplinary procedures. This should be done by direct correspondence with these students, and through posters and other informative materials prominently displayed within colleges and around campus.

## 2. COUNSELLING SERVICE PROVISION AT STUDENT RESIDENCES

Just as students at residential colleges should be brought unequivocally within the remit of student codes of conduct and other university policies, so too should they have equal access to the services provided to other students on campus. In particular, EROC Australia is concerned that despite high rates of sexual

violence occurring within residential colleges, college students do not appear to be accessing university counselling services at the same rates as non-college students. EROC Australia recommends that:

- a) Australian universities should ensure that any counselling services they provide are clearly advertised to students in residential colleges. As EROC Australia has previously advocated,<sup>287</sup> these counselling services should be adequately staffed with trauma-specialist counsellors, and freely available to students.

### 3. TRANSPARENCY AND OPEN DIALOGUE AROUND COLLEGE CULTURE

EROC Australia is particularly concerned by the recommendation made in the *Cultural Renewal at the University of Sydney Residential Colleges* report that

‘The University of Sydney should make it clear in its code of conduct that disrespectful, demeaning or unethical behaviours from University staff and other students towards College students and staff are strictly prohibited.’

This recommendation is supported by a quote from a college student who states that “there’s definitely a culture at Sydney Uni of College bashing”.<sup>288</sup> This framing fails to recognise the structural power that colleges hold within the university community, by virtue of the wealth of college students and their position within the campus community. EROC Australia holds the view that any such campaign or initiative would implicitly serve to restrict critique of colleges by those outside the institutions. We note that disrespectful, demeaning and unethical behaviours between students are already prohibited under universities’ student codes of conduct and/or policies in relation to bullying, harassment and discrimination. A major contributor to the perpetuation of discriminatory cultures within colleges is their insularity. We believe that it is crucial for student media, and students more broadly, to have the freedom to investigate and critique the colleges as institutions. EROC Australia recommends that:

- a) Australian universities and their communities support freedom of media inquiry into colleges, particularly in the case of student media.
- b) Australian universities reiterate their existing policies surrounding bullying, harassment and discrimination, rather than giving any special protections to college students.

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<sup>287</sup> EROC Australia, *Connecting the Dots*

<sup>288</sup> Broderick & Co., *Cultural Renewal*, p. 24

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COLLEGES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

## 4. TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE WITH UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES

It is crucial that students living at colleges and other residences are provided with equal access to university complaint procedures in relation to sexual misconduct, bullying and harassment. While college students are formally captured by such policies and procedures, there are a number of barriers to them accessing institutional support from universities. One major barrier is colleges' historic lack of compliance with university investigations, in particular through refusing to provide information to universities to assist in complaint handling procedures. In addition to this, colleges do not release statistics about the number of complaints they receive in relation to sexual assault and harassment. We believe that greater transparency and accountability to the broader university community is critical in transforming college culture, as it counteracts the historic secrecy and insularity that has allowed problematic cultures to manifest and become entrenched. As such, EROC Australia recommends that:

- a) Administrators of student residences responsible for managing complaints should inform all complainants of their right to make a second and separate complaint to the university, under the university's sexual misconduct policies or similar, and provide reasonable assistance to students in filing such complaints.
- b) In all cases in which the university requests information concerning the identity of college students in relation to sexual assault or harassment complaints, administrators of colleges should comply in a timely manner.
- c) All student residences and colleges should annually publish the number of complaints received in relation to sexual assault or harassment.
- d) Alumni and philanthropists considering donating money to colleges should cease making such donations until these colleges implement, at bare minimum:
  - i) Mandatory consent education for all students and staff, that fully conforms with the National Standards of best practice, as laid out by the National Association of Services Against Sexual Assault (for example, The Full Stop Foundation training);
  - ii) A commitment to annually publishing de-identified statistics about sexual assault and harassment complaints;
  - iii) A commitment to fully complying with university requests for information about sexual assault, sexual harassment, bullying and other student misconduct cases, and;
  - iv) Effective and proactive strategies to eliminate the culture of hazing.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

## 5. REVIEWING THE ROLE OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN 'FEEDING' RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES

Some secondary schools, in particular private schools and Catholic schools, act as 'feeders' for residential colleges. This occurs both through informal cultures and networks, which create strong social links between certain schools and colleges, and also through active promotion of residential colleges at these schools. EROC Australia recommends that:

- b) In light of evidence about the culture present at university residential colleges, administrators of secondary schools should review their promotion of these colleges to their students, and consider the appropriateness of promoting residential colleges with high rates of sexual violence to their students.
- c) Similarly, parents of secondary school students should reconsider sending their children to the University of Sydney residential colleges until the colleges implement, at bare minimum:
  - i) Mandatory consent education for all students and staff, that fully conforms with the National Standards of best practice, as laid out by the National Association of Services Against Sexual Assault (for example, The Full Stop Foundation training);
  - ii) A commitment to annually publishing de-identified statistics about sexual assault and harassment complaints;
  - iii) A commitment to fully complying with university requests for information about sexual assault, sexual harassment, bullying and other student misconduct cases, and;
  - iv) Effective and proactive strategies to eliminate the culture of hazing.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATE GOVERNMENTS

## 6. REVIEWING THE LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK GOVERNING RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES

Currently, some residential colleges are governed by special acts of state legislature, including six colleges at the University of Sydney. These acts govern such things as the election of college fellows, the procedures for meetings of the fellows, and the instatement of wardens and vice-wardens. Such legislature affords the alumni of residential colleges significant practical autonomy over the operation of these institutions. Previous reports have recommended that such legislature should be reviewed by state and federal governments in order to ensure that residential colleges fall under the clear jurisdiction of

university sexual assault and harassment policies.<sup>289</sup> Further, amendments to this legislation should seek to ensure, as much as possible, democratic procedures for the governance of colleges. This should include time limits on the terms of college fellows and wardens. EROC Australia recommends:

- a) That relevant state and territory governments conduct comprehensive reviews of the special acts of legislation under which residential colleges are incorporated. In particular, such reviews should consider:
  - i) Creating a maximum five-year limit on the terms of members of college councils, effective retrospectively;
  - ii) Including other members of the non-college university community in the make-up of college councils and governance structures; or
  - iii) Repealing the acts and undertaking the necessary legislative processes to dissolve the colleges' councils and transfer the lands of the colleges to the administration of universities.

## 7. CRIMINALISING HAZING

Hazing of new students is endemic in residential colleges in Australia. Even when serving the intended consequences, to humiliate new entrants and place them at the bottom of a social hierarchy, it is a damaging process. However, it is inevitable that such practices once regularly implemented in a setting of university aged people, will frequently get out of hand and result in serious harm, injury or death. In the United States of America recognition of the dangerous and damaging nature of hazing has led nearly every jurisdiction to criminalise hazing activities.

EROC Australia recommends:

- a) That State governments legislate to criminalise the act of requiring an individual to undergo any act which is likely to cause bodily danger or physical punishment to any student or other person, as a precondition of joining or participating in a student group or organisation.
- b) That such legislation prescribes additional penalties for hazing activities that result in actual bodily injury or death.
- c) That such legislation applies to both individuals and organisations.
- d) That such legislation establishes penalties sufficient to deter the practice, including civil liabilities for individuals and organisations and incarceration for hazing that results in injury.
- e) That such legislation establishes a duty for university and college administrations to take reasonable measures to prevent the practice of hazing activities.
- f) That such legislation requires mandatory reporting by universities and college administrations on hazing incidents.

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<sup>289</sup> Australian Human Rights Centre, *On Safe Ground*, p. 119

## 8. FRAMING SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT COLLEGES AS A HEALTH AND HOUSING MATTER

Further, issues of sexual violence and harassment at residential colleges are generally treated by state governments as matters of education. While such matters involve students and are in a clear sense issues of access to education, they can also be framed more broadly as health and housing concerns. Colleges are, first and foremost, places of housing for thousands of students across the country. When college residents experience sexual violence within the college setting, this is a concern of safety within their place of housing. EROC Australia thus recommends that:

- a) The problem of sexual violence at residential colleges is acknowledged and addressed by state Ministers for Housing and Ministers for Health, as well as state Ministers for Education.

## 8. A CORONIAL INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF STUART KELLY

In 2016, it was reported that teenager Stuart Kelly had suicided a number of months after living at St Paul's College for only one night. His parents report that Stuart was the target of bullying, hazing and threats.<sup>290</sup> However, there has never been an adequate inquiry into the circumstances of Kelly's death, and the Kelly family are still without answers about Kelly's time at St Paul's College. EROC Australia recommends that:

- a) The NSW Coroner's Court undertake a coronial inquiry into the death of Stuart Kelly in 2016, and his time at St Paul's College, and make recommendations to prevent future deaths of this nature.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

## 9. GOVERNMENT TASKFORCE INTO SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT IN COLLEGES

Given the scale and severity of sexual violence at Australian residential colleges, as detailed in this report, EROC Australia, together with Fair Agenda, The Hunting Ground Australia Project and the National Union of Students, believe that there are clear grounds for a national taskforce to be established to investigate the issue. As the independent statutory authority responsible for regulating and assuring the quality of Australia's higher education sector, by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) is the body that is best placed to hold universities and university residences to account in this area, as indicated by the Minister for Education, Simon Birmingham. The Australian Human Rights Commission could also be tasked and resourced to instigate a national taskforce. EROC Australia, Fair Agenda, The Hunting Ground Australia Project and the National Union of Students recommend:

- a) The reference group for this taskforce should include:
  - i) Representatives from specialist sexual assault services;

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<sup>290</sup> Illawarra Mercury (2017) 'Stuart Kelly took his own life after hazing, death threats, parents tell 60 Minutes', *Illawarra Mercury*, 10 July 2017. Available online at <<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/4780324/stuart-kelly-took-his-own-life-after-one-night-at-sydney-uni-college/>> [Accessed 20 February 2018]



- ii) Representatives from the Consortium of Australian Sexual Violence Researchers; and
- iii) Representatives from the National Union of Students.
- b) The taskforce should require universities to regularly report on the measures they and their associated identities - including residences and colleges - are taking to address and prevent sexual violence, including the policies and procedures they have in place;
- c) The taskforce should assess the effectiveness of university and residence policies and procedures to address and prevent sexual violence, and if they are improving outcomes. These assessments should be reported on publicly and recommendations made by the taskforce to strengthen policies and procedures at both universities and residences;
- d) The taskforce should require universities and residences to regularly report on disciplinary measures taken against perpetrators;
- e) The taskforce should publicly report the number of complaints relating to sexual violence made to the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency under the Threshold Standards, as well as their status and outcome/resolution; and
- f) The taskforce should incorporate data from, and feed into, the next independent national student sexual assault and harassment survey.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

### 10. EVIDENCE-BASED METHODOLOGY

Given the issues raised with previous reviews, EROC Australia believes that future research about sexual assault and harassment conducted at colleges (including the current investigation into St Paul's College being conducted by Broderick & Co.) should ensure that best-practice standards in survey methodology are met. When such research is conducted in the future, EROC Australia recommends that:

- a) Surveys or interviews to gather prevalence data about sexual assault and harassment should use a range of detailed behavioural questions, rather than simply asking students if they have experienced sexual assault or sexual harassment, in order to capture accurate incidence and prevalence statistics.
- b) The perspectives and experiences of alumni, including students who have recently left colleges, non-college students, parents of college students, and college council members should be included in research projects in a substantive manner.
- c) Researchers should seek to engage with and gather the perspectives of staff working at colleges, including cleaning and cooking staff.
- d) One-on-one interviews should be prioritised over focus groups, given the ways in which a focus group setting may discourage students from speaking honestly about their experiences, or from criticising the colleges or the college community.

# 8. APPENDICES

## 8.1. UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY POLICE REPORTS

The following reports are a small sample of reports obtained by Channel 7's Alison Sandy, under the Freedom of Information Act.

EVE026P	New South Wales Police Force COPS	Date : 09/08/ Time : 08:48: Page : 3
	Event Ref No : E 105344602	
Narrative	: [redacted] /2014 18:48	
Date/Time Created	: CON KAITLYN TUNKS - NEWTOWN	
Created By	About 14:45 on [redacted] T3(a) police attended the location of Sydney University 'Education Building' in relation to an assault of a female student. Upon arrival at the location police spoke with the victim [redacted] T3(a) who stated that she was assaulted by an unknown male whilst studying independently within the Old Teacher's College building. [redacted] T3(a) stated that the unknown male grabbed her by the breast and buttock as well as kissing her and following her into the toilet.	
	[redacted]	

EVE026P

New South Wales Police Force  
COPS

Date : 09/08/  
Time : 09:36:  
Page : 2

Event Ref No : E 50816023

Narrative  
Date/Time Created  
Created By

: [redacted] 2013 15:48  
: CON AMY DURHAM - REDFERN  
Time: 8.25PM - 8.30pm  
Date: [redacted]  
Loc: Driveway behind civil engineering building at  
Sydney University

[redacted]  
T3(a)

POI: Male, about 30yrs old, 6ft tall, tanned/fair skin, solid build, dark short hair, clean shaven, long square face, dark tshirt with possible logo on it, light underpants, wearing sandals.

[redacted]  
T3(a), T3(d), T3(e)

[redacted] T3(d), T3(e) The female noticed that the male was only wearing his underpants and that his penis was hanging out from the top of his underpants, exposing his genital area. The VIC said "Whats your problem?" and continued to walk.

The male said to the VIC "I want you to see this, I want you to point it here", whilst saying this the male was pointing with his finger down towards his penis, bringing attention to his genitals.

The VIC walked backwards away from the male and walked towards a set of stairs to take her up onto the broad walk. The male continued to talk towards the VIC but she couldn't make out what he

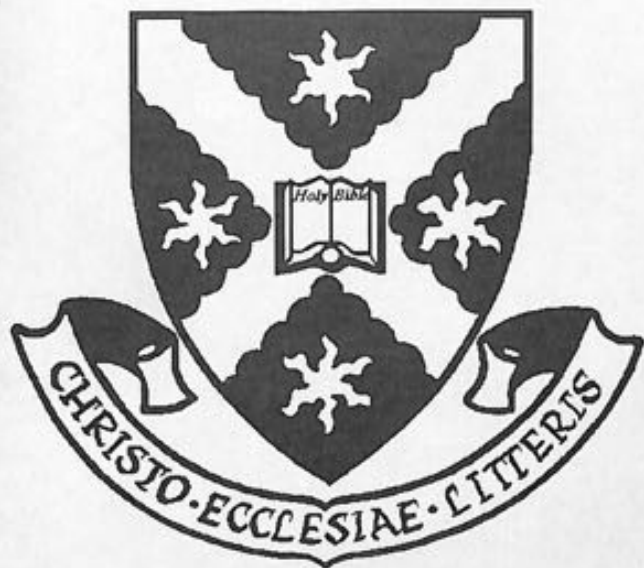
[redacted]  
[redacted] T1(d), T3(a) as she has not given anyone permission  
at any time to film or photograph her whilst  
having sexual intercourse. [redacted] T1(d), T3(a)

[redacted]  
T1(d), T3(a)

About 4:00pm on [redacted] T3(a) the  
victim attended NIPS to report the incident.  
Police recoded details and a short version from  
the victim and instructed her to try and organise  
the witness to give a statement to police. The  
victim also informed police that she had  
approached the University about the issue and that  
they were looking at disciplinary action against  
the ROT [redacted] T1(d), T3(a)

## **8.2. 1993 ST ANDREWS SONG BOOK**

# ST ANDREWS COLLEGE



SONG BOOK 1993



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2. Ac  
13

Foreword

The singing of songs, both in the confines of Andrew's at various dinners, and in the general public while providing support for our sporting teams, is one of the more prominent aspects that distinguish Andrew's from the other colleges; simply put, no other college comes close to the content or volume that Andrew's can produce. It is important that this 'tradition' is maintained and collegemen endeavour to not only continue to sing the songs currently popular, but make an effort to learn (and teach) new songs. It is for this reason that this edition has been written.

In comparing the 1993 edition of the Andrew's Song Book with the 1983 version several differences are apparent. The most glaring of these is the different songs. In compiling the songs for this book, I have deliberately excluded those songs from the last edition that do not (presently) get sung frequently and have instead, included songs that I feel might be good to sing in the early hours of the morning whilst consuming copious gallons of the amber fluid. Some of the songs that have been included are probably too long to learn individually but were accepted regardless, for their humorous content.

Of particular note, songs such as *Mull of Kintyre*, *The Tinkerer* and *The Ranga-dang-do*, have been edited and added to. It is up to you whether or not you sing them as they are given here, but I thought it important to include the extra/edited verses for record's sake. Happy singing.

J. Clift.

### THE ANDREWS SONG

For Andrew's men are we  
And proud indeed to be;  
Not Anglie Paul's nor Roman John's  
Nor wower Wes-e-ley;  
Nigh Sancta, Dyke and the  
Prince Alfred nursery;  
Where else can man  
In life's short span  
Find life and love so free.  
ANDREWS!

### ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australia's sons let us rejoice,  
For we are young and free,  
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,  
Our land is girt by sea.  
Our land abound in nature's gifts,  
Of beauty rich and rare,  
In history's page let every stage,  
Advance Australia Fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross,  
We'll toil with heart and hands,  
To make our youthful Commonwealth,  
Renowned of all the lands;  
For loyal sons beyond the seas  
We've boundless plains to share,  
With courage let us all combine  
To Advance Australia Fair  
In joyful strains than let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.

## AMAZING GRACE

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,  
and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

## SCOTLAND THE BRAVE

Hark when the night is falling: Hear, hear the pipes are calling,  
Loudly and proudly calling, down thro' the glen.  
There where the hills are sleeping, now feel the blood-a-  
leaping,  
High as the spirits of the old Highland men.

### *Chorus*

Tow'ring in gallant fame, Scotland my mountain bame,  
High may your standards gloriously wave.  
Land of my high endeavour, land of the shining river,  
Land of my heart forever, Scotland the brave.

High in the misty Highlands, out by the purple islands,  
Brave are the hearts that beat beneath the Scottish skies.  
Wild are the winds to meet you, staunch are the friends that  
greet you,  
Kind as the love that shines from fair maidens' eyes.

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

Far off in sunlit places, sad are the Scottish faces,  
Yearning to feel the kiss of sweet Scottish rain.  
Where tropic skies are beaming, love sets the heart a-  
dreaming,  
Longing and dreaming for the homeland again.

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

## LOCH LOMOND

By yon bonnie banks and by yon bonnie braes,  
Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomond,  
Where I and my true love were ever wont to gae,  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

### *Chorus*

O, you'll tak' the high road, and I'll tak' the low road,  
An I'll be in Scotland afore ye;  
But I and my true love will never meet again  
On the bonnie bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

'Twas there that we parted in yon shady glen,  
On the steep, steep side o' Ben Lomond,  
Where the purple hue the Hieland hills we view,  
An the moon comin' out in the gloaming.

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

The wee birdies sing and the wild flowers spring,  
And in sunshine the waters are sleepin'  
But the broken heart it kens nae second spring,  
Tho' the wae'fu' may cease frae their greetin'.

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

## AULD LANG SYNE

Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
And auld lang syne.

### *Chorus*

For auld lang syne, my jo,  
For auld lang syne,  
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.

And surely ye'll be your pint stowp,  
And surely I'll be mine,  
And we'll take a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne,

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

We twa hae run about the braes,  
And pou'd the gowans fine;  
But we've wondered mony a weary fit,  
Sin auld lang syne.

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

We twae has paid'd in the burn,  
Frae morning sun till dine;  
But seas between us braid hae roar'd  
Sin auld lang syne.

### *(Repeat Chorus)*

And there's a hand my trusty fiere,  
And gie's a hand o' thine,  
And we'll tak a right gude-willie-waught,  
For auld lang syne.

## THE 'VARSITY

Grads, and Undergrads, and Fellows,  
Gaudy Profs in reds and yellows,  
Sing with lungs as tough as bellows  
To our 'Varsity.

Some of us are mining,  
Some in Arts reclining,  
More and more  
Attack the law  
And revel in methods refining;  
Some are fools and some are clever,  
Faculties divide and sever,  
Still we all belong for ever  
To our 'Varsity.

Though they call us asses,  
Turn us out of classes  
Still we know  
They're men below,  
And their deadly jawing mainly gas is;  
Theories bust, old order fades,  
But truth and Beauty, saucy jades,  
Are laughing, dancing in the shades  
Of Sydney 'Varsity.

Varied are the tastes of students,  
Varied are degrees of prudence,  
Very varied our amusements  
At our 'Varsity.

We shall soon be scattered,  
Friendships may be shattered;  
some or all  
Will grope and crawl,  
And get very knocked about and battered,  
Some are hung and some are married,  
Some for years in gaol have tarried,  
Still they are all members of the  
Same old 'Varsity.

## MULL OF KINTYRE

*Chorus*  
Mull of Kintyre  
Oh mist rolling in from the sea  
My desire is always to be here  
Oh Mull of Kintyre.

Far have I travelled, and much have I seen  
Dark distant mountains, the valleys of green  
Past painted deserts, the sun sets on fire  
As she carries me back to the Mull of Kintyre.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
Sweep through the heather, like deer in the glen  
Carry me back to the days I knew then  
Nights when we sang like a heavenly choir  
Of the nights and the sounds of Mull of Kintyre.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
Smiles in the sunshine, and tears in the rain  
Still take me back where my memories remain  
Flickering embers, grow higher and higher  
As they carry me back to the Mull of Kintyre.

*(Repeat Chorus)*

## THE RANGA-DANG-DO

### *Chorus*

Oh the Ranga-Dang-Do, (Oh the Ranga-Dang-Do)  
Pray what is that, (Pray what is that)  
All covered in fur, (All covered in fur)  
Like a pussy cat, (Like a pussy cat)  
With a whole in the middle, (With a whole in the middle)  
All split in two, (All split in two)  
That's what they call the Ranga-Dang-Do, (That's what they  
call the Ranga-Dang-Do)

### *(Repeat chorus)*

"Get out of here!" her father said,  
"Since you have lost your maidenhead",  
So she packed her bags, and suitcase too,  
And left that place with the Ranga-Dang-Do.

### *(Repeat chorus)*

Well she went to town, and became a whore,  
And she hung a sign, outside her door,  
One dollar down, and three for two,  
To have a ride on the Ranga-Dang-Do.

### *(Repeat chorus)*

Well she took me down, into the cellar,  
And told me I, was a mighty fine fella,  
She gave me wine, and whisky too,  
And she placed my hand on the Ranga-Dang-Do.

They came in fours, they came in twos,  
First the Japs, and then the Jews,  
Then came the sailors, and the air force too,  
Till they damn near ruined the Ranga-Dang-Do.

### *(Repeat chorus)*

The army came, the army went,  
The price went down to fifty cents,  
But still they came, to get their screw,  
And have a turn on the Ranga-Dang-Do.

### *(Repeat chorus)*

Well a young man came, and in his haste,  
Mixed vaseline with emery paste,  
Well he ground an he ground, till he boer right through,  
And that was the end Ranga-Dang-Do.

### *(Repeat chorus)*

Well she left that town, the son of a bitch,  
With a case of the pox, and the seven-year itch,  
Well she had V.D. and syphilis too,  
And she carried all in the Ranga-Dang-Do.

### *(Repeat chorus)*

Well the Ranga-Dang-Do, its a thing of the past,  
Now the gay Paulines, bop it up the arse,  
But if some time, they've nought to do,  
They ought to sample the joys of the Ranga-Dang-Do.

Oh the Ranga-Dang-Do, pray what is that,  
Its round and black, like a bowlers hat,  
Got a hole in the middle, and quite warm too,  
That's what they call the Ranga-Dang-Do.



## THE ENGINEERS SONG

An engineer told me before he died, uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch.  
An engineer told me before he died, uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch.  
An engineer told me before he died,  
And I've no reason to believe he lied, uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch.  
Uh-hum-diddly-um-diddly-um-ch-ch.

He said "my wife had a cunt so wide", uh-hum-ch-ch, uh-hum-ch-ch.  
(3)  
"That she could never be satisfied".

So I built for her a prick of steel, (3)  
And mounted it all on a bloody great wheel.

Two brass balls I filled with cream, (3)  
And the whole bloody issue was driven by steam.

I laid her down upon the bed, (3)  
And tied her feet behind her head.

So she was in a position to fuck, (3)  
I switched it on and wished her luck.

In and out went the prick of steel, (3)  
And round and round went the bloody great wheel.

Up and up went the level of steam, (3)  
Down and down went the level of cream.

Until at last enough she cried, (3)  
"Enough, enough, I'm satisfied!"

And now we come to the tragic bit, (3)  
There was no way of stopping it.

And she was split from arse to tit, (3)  
And whole bloody lot was covered in shit.

But the monstrous wheel just rolled on through, (3)  
After his wife was split in two.

And as if possessed by a monstrous whim, (3)  
Turned around and buggered him.

Then it rolled to the gate steaming real fast, (3)  
Mounting folk just a strolling past.

It covered them over with grease and cream, (3)  
And disappeared as a cloud of steam.

The moral of the story is sad but true, (3)  
Don't use steel when meat will do!

## THE TINKERER

The Duchess was a-dressing, a-dressing for the ball,  
For the Ball, for the ball,  
When she saw the mighty tinkerer masturbating against the wall,  
Against the wall, against the wall.

*Chorus:*  
With his bloody great kidney wiper,  
and balls the size of three,  
And yard and a half of foreskin,  
Foreskin, foreskin,  
Hanging down below his knees,  
Below his knees, below his knees.

She wrote to him a letter,  
And in it she did say,  
"Oh I'd rather fuck for you, sir,  
Than my husband any day".

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
He opened up the letter,  
And in it he did read,  
His balls began to fester,  
And his penis began to bleed.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
He hopped upon his charger,  
And onwards he did ride,  
With his balls slung over his shoulder,  
And his penis by his side.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
He rode on through the night time,  
He rode on through the day,  
Fucking all they gay Paulines,  
Along his merry way.

He rode into the courtyard,  
And knocked upon the door,  
"Gawd blimey" said the butler,  
"He's come to fuck us all!"

First he fucked the Maidens,  
Then he fucked the Duchess too,  
And then he fucked her daughter,  
And filled her twat with goo.

And then he fucked the housemaids,  
And then the butler's wife,  
And then he fucked his stallion,  
Which crippled it for life.

He fucked them on the sofa,  
He fucked them over the chair,  
And if he'd had a pair of wings,  
He've fucked them in the air.

He fucked them against the stairway,  
He fucked them against the wall,  
He fucked them against the ceiling,  
And he fucked them against the door.

Some say the tinkerer's dead now,  
They buried him at St. Paul's,  
They had a separate coffin,  
For his penis and his balls.

Some say he went to heaven,  
Some say he went to hell,  
Gone to and fuck the Devil,  
And fuck him bloody well.

## ALLOWETTA

Chorus

Oh Allowetta, je t'aime Allowetta  
Allowetta, je t'aime boomeray.

How I love your . . . curly top, (*repeat*)  
Her curly top,  
Allowett!

(Repeat Chorus)

How I love your . . . mono brow, (*repeat*)  
Her mono brow,  
Her curly top,  
Allowett!

(Repeat Chorus)

Crisscross eyes . . .  
Broken nose . . .  
Black moustache . . .  
Loobra lips . . .  
Broken teeth . . .  
Double chin . . .  
Swinging tits . . .  
Big beer gut . . .  
Poxy cunt . . .  
Flabby thighs . . .  
Nobly knees . . .  
Corny toes . . .

## WALTZING MATILDA

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong  
Under the shade of a coolabah tree,  
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled  
"You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me!"

Chorus

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,  
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me,  
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled  
"You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me!"

Down came a jumbuck to drink at the billabong,  
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee,  
And he sang as he stowed that jumbuck in his tuckerbag.  
"You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me!"

(Repeat Chorus)

Up rode the squatter mounted on his thoroughbred,  
Up rode the troopers- one, two, three,  
"Where's that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tuckerbag?  
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me!"

(Repeat Chorus)

Up jumped the swagman and sprang into the billabong  
"You'll never take me alive said he!"  
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong  
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me!"

(Repeat Chorus)

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,  
You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me,  
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong  
"You'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me!"

## MANANA

Way down in Alabama, where the niggers shovel coal,  
A nigger shoved his shovel up another nigger's hole.  
Said the foreman to the nigger:  
"You're here to shovel coal,  
And not to shove your shovel up another nigger's hole."

Manana, Manana,  
Manana is good enough for me;  
Somebody make my rhubarb rise,  
Ba-dup-ba-dup-ba-dup!  
My rhubarb refuses to rise,  
To its natural size,  
Market garden size;  
My rhubarb refuses to rise,  
Cause my baby don't love me,  
My baby don't love me,  
My baby don't love me no more!  
Somebody make my rhubarb rise,  
Ba-dup-ba-dup-ba-dup!

## AUSTRALIA

Australia, Australia  
Land of the Waratah and Dahlia,  
If you land in gaol I'll bail ya,  
Australia,  
Two arms, two hands, two steely hands,  
Beneath the Southern Cross I stand,  
A sprig of wattle in my hand,  
A product of my native land,  
A voice within me cries aloud,  
Australia,  
You fucking beauty,  
So up the old red rooster  
And more piss.

## THE MAYOR OF BAYSWATER

(or My Sister Elizabeth which starts:  
My sister Elizabeth  
Has gonorrhoea and syphilis)

The mayor of Bayswater  
Has such a lovely daughter  
And the hairs on her dicky-di-do  
Hang down to her knees.

Chorus  
One black one, one white one,  
And one with a bit of shite on.  
The hairs on her dicky-di-do,  
Hang down to her knees.

If she were my daughter,  
I'd have them cut shorter.

I've smelt it, I've felt it,  
It's just like a bit of velvet.

I've seen it, I've preened it,  
I've been in between it.

It would need a coal miner,  
To find her vagina.

I've sucked it, I've stroked it,  
And further more, I've poked it.

She lived on a mountain,  
And pissed like a fucken fountain.

She married an Italian,  
With balls like a bloody stallion.

She said she was a Dyke Moll,  
So I fucked her up her arse hole.

You could drive a mini minor,  
Right up her vagina.

She said she was from Sancta,  
So I fucked her, then thanked her.

She said she was a Wowser,  
And she came like a bloody bowser.

I've stroked them, I've poked them,  
I've even rolled them up and smoked them.

She lives on a cattle ranch,  
And fucks like an avalanche.

I've sucked them, I've plucked them,  
I've actually gone and fucked them.

She slept with a demon,  
Who washed her with semen.

She bangs like a shit house door,  
Coming back for more and more.

She sat on the window sill,  
And fucked till she had her fill.

## HERE THEY COME

Here they come just a sucking on a cock  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la  
Any poof will do so long as he's a chock  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la

Fuck each other (repeat)  
Up the arse (repeat)  
Fuck each other up the arse  
Never let a poofster pass

There they go with a keg of vaseline  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la  
Pummelling the Warden like you've never seen  
Singing la-la-la-lala-la-lala-la

Fuck each other (repeat)  
And their brother (repeat)  
Fuck each other and their brother  
And their mother!

## GUNDAGAI

There's a track winding back,  
To a slut upon her back,  
Along the road to Gundagai.

There's a bodgie there beside her,  
I'll bet my balls he'll ride her,  
Beneath the Southern sky.

With a frenchie on his tossle,  
He'll ride her with ease,  
Scraping up the gravel,  
With his bony knees.

There's a grunt from the front,  
As he rams it up the cunt,  
Along the road to Gundagai.



## SWEET CHARIOT

*Chorus:*

Swing low, Sweet Chariot  
A coming for to carry me home  
Swing low, Sweet Chariot  
A coming for to carry me home.

I looked o'ber Jordan, and what did I see  
A coming for to carry me home  
A band of angels, coming after me  
A coming for to carry me home.

## THE END OF THE MONTH

*Chorus*

Blood goes here, blood goes there,  
Blood goes every-fuckin' where.  
When the end of the month comes around.  
There's a jamboree, at the tampon factory,  
Shout out your orders loud and clear (loud and clear).  
We've got small, medium, large, super-doooper, fill-a-barge.  
When the end of the month comes around.

You can tell by the rope, that you haven't got a hope.  
etc., etc. . .

## THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN

Those magnificent men from St. Andrew's are here,  
Rooting the women and drinking the beer,  
During the game we win all of the rucks,  
And in the night we get all of the fucks,  
Ruck, ruck, maul, maul,  
Jumping in line outs and winning the ball,  
We are those magnificent men,  
Those magnificent men,  
Those magnificent men,  
Those magnificent men from St. Andrew's are here.

## BARBARIBA

I wish all the ladies,  
Were fish in the sea,  
And I was a minnow,  
So they could eat me.

*Chorus:*  
Hey Barbariba,  
Oh Barbariba.

I wish all the ladies,  
Were pies on the shelf,  
And I was a baker,  
So I could eat them all myself.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
I wish all the ladies,  
Were bricks in the wall,  
And I was a mason,  
So I could lay them all.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
I wish all the ladies,  
Were little red foxes,  
And I was a hunter,  
So I could shoot them up their boxes.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
I wish all the ladies,  
Were holes in the road,  
And I was a dump truck,  
So I could fill them with my load.

### BYE-BYE BLACKBIRD

Put your arse against the wall,  
Here I come balls and all,  
Bye-bye blackbird.  
I don't want an awful lot,  
Just enough to fill your twat,  
Bye-bye blackbird.  
Open up your legs a little wider,  
I can feel my foreskin getting tighter,  
She fucks once, she fucks twice,  
Holy fucking Jesus Christ.  
Blackbird bye-bye.

### DO YOUR BALLS HANG LOW?

Tiddlywinks, old man,  
Get a woman if you can,  
If you can't get a woman,  
Get a clean old man;  
From the rock of Gibraltar,  
To the lofty heights of Malta,  
You'll never find a woman,  
In an old tin can.

Do your balls hang low,  
Do they wobble to and fro?  
Can you tie 'em in a knot,  
Can you tie 'em in a bow?  
Do they make rusty clamour,  
If you hit them with a hammer,  
Can you do the double shuffle,  
If your balls hang low?

Do your balls hang low,  
Can you swing 'em to and fro?  
Do they hang bellow your knees,  
Do they smell of rotten cheese?  
Can you toss them over your shoulder,  
Like a European soldier?  
Do your balls hang low,  
In the morning?

## NELSON

I wish I were in London, hoorah, hoorah!  
I'd go down to Trafalgar square,  
And say to old Lord Nelson,  
"Get fucked, get fucked,  
You one-eyed pommy bastard!"

## THE RUGBY SONG

*(sung to 'One man went to mow')*

If I were the marrying kind, sir,  
Which, thank the Lord, I'm not, sir,  
The girl I'll wed to share my bed  
Would be a fullback's daughter.

For she'd kick hard,  
And I'd kick hard,  
And we'd kick hard together,  
And we'd be right  
In the middle of the night  
Kicking hard together.

*(and so on through the other positions)*  
Centre's daughter: she'd break through...  
Winger's daughter: she'd run hard...  
Prop's daughter: she'd bind tight...  
Lock's daughter: she'd lock hard...  
Fly-half's daughter: she'd whip it out...  
Scrum-half's daughter: she'd put it in...  
Five-eighth's daughter: she'd pass it out...  
Hooker's daughter: she'd hook hard...  
Second-row's daughter: she'd push hard...  
Ballboy's daughter: she'd hold balls...  
Referee's daughter: she'd blow hard...  
Spectator's daughter: she'd root hard...

## THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the first day of Christmas  
My true love sent to me  
One French letter very filthy

Two virgin queens . . .  
Three boy scouts . . .  
Four pregnant nuns . . .  
Five choir boys . . .  
Six convicted vicars . . .  
Seven sex-starved sisters . . .  
Eight useless eunuchs . . .  
Nine naughty nymphs . . .  
Ten tired trollops . . .  
Eleven lecherous lesbians . . .  
Twelve twitching twats . . .

## BRITISH GONORRHOEA

Some die of drinking whisky,  
Some die of drinking beer,  
Some die of diabetes,  
Some die of diarrhoea,  
But of all the world's diseases,  
There's none that can compare,  
With the drip, drip, drip,  
From the tip of the prick,  
Of British gonorrhoea.

## BEASTIALITY

Beasteality's best boys,  
Beasteality's best (fuck a wallaby),  
Beasteality's best boys,  
Beasteality's best.

Put your goo in a roo boys,  
Put your goo in a roo.  
etc. etc. . .

## THE DYING HARLOT (sung to *The Dying Stockman*)

Charlotte the harlot lay dying,  
A pisspot supporting her head;  
All the bludgers and poofters and bastards,  
Had gathered to hear what she said.

"Oh I've been fucked by the British and Scottish,  
I've been fucked by the Texans so tall,  
I've been fucked by the butcher and baker,  
In fact I've been fucked by them all.

"I've been fucked by the French and English,  
The Germans, the Japs and the Jews,  
And now I've come back to Australia,  
To be buggered by bastards like youse."

Around her blowflies were buzzing,  
A cunt-rag supported her head,  
As that dirty old harlot was dying,  
She turned on her left tit and said:

"I've been fucked by the army and navy,  
By a bull-fighting toreador,  
By Abos and dingoes and Dagoes,  
But never by blowflies before.

"So wrap me up in foreskins and frenchies,  
And bury me deep down below,  
Where all those bludgers can't catch me,  
The places where all good harlots go.

"So haul back your filthy old foreskins,  
And give the pride of your nuts!"  
So they hauled back their filthy old foreskins,  
And played *Home Sweet Home* on her guts.



## THE GOOD SHIP VENUS

It was on the good ship *Venus*  
By Christ you should have seen us,  
The figurehead was a whore in bed,  
Sucking on a penis.

*Chorus:*  
Frigging in the rigging,  
Frigging in the rigging,  
We're frigging in the rigging,  
'Cos there's fuck all else to do.

It was at China station,  
By way of celebration,  
We sunk a junk with jets of spunk,  
By mutual masturbation.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
We sailed to the Canaries,  
To screw the local fairies,  
We got the syph in Tenerife,  
And the clap in Buenos Aires.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
We sailed to the Bahamas,  
Where the girls all wear pyjamas,  
They wouldn't screw our motley crew,  
Cause much preferred bananas.

*(Repeat Chorus)*  
The captain's name was Muggler,  
A dirty minded bugger,  
He wasn't fit to shovel shit,  
From one deck to another.

The first mate's name was Morgan,  
A bloody sexual Gorgon,  
Six molls could ride with legs astride,  
Upon his sexual organ.

The second mate's name was Walter,  
At love he'd never falter,  
His bloody stiff had given syph,  
The all the girls in Malta.

The stoker was McGuire,  
He really was a trier,  
For though on shore he kept a whore,  
On board he pulled his wire.

The steward's name was Topper,  
Boy did he have a whopper,  
Twice round the deck, once round his neck,  
And up his arse as a stopper.

The bosun's name was Andy,  
A bastard bald and bandy,  
They filled his bum with boiling rum,  
For pissing in the brandy.

But the bosun's plan was prosperous,  
He dipped his cock in phosphorous,  
All through the night he kept it alight,  
To guide us through the Bosphorus.

The purser's name was Lester,  
He was a hymen tester,  
Through hymens thick he'd shove his prick,  
and leave it there to fester.

The purser's came from Wigan,  
Boy did he have a big un',  
We bashed his cock with a lump of rock,  
For frigging in the rigging.

The musicians name was Carter,  
He tuned his arse as a farter,  
He could play anything from God Save the Queen,  
To Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata.

The cooks name was O'Malley,  
He didn't dilly dally,  
He shot his bolt with such a jolt,  
That he whitewashed the galley.

The cook's off sider Riemann,  
He was a filthy demon,  
He served the crew with a filthy brew,  
Of foreskins boiled in semen.

The trainee cook was Wooden,  
By Christ he had a good 'un.  
He tossed off twice in a bag of rice,  
And called it sago puddin'.

The radio operator,  
He was a masturbator,  
to get a jolt he'd flog his bolt,  
across the oscillator.

The cabin-boy's name was Nipper,  
A dirty little critter,  
They filled his arse with broken glass,  
And circumcised the skipper.

The stewardess was Dinah,  
She sprang a leak off China,  
We had to pump poor Dinah's rump,  
To empty her vagina.

The captain's wife was Mabel,  
She'd fuck whenever able,  
Behind the door or on the floor,  
Or on the chart room table.

The captain had a daughter,  
she fell into water,  
Ecstatic squeals revealed that eels,  
Had found her sexual quarter.

Another daughter Charlotte,  
She was a filthy little harlot,  
Her thighs at night were lily white,  
But in the morning scarlet.

The ship's cat's name was Kitty,  
Its arse was black and shitty,  
Her feline twat was kept red-hot,  
By a crew who knew no pity.

So now we end this serial,  
From sheer lack of material,  
I wish you luck, whenever you fuck,  
From all disease venereal.

## THE SHEARERS LAMENT

I was shearing outback in a wayside shack-  
A cunt of a place by Jesus!  
Where the pines are all tall and the gins are small,  
And there's never a thing that pleases.

It was run arse-first, and we fucked and we cursed,  
The sheep, and the shed, and the engine,  
The penner-up had a sore-eyed pup  
And the musterers kept us cringin'.

The expert cunt ground our tools all blunt,  
And his headgear was rocking to pieces,  
But I kept my pace in that louse-bound place,  
And minced up my fucking fleeces.

I hamstrung more than my penmate shore-  
It was go while the cutters lasted;  
The rouseabout was Pommy lout,  
And the boss was a hungry bastard.

He wanted more wool, so he made us all pull;  
We fucking near had to scrape 'em.  
God strike me blue, what a bloke should do,  
Is rear up at the cunt and rape him.

When the whistle blew I grabbed a ewe;  
The skin on her gut was rotten,  
I cursed and swore as her shit bag tore,  
And reached for my needle and cotton.

As I stopped to stitch the dirty old bitch,  
I was kicked, I was bit, I was mastered,  
So I kicked her arse down the let-go pass,  
Saying, "Fuck off, you rotten bastard."

The ram he fetched made our arseholes stretch,  
Like an old gin's snatch when you squeeze her;  
My penmate strained with his shirt-tails stained,  
And his arse went off like a greaser.

How the boss would rip with his tin of dip!  
He was up to his knees in maggots,  
But little did he know with one mighty blow,  
I took off his prize ram's agates.

I was sick and sore of that blasted whore;  
He was one of those cunts that grizzles.  
So I took a sot on those stags of his,  
And littered the board with their pizzles.

The presser, Slim, had his mind on quim,  
His bales were all fucked and broken;  
The classer swine made up his time,  
And tracked him with a farewell token.

The greasy cook had a sore-eyed look,  
And was covered with scabs and rashes.  
He stuffed our holes with his half-baked rolls-  
He'd have poisoned Christ with his hashes!

So if you find me back in that louse-bound shack,  
I'll be broke to the world and cringin';  
You can jam the lot up your dirty black blot,  
And you can start with the fucking engine.

## THE BALL OF KIRRIEMUIR

Oh the ball, the ball, the ball, the ball, the ball at Kirriemuir,  
There were four-and-twenty prostitutes a-lying on the floor.

*Chorus:*  
Singing, 'Who'll do me this time,  
Who'll do me now?  
The one that did me last time,  
cannot do me now.'

First lady forward, second lady back,  
Third lady's finger up the fourth lady's crack.

Fifth lady forward, sixth lady pass,  
Seventh lady's finger up the eighth lady's arse.

A when the ball had started, they all began to jig;  
before a half an hour had passed they all began to frig.

There were four-and-twenty virgins came down from Inverness,  
And when the ball was over there were four-and-twenty less.

There was rooting in the bedrooms, there was rooting in the halls,  
And you couldn't hear the bagpipes for the clanging of the balls.

There was rooting in the doorways, there was rooting on the stairs,  
And you couldn't see the carpet for the come and curly hairs.

There was fucking in the sunshine, there was fucking in the rain,  
And you couldn't use the pisshouse for the semen up the drain.

The village harlot, she was there, keeping the boys in fits,  
By swinging from the chandeliers and landing on her tits.

The farmers daughter, she was there, the dirty little runt;  
With a ring of roses around her tits and thistles up her cunt.

The village barber, he was there, his razor in his hand;  
And every time the music stopped he'd circumcise the band.

The village blacksmith, he was there, sitting by the fire;  
Performing abortions by the score with a piece of red hot wire.

The verger played a dirty trick, we cannot lat it pass;  
He showed a girl his mighty rod, then shoved it up her arse.

The village builder, he was there, with a barrow load of bricks;  
He poured cement in all the holes, and blunted all the pricks.

The papal delegate, he was there, he lectured to the room:  
The vagina, not the rectum, is the right way to the womb.

Oh there was fucking in the farmyard, fucking in the byre;  
The friction of all the arseholes set all the hay on fire.

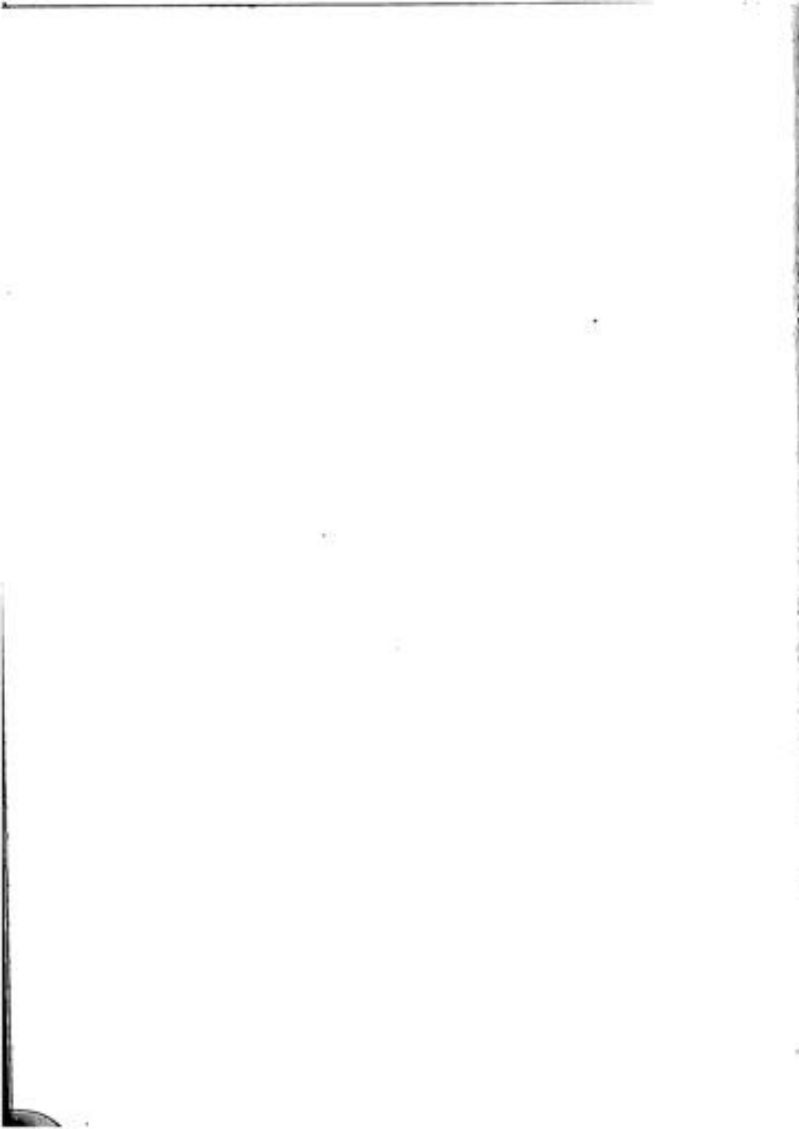
Oh the ball, the ball, the ball, the ball, the ball at Kirriemuir,  
Some came for the dancing, but most came to whore.

And when the ball was over, we all went home to rest;  
We said the music wasn't bad but the fucking was the best.

Sing balls to you partner,  
Arse against the wall,  
If you can't get a fuck on Saturday night,  
You can't get fucked at all.

water SONG

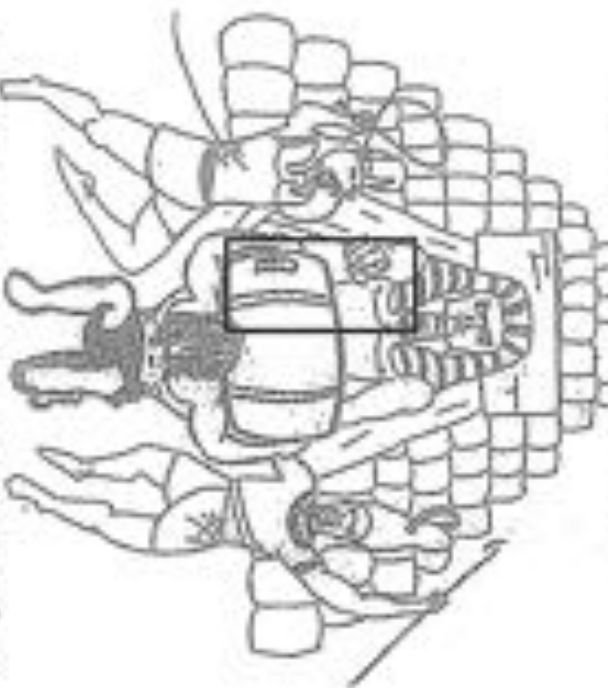
i hear funder, i hear funder  
'ark don't you? 'ark don't you?  
pitter patter raindrops; pitter patter raindrops  
i'm weak as piss; i'm weak as piss.





## **8.3. 2013 ADELAIDE ST MARK'S O-MAG**

**O'WEEK 2013**



*Rise of the Freshman, Fall of the Freshman*

**O'Mag 2013**

**Your College Bible**

The publisher has assumed no liability for

## ATTENTIONNI MIFTRICKS

To this date your lives have resembled no more than that of the usual old hag in the stomach of a dying cow. By the pure miracle of chance, you find yourselves at College and at the absolute mercy of the great Gods. You have been granted the opportunity of a lifetime, a privilege so rare, so desired, that many have perished in their attempts to attain it. Don't Fuck it Up.

While you have been accepted into College, a heavenly patron whom more mortals have the life breathed into them by the Ancient Gods, you have yet to prove yourselves worthy. Until this occurs, which in the best a guarantee, you are considered to be as important as an absolute fuck but dangling from a coat hanger.

Upon approaching our sacred literature, you perhaps must be proved worthy enough to enter amongst such woe and spiritual misery as our authors. You have one week in which to demonstrate this, and only the strongest of your pathetic souls will emerge with even a chance of dignity.

Failure is an option here, and will result in the full weight of the Gods being unleashed upon you. The consequences of this are never as pleasant as your day-dreamed words can even comprehend.

Our expectations are not high, as we do realize, perhaps that you are as insignificant as an Aquila in a field. We have seven days to attempt to transfer you from the lofty planes of fate that you are, into the mortal realm. Failure is expected with the odds stacked to defeat the gods. Failure is not an option here, and will result in the full weight of the Gods being unleashed upon you. Don't Fuck it Up.

## DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the articles contained within are purely those of the entire College and should be taken literally. Therefore, you will do what you are told, when you are told.

Firstly, do not show anyone outside of college this O'Malg, and if you are stupid enough to show someone from Aquinas, St. Ann's etc., then you will be in serious shit, as the highly intellectual subject matter may crush their fragile little minds. Secondly, this O'Malg will be the most valuable text book you will read in your time at University, so study it hard.

Anyone caught breaking these rules, or any other rules, or just generally being a useless fucker fuck, will be in more shit than you could ever imagine.

Fuck You

-The Editors

## MEET YOUR COLLEGIANS

### The President

Like toddlers and with under them, like locomotives of their neck, under babies in the tank, every year with a single phrase, he is OCCC.

### Executive Committee

Large tall buildings in a single brand, are more powerful than a locomotive, are more than babies, are more on more, are more to OCCC.

### Members of the SCTR and SCTR Student and Middle Community Board

Large small buildings in a single brand, are more powerful than a sharing engine, are more than babies when running downhill, with an even if it's with, with to OCCC.

### General Counselors

Large small buildings with a running start and incredible, with, are almost as powerful as a locomotive engine, with an even in an engine (including good, good to OCCC) if not around.

### Students

Small, like professional team, the sign of our with a common title, can fix a spending budget, with with, are necessarily addressed by OCCC.

### Coaches

Small high walls on a wall when trying to clear small buildings, are not even when trying to stop locomotives, are sometimes hardly a gas station (including locomotives, flight paths, with to around).

### Personnel in Administration from College Hill (CHS)

Like into buildings, engine locomotives run out of their class, are not around with more, can be or else with a few jobs, when capable of getting it in, with to with.

### Faculty

Like even dormitory when trying to clear buildings, are "not in the show class," are there when with more people, play in small problems and like plan, usually in dormitory.

NOTE: Don't do this just with babies, but be sure it comes from their building with more, have the consciousness of awareness to help from their studies of locomotives.

## MEET YOUR GODS

Football, [redacted]

Not (and) "man with eye of the cat."

How you ever checked on 10 inches of roof?

Just one of the reasons why this man is God

A basketball legend, you teacher gets quiver

As he starts his hand dick up into your face

And while you be yelping and bleeding in pain

You find yourself shouting and screaming his name

In your stretched area his fat will be visible

I give you [redacted] your College Club President.

Sunday, [redacted]

*Apophis- God of chaos and war*

This beast from the river makes lecherness look lame

He puts girls in wheelchairs without knowing their name

Your assignments will grow and flow like the Nile

His conquests, he makes and sweeps in a pile

Fresher boys stop and pay homage to this demon

His makes you look like unwanted sprays of semen

Look but don't touch you filthy teacher pig

This is your Secretary, [redacted]

Treasure, [redacted]

*Se shut- God of writing and measurement*

[redacted] makes him in a club like "Whelp! I got a big cock"

But he's got too much class to be seen in a thrift shop

Beating his chest like the mighty King Kong

You'll get kidnapped in the face by his powerful nothing

As you gets stare in awe and your pussy lips quiver

You climax so hard you push him a river

So get on your knees and he'll give you a spray

Your College Club Treasurer, [redacted]

Male Sports Secretary, [redacted]

*Flour- God of war, dry and falcon*

Whats real, flirting and ogling for more?

A teacher gets gash when she sees this man roar

A leader of men and warlord so great

He'll come for you girls and brook down your gale

He's not here to suck spiders and neither are you

Crude him, and you'll swim in his starchy white goo

This is not a joke you'll swallow it by the line

Get on your knees for [redacted]

Female Sports Secretary [REDACTED]

Nothing's (position of the men and the ocean

Clean up your dick-sweater from your mossy bed head

[REDACTED] is here to make you boys blush

This smaller' bed biddie strokes Bernini from her eyes

And sometimes the beds of all fresher guys

So don't even bother with this slawmer' goddess

Cos she'll laugh at your cock and the hair on your chest

Just stand in awe, you're already outdone

By this legend lady, the one, [REDACTED]

Male Social Secretary [REDACTED]

Salt- God of dawn storms, and chives

He's the one who sleeps your beer in stock

With his large, heavy, fresher slaying cock

Have you remembered to bring your bit smoot

Because he'll douse you in cum, from bottom to top

Ladies in the area go find a mop

As your unisex pussy is beginning to seep

He doesn't work on a barn or a fruit shop

But this year, some cherries he will pop

Now that your nuts are soaking, take your unisex off

Your c\*\*\*\* will be tearing as it surrenders to his hot

like a naked pigs snout! your gashes are beginning to froth

It's the beer drinking madman hit [REDACTED]

Female Social Secretary [REDACTED]

Tidbits- Goddess of sex

If you value your genitals and do want to live, the queen of the pub

should not be fucked with

This better' blonde makes the boys quiver, for none can match up to her

lean dead liver

Taking you places you've not been before and all the time drinking you

down to the floor

Fresher girls and you are comparably known can get on your knees and

hit out a groan

For none of you can match up to this goddess so proud, the 2013 social

sec, the amazing [REDACTED]

Male Equity Officer [REDACTED]

Gerb- God of the curb

Lastly by nature in more ways than one, yet another conviction that

makes fresher's curv

You look up mistreated, "How can this be?", a man so perfect it fills

you with glee

"But you're EO, you have to be nicer", Fuck off fresher your throat he will

slice

This guys a catch and will smash your snatch, and fuck you in a way

even Chuck Norris can't snatch

So shut up your shit c\*\*\*\* mouth mother fucker

For none are sicker than [REDACTED]



*Female Epylog Othello*

*I father, Goddess of Love*

As you start up at the glorious creature you feel your body begin to  
change  
The feather girls begin to cry as they turn stare at themselves with  
stunned  
And as your dick gets hard from the blood, rushing towards your aching  
she will forever be in your weak bark, and because sex with feathers is  
wrong

As your dick gets hard and your heart begins beat and you want to have a  
cheesy dick  
Just remember that she is experienced and could more than handle your  
dick  
As she jumps on ready for fun she'll keep going till you beat  
but your tiny dick, which is not equipped, one clench and your dick is  
out!

is her name and warring is her game, challenges her and  
you're bound to lose  
So when you see her out, you can put away your sword because your tiny  
dick she wouldn't use  
You'll be sent back to bed with your hands in your head because it is you  
she didn't choose  
You are not worthy to even be near her and no one will ever fill her  
shoes.

*Myth Goddess of protection*

The little greek powerhouse, the one woman army, don't think for a sec-  
ond she girl cannot harm thee  
She's torn down buildings with rageful but a sigh, so you're basically  
fucked all feather guys  
You think she's cute? It's not you what is, shaking a can until it goes 'You'  
Then showing it so far up your ass with your thumb than sending you  
home to explode on your nose  
She will send you packing, she will double team ya, give it up for the li-  
dy

*Myth Goddess of justice and of order*

Who's this queen warring havoc and disaster?  
No, silly feather, that isn't the master,  
Get on your knees and show your respect!  
And no, dumb feather, your choice's not getting wet  
She'll run rings around you with incredible speed  
and without even touching you, she'll make your dick bleed  
Don't run, don't hide, there's nowhere to go,  
Your panic period is starting to flow  
And when you realize to the sound of her shouting  
A small dick and herpes isn't all you'll be spreading  
On your parts, a small stain will appear  
But give up feather, and stick to your nose  
No she doesn't want to touch your Johnson  
She's the one and only

*John-Coddless of night and heading*

What's this warmness tickling into your shoes?  
Wandering your feet and whispering it too  
As you put your pants and feel the stew  
You realize that is your penmanship man goo

This isn't a surprise as she stands tall

With a face like an angel she is more beautiful than you all  
I know you wish you had her but your cock is far to thin  
Because it takes a special man to be able to handle [redacted]

If your vag is wet and wanting and hankering for a lick

This wouldn't surprise me at all as [redacted] is hot and lit

You always know when she is around as your gash will be moist in deep-  
gash

You won't even be able to sit down, too wet to sit on the chair

*Sasha-Cool of cowbills and aligators*

Traditions of our and man like no other, did you know last night he  
stuck up with your m\*\*\*\*  
Yes, all your m\*\*\*\* he fucks like a God, drinks like a camel, and has a big  
rod

That's right, this guy's pretty sweet, I see you girls begging for his warm  
broder meat!

But meet him you won't this guy is too fly, tasting so good as your mums  
apple pie

But by as you might your gash are no good because they can't handle  
the length of his wood

So when you freshers select each other with Hoo  
He'll drive you to the morgue, the Cassy man [redacted]

*Kissuu-Cool of the moon*

You look up and whisper begging, "Oh please!"

As your soaking wet pussy leaks down past your knees

He's concealing a fucking so girls run in fear

Or he'll bounce on your nung like a small baby deer

He'll tear and rip at your tits as they're brenned

And they'll cry from the gift that Jesus brought in

So if you want someone to plug up your cunt!

No need to look further, here's [redacted]

# FRESHER DICTIONARY

*Show Goodness of air and wind!*

Had as a fry pan, she'll make your sock fresh  
But you still need a microscope to see your great knock  
She's lean, she's mean, your preventative cream  
Won't satisfy the goddess, do ya know what I mean?  
You fat buster think you think compare?  
Perhaps to dead cat without any hair  
You worthless Freshier boys will all dream and plead  
But 2 inches is too short for Miss [REDACTED]

*Push God of creation*

His pounds like a God if your meat curtains are mine  
Mop up your dignity and try not to weep  
All that blood and semen, you'll need a big sponge  
To soak up the mess that is your rotting dead change.  
But the man not a monster just ask your mum  
Your dad couldn't find the clitoris, only [REDACTED] makes her cum  
As you teacher boys, in shame, masturbate into your sandwich  
Let me introduce the soggy bar destroyer, [REDACTED]

A

ALPINE DWR  
AMERICAN  
AVAL:  
AUNT  
ARCHER

After beer, only acceptable when intoxicated  
Yeh, Yeh, Yeh!  
Saggy, junk, outdated...  
Any hole's a good  
Pizza more  
Fag-ol drinking hole up the street.

B

BADGE TALK:  
BATH TUB:  
BEDROOM BINK:  
BLACK SLEIGH DWR  
BLOODY SHLETTE:  
BLUE AND WHITE:  
BUTT-CHUCK:

Do feel sure you buy the  
Not for stalling in  
The second unbranded designer for 2012.  
Lesson: If you've after ambulance, get some mood lighting  
To not be as about  
Go there if you want to go swimming  
A quicker way to get smothered -- also will lose  
at dignity

C

CHLAMYDIA:  
CHALICE:  
CHANDER:  
COACHIVE:  
CRASS:

Go get checked  
You wish you had one  
rush with rush inside rush rush.  
The worst realize your parents made  
Estate of your own risk

D

DANDY  
DRAINS

Priority one take a baby  
Not for regurgitating the second your parents bodies can  
not handle. If you do, SCOOP IT UP

**E** **EMACIA/IFE** Imagines Julia Galarud and come to 10

**F** **FIRE CROTCH**  
**FLANGERS:**  
**FLOORCEST**

**When a pair**  
A persistently humorous sexual act carried out by two Freshies from the same floor.

**FRANGERS:**  
**FRESHER:**

Cover your stomach before you burp.  
Good for nothing, morose, stupid, scurrying, sticky, stinky, cross-pood dwelling, little suckers, lower than the burger but eat her.  
Know nothing, live nothing. Also known as you. Get used to it.  
A second eye.

**FRESHNY:**  
**FUDOR:**

Food, being, level, punch, roasting, scowling, intercourse, getting down and dirty, burping, uglies, making babies, horizontal lunge/standing, doing the wild thing, dramatic spreading, getting your end in, jiggling the breast with two hands, horse run, making the log to the burner, adding the handle of a hairy fat burger, shed her a thought, butter the muffin, straightening the back, sleep and smile, pleasuring, adam and eve 2, wash the salami, be up to over balls, horse, being and good, burping the worm in the right hole, bury the baby log, charming butter, wrapping the carrot head, cleaning her pipes, dip the chip, dry meat at the cross roads, diving for pearls, do some ladies talking, call her old, filling the cream donut, at her case flip, in her planning, get your nuts washed, get the fly, give half for soft, grease the wheel, get back on the horse, give the dog a bone, glazing the donut, go for a not up a drain pipe, grind your face, growing at the bridge, have a bit of fun, hold the salami, keep on the good foot and do the hot thing, hot beef injection, maybe someone, try some pipe, sit a log, to make love.

**G** **GASCOE:**  
**GODD:**  
**GOOD-LOOKING:**  
**GOODWISHFUL:**

The King of the road  
E President  
Coverside  
Stupid to be you

**H** **HEPHEP:**  
**UNHEALTHY THOUGHTY:**

**HTIC:**  
**HAPPY/CARE:**

Probably should go and get that checked too  
A fact recognized by few especially not the Fresh or anyone else to look of both  
You better help us win it back.  
The day that reached K Floor to the court: evanished, re-visited, compressed, LESBIC: sweet for  
Nerdians unless there is a FIRE

**I** **INTROCCURSE**  
**ITCHING:**

See back  
Down there - see a doctor

**K** **KERRY:**

See [redacted]

**L** **LECTURE:**  
**LOAD:**  
**LUBE:**

Get measure of what that means  
Don't show if you presume/women  
In case your teeth is dry

**M** **MANUSCRIPT:**  
**MAINTAIN:**  
**MONDAY:**  
**MAUTIK:**

Don't do, on the College social calendar  
A theory only  
An unknown speaker, certainly one of a kind  
(word at all costs)

**N** **NOBUNTED:**  
**HIPPLES:**

[redacted]  
Her room's doesn't cover

**O** **ODD:**

Local walking hole

<b>P</b>	<b>PICK UP</b> <b>PICKUP BUS:</b> <b>PICKERING:</b> <b>PICKUP:</b> <b>PIANNO SHIFTER:</b>	Get degrees Also not for detecting in A common occurrence. Get used to it Be aware of the context, context and primary in nature. Always hungry for gain. unpredictable and involving one colleague taking a betweens smiley log what another colleague is still groggling in shower. Scum of the earth. Not your pet cat you dumbest
<b>Q</b>	<b>Q:</b> <b>Q:</b>	House away from home and the place to be when a sub standards College send occurs
<b>R</b>	<b>RED AND WHITE:</b> <b>RATION:</b>	Get your 28 of ADT's The morning of food in the dining hall
<b>S</b>	<b>SABRETT:</b> <b>SATURDAY:</b> <b>SCRUBBY:</b> <b>SCOTT:</b> <b>SOCCER:</b> <b>SUNDAY:</b>	Do the right job and stand your knee to a body day Various you figure and weekend party get (also any Restaurant quality course to St Mark's day
<b>T</b>	<b>THURSDAY:</b> <b>TOILET SEATS:</b> <b>TRAIN TRACKS:</b>	A pending day Not to be removed from the Q: Do not evaluate these for a higher level when behavior, you sign weight indicate to Low day
	<b>TUESDAY:</b> <b>TRUCKLAND:</b> <b>TRAILER:</b>	An annual field for both parents involved and the wider college community in which an inter-college struggle and too public to communicate with anyone but themselves. To busy with, talk, talk, go to jail, go to jail with, and NOTICE, attend a college function, only by themselves.

<b>U</b>	<b>U:</b> <b>U:</b>	How the hell did you get in?
<b>V</b>	<b>V:</b> <b>V:</b>	Attention paid by Aquinas -
<b>W</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY:</b> <b>WEDNESDAY NIGHT:</b> <b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	Spending day with Harry Day comes the trouble and right
	<b>WENDALL:</b>	No one wants to see you particularly - outside disk or existing (Borothy) at the pub if sent to the hospital, one is not a true wizard (Pony Ayrton)
	<b>WIZARD STAFF:</b>	
<b>X</b>	<b>X:</b> <b>X:</b>	events the spot... if you can find it
<b>Y</b>	<b>Y:</b> <b>Y:</b>	Signal, station, 'Special', failure, the appointment, that for hours.
<b>Z</b>	<b>Z:</b> <b>Z:</b>	That's all I've got

## Believe it or Die

- D [redacted] does not like dirty dancing
- [redacted] loves life
- [redacted] is a gentle loving virgin
- [redacted] bad threats are always bloody clean
- [redacted] are not the prime example of an 'in-college' relationship
- [redacted] secretly doesn't condone taking pills
- [redacted] does not like Fish
- [redacted] Matisse/Debut is kind of boring
- The Bean is a real college
- [redacted] had a fiveosome
- [redacted] was his favorite
- [redacted] Christall is heritage beef
- [redacted] is an upstanding, well rounded member of society
- [redacted] always uses her middle voice
- K floor did not commit floor-oval last year
- [redacted] is not the Master's daughter
- [redacted] never uses harsh language
- [redacted] never runs
- [redacted] never buys anything on sale
- [redacted] never uses face book to express her opinion
- [redacted] always picks up the phone
- [redacted] Long Day is every day of the year for [redacted]
- [redacted] Lilla [redacted] will have a fun Overstake
- [redacted] does not drink
- [redacted] strikes too much
- [redacted] needs to smile more
- [redacted] The Chapel is the most sacred part of college
- [redacted] is a really American and still eats the bad
- [redacted] is a vegetarian
- [redacted] Nobody have gives a fuck that you want to Saint Petern, if we see you wearing any of that blue shit, you will be thrown in the pond

## WELCOME TO REALITY

As you dwell in may have noticed, there are many differences between the silly little Freshie Fuck and seasoned committee members, members of the Middle Common Room and Senior Common Room. Should this FACT not have dawned on you, hopefully this point will dispel the illusion for you.

You think you look like this...



But you really look like this... (one above for something to strive for)





# ST MARK'S BASEBALL

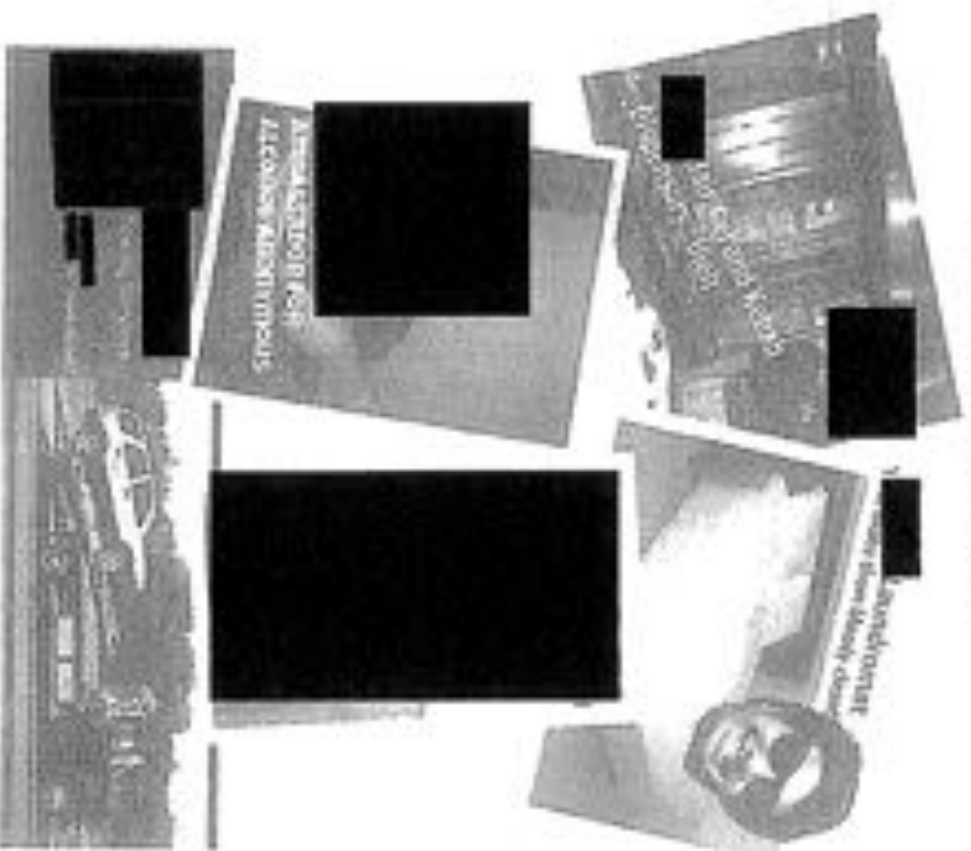
This could be the only sport you Freshman Fucks will get to play. The rules are simple enough, even for the most brain-dead Luckiest Freshie. Omit in the value of getting to each base, with people in College. Simply add up your points (which are out of 100) your dumb fuck! if you get lucky. The person with the most points gets crowned the College Sike.

Name	1st Base	2nd Base	3rd Base	Home Run	Comments
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Good you ever the longer game
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Clear thinking
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Don't do this please you
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Do this
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Take a shit on my grass
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Making it out of this the hardest part
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Good term your game
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Two spots from BS 2 needed
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Shove it into
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Lightly throw
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Doing this one more for type
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Convergent
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Use your post-up like you your GM

Name	1st Base	2nd Base	3rd Base	Home Run	Comments
[REDACTED]	25	25	25	25	Unconventional behavior
[REDACTED]	10	20	10	20	Take a long picture
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Unconventional behavior
[REDACTED]	10	10	20	20	Good luck getting the lay-up along edge of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	1	2	2	4	Big people involved and
[REDACTED]	10	20	10	10	Put her strings at work
[REDACTED]	10	10	10	20	Original and really great needed
[REDACTED]	0	10	10	20	Classroom improves greatly if there is a fuck in the room
[REDACTED]	1	2	1	10	Drop in between the seats
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	40	Party animal
[REDACTED]	0	0	5	0	For the good of the species
[REDACTED]	-5	-10	-10	YOU LOSE	Personal rights on the track
[REDACTED]	10	20	10	20	Outstanding
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	20	Too good for you
[REDACTED]	20	20	20	YOU WIN	Don't die in pain with the people.
[REDACTED]	20	20	10	20	That means to start burning

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## THINGS TO DO AT COLLEGE

1. Sleep on the lawn courts... asked
2. Eat an A&E with no hands and then try to pick up a ratchet
3. The unhook stinky (in one night)
4. Have a K Floor after party
5. Steal enough the pond
6. Get a back of Creator's hair
7. Find out what a socker actually looks like
8. Steal some construction equipment
9. Always recycle your machines (See [redacted])
10. Sleep at the Outdoor after a pub night
11. Go to a lecture drunk
12. Get caught doing a walk of shame
13. Fumble on the Master's desk
14. Steal a burrito from another College
15. Mournful [redacted] for something
16. Pity things -- asked
17. Skip a lecture while drunk
18. DO NOT have sex in the Dog and Duck tables
19. Go to Hens and Ducks and don't piss up. (Never been done)
20. When there's blood on the pitch go play in the dirt.
21. Be not from the Avenir and know what it looks like on the inside
22. Get the Gynochi at a skull cell
23. Get off fireworks in Aventura
24. Get down and dirty on the gym equipment
25. Take a job on a couch
26. Capture and use the creature called Maza
27. Don't wash your sheets (See [redacted] or details)
28. Always wait an hour before eating more bananas
29. Never leave personal items at the base of the Aventura flag pole
30. Cofus in the back of someone else's car
31. Make tabs in the Crested testament
32. Ave cradle [redacted]
33. Wash out for haircare in Memento
34. Have a party in Spunkier House (it may be a girl)
35. Pig [redacted] soon
36. Bench more than [redacted]
37. Get a dance Lesson from [redacted]
38. Wash your in the JCT during the day
39. Get a punch in the G Floor bath tub

## College Songs

### LET OLD MAH

Do be sang a about catchin'  
By Old Mah, the first one.

As Aquinas says too

With a rap, rock, poppy whizz, just a boy a  
here.

As Aquinas FLOCK OFF SCHOOL

### MONDAY'S A HAPPY DAY

Monday's a happy day,  
Monday's a happy day,  
It's everlovely happy!

You bet your own you are  
Singing to be to be to be to be

Justi' coming with your good, cause about  
your school. Friend meet at friends meet again  
as a classroom session. Any school teacher  
fact with facts up and be avoided!

Tuesday's a busy day -

Wednesday's a working day -

Thursday's a gooding day -

Friday's a working day -

Saturday's a busy day -

Sunday's to work's day -

### MONDAYMORNING MORNING

My name is Jack,  
I'm a receptionist  
I work about sixteen

And I'll be soon full of business

I got business!

When they got business  
Business by of you want

You can't look out!

Even when I enter the marketplace you  
I get the urge to business

My name is Bill

I live in Northamptonshire - still

And work at a

an occupied cabin

I have every access

This one four forty-four

It's speciality

I buy what when buying what

Even now I still do economy plan

I get the urge to business

My name is Jack

And I got a working man

His business man's every with

But in a ten-hour shift

Like what what I'm not!

I don't count my money but

I may be full!

But I prefer my business still!

### I WISH THAT ALL THE LADIES

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Leader: There's lots of the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: There's lots of the ladies

Leader: And I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: And I wish that all the ladies

Leader: I'm sorry you every four  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I'm sorry you every four

Leader: I'm sorry you every four  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I'm sorry you every four

Leader: I'm sorry you every four  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I'm sorry you every four

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

## College Songs

I wish that all the ladies

They're not in a job  
And I wish that all the ladies

It's my best of all!

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

I wish that all the ladies  
I wish that all the ladies

Chorus: I wish that all the ladies

# THE LESSEER COLLEGES

When God envisages heaven, the riches of College. Outside our revered walls exists heaven, and nothing exists of inferior intellect who are thus confined to various "special" rooms for the blind, dumb, deaf and retarded. Despite their severe handicaps, knowledge of our enemies is vital, so educate yourselves about them or risk becoming one...

## St. Mary's



- Can be identified by the laughing angel and they give us their shirts
- Always you to enjoy the ecology of Dr. Brock's construction and personality. What is this saying you can enjoy the ecology of a rather pretentious and punless great education.
- This is by far the most boring college you will ever visit, I don't know that the local residents will have any trouble with social problems this year.
- If you get taken home by one of them during an open class, spend all your time, then try and let your instructor in the visit once the deal, don't let anyone, from [redacted]
- Eggs are to be known at St. Mary's colleges specifically

## Peabody



- This far away to give a last about
- Obviously the one all big board!
- Their reporting attempts at participating in sport are somewhat interesting enough to consider watching
- May be the part of SWALDCC in the evening years due to their general behavior

## Lincoln College



- 20 of our associates were posted all to Lincoln one year in similar circumstances having had the one not in the school.
- Every year they find they are in violation for the High Table Club, they would be that if it were a different college
- Their desire to see the St. Mary's environment to students from high level has been according to their own
- As they all have the characteristic condition that causes their symptoms, they are not to be capital and will be to do so would risk bringing another general Lincoln applicant into the world.

## Anglia



- Obviously referred to as "Anglia" for the HR, also known, from Hampshire etc.
- Made up of people who don't get into St. Mary's
- A pocket about to make while attending university if you do not go to enjoy yourself
- Several reasons for their culture and brought from students
- If you get caught in Anglia for any reason, except leaving their property you will be punished as the good ones have money when sending letters (I had done)
- In general, the guys are students and the girls have their

## The Swan



- Not really a college, more a group of old postgraduate who visit they come to SWALDCC
- They will try and convince you to a list of activities and meetings
- If you don't want to become a part of a weekend club, it is highly recommended you ignore this college altogether

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRIS

You now know that your position within the College Hierarchy is at a subterranean level, directly below the shit eating insects that roam the earth's core.

Keep in mind the God's beliefs and ways of life.

- You are most probably a pimply faced virgin, unable to locate your dick.
- You don't know shit.

• Oweek will most probably get the better of you, even if you try your teeny tiny little heart out.

- You ARE a Freshher F'uck.

You will be looked upon more kindly by your Gods if you inform Committee of ANY stories involving sexual misbehaviour or drunken tonfoolery.

We leave you with the words of the wise God...

- Life's short. Get fucked and sprout!

## **8.4. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE POLICE REPORTS AND SCREENSHOTS**

A sample of Police reports relating to sexual assaults at the University of Melbourne obtained in 2016 via Freedom of Information, courtesy of Alison Sandy.



VICTIM AND SUSPECT BOTH ATTEND UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE TOGETHER AND

33(1)

BOTH HAVE MET IN A SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT APPROXIMATELY 2 MONTHS PRIOR TO ALLEGATION TAKING PLACE. HAVE CAUGHT UP ON A CASUAL BASIS AND HUNG OUT, BUT NO PHYSICAL CONTACT.

ON 33 2014 VICTIM AND SUSPECT WERE AT A COLLEGE PARTY AT SUSPECT'S COLLEGE. 33 VICTIM CONSUMED APPROXIMATELY 4 SHOTS OF ALCOHOL, WHILE SUSPECT APPEARED HEAVILY INTOXICATED UPON VICTIM ARRIVING. BOTH WERE DANCING ON DANCE FLOOR WHEN SUSPECT AND BEGAN KISSING. VICTIM AND SUSPECT WENT BACK TO SUSPECT'S DORM ROOM WHERE THEY CONTINUED KISSING. VICTIM BEGAN TO FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE AND TOLD THE ACCUSED SHE WISHED FOR HIM TO STOP AND THAT SHE DID NOT WANT TO HAVE SEX. 33(1)

33(1), 38

33(1)

MATTER REPORTED TO UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE AND INVESTIGATED AT LOCAL LEVEL, AND FILE CLOSED AFTER CONFLICTING VERSIONS GIVEN. 33(1)

33(1)

NOTED SEXUAL CRIMES SQUAD CREW 4, EMAIL SENT TO INFORMANT TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE IF REQUIRED.

\*\*\* CASE PROGRESS NARRATIVE \*\*\*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

REPORT BY 35387 NMWSOC

COMPLAINANT MET OFFENDER KNOWN AS 33(1) ON TINDER DATING SITE APPROX  
2 WEEKS AGO. SPOKE FOR A FEW DAYS THEN EXCHANGED NUMBERS THROUGH  
FACEBOOK AND ARRANGED TO MEET UP ON SUNDAY 33 2015. OFFENDER  
TOLD COMPLAINANT TO MEET HIM AT THE MELBOURNE UNI GATES 33(1)

INCIDENT REFERENCE NUMBER: REPORT DATE: 33 15

OFFENCE: 136AX INDICENT ASSAULT ON A MAL DROERE:

CNTS EVENT CODE:

TOTAL VALUE PROPERTY STOLEN/DAMAGED: \$

LOCN/RESIDENTIAL:

LOCN/COMMUNITY: SCHOOL

LOCN/OTHER:

POINT OF ENTRY:

METHOD OF ENTRY:

TYPE OF TOOLS USED:

THEFT RELATED:

FRAUD RELATED:

FIRE STARTED BY:

LEVEL OF INJURY: EMOTIONAL TRAUMA

FORCE TYPE/HOW USED:

ABDUCT/VIOLENCE REL:

SEX RELATED: ORAL SEX PEN

VEH. POINT OF ENTRY:

VEH. ENTRY/IGNITION:

COMMITTED BETWEEN: 0001 HRS 01/01/54 AND 2359 HRS 31/12/61

LOCATION: ORMOND COLLEGE

FLAT: 100

STREET:

TYPE:

TOWN/SUBURB: PARKVILLE

POSTCODE: 3052

R2: 100N

MELWAYS REF:

/

N.H.M:

INCIDENT RESULT: UNSO UNSOLVED

REPORTING MEMBER: 34749

JOHNSTON

RANK: SOONST

STATION: XCRSAC

REMARKS:

38

KNOWN ADULT OFFENDER,

OCCURRED ORMOND COLLEGE, PARKVILLE, APPROX 1959-1961, HISTORICAL

\*\*\* CASE PROGRESS NARRATIVE \*\*\*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ON MONDAY THE 33 2013, BOTH THE ACCUSED AND THE VICTIM WERE ON DUTY AT THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY. AT APPROXIMATELY 3:35AM, WHILST THE VICTIM WAS CLEANING THE FEMALE TOILETS, THE ACCUSED ENTERED TO ENSURE SHE WAS CLEANING PROPERLY.

WHILST THE ACCUSED WAS IN THERE, HE WENT UP TO THE VICTIM, TAPPED HER ON THE RIGHT SHOULDER AND SAID 33(1)

33(1), 38

33(1) ON SITE SECURITY PHONE 000. NSR310 AND NPM251 ATTENDED.

THE ACCUSED WAS ARRESTED AND TRANSPORTED TO THE MELBOURNE EAST POLICE STATION WHERE HE WAS INTERVIEWED IN RELATION TO THE ALLEGATIONS. VICTIM STATEMENT OBTAINED. RELEASED PENDING SUMMONS.

Screenshot of the 'Hotties of Melbourne' University Facebook group



## 8.5. AHRC DATA

In 2017 The Australian Human Rights Commission released a landmark report into sexual assault at Australian universities. The report also included a section specifically on residential colleges, which drew on 203 submissions received by the commission which described experiences of sexual assault and harassment at colleges. According to the report:

*Submissions described hazing and traditions being used to initiate new residents into the college community. People reported feeling pressure to participate in these practices, which often entail excessive alcohol consumption and humiliating and degrading acts. The residential setting of colleges was identified as providing opportunities for sexual assault and sexual harassment to occur. People described being sexually assaulted in private bedrooms in residential colleges. Another issue reported was women being filmed in showers or bathrooms within their college. The residential setting also contributes to a lack of privacy in relation to residents' personal lives; there is a sense that sexual relationships in particular are considered 'public knowledge'.*

*People described a culture of excessive alcohol consumption and social pressure to drink at college parties and social events. Related to this, a particularly large number of submissions identified alcohol as a factor contributing to sexual assault and sexual harassment that occurred in colleges.*

- *151 submissions described alcohol or drink spiking being a factor in sexual assault or sexual harassment. Of these submissions, 83 described incidents which occurred in residential colleges.*
- *55 people made submissions that described being unconscious at the time of a sexual assault, and of these submissions, 31 described incidents which occurred in residential colleges.*

*These incidents were similar to those reported in other settings, with people being sexually assaulted while unconscious or incapacitated due to the influence of alcohol. Some people also reported perpetrators encouraging or forcing them to consume alcohol prior to sexually assaulting them or 'spiking' their drinks before sexually assaulting them.*

*These assaults often occurred in a college bedroom after a night out drinking with friends. Many colleges employ older students as Residential Advisors (RAs) to provide pastoral assistance to younger students. Some submissions reported RAs abusing their role, for example by using their master key to enter bedrooms of other residents without permission.*

*In submissions, the Commission also heard of instances of sexual assault and sexual harassment perpetrated by RAs...*

*In addition to the hazing practices targeted at first-year students, other college 'traditions' which occur throughout the year also involve sexual assault or sexual harassment of residents. Some of these traditions were similar to the hazing rituals and involved alcohol consumption and performing humiliating or degrading acts, while others were centred around publicising the private lives and*

*sexual relationships of college residents. Some college traditions involving male residents singing songs or chants that encouraged sexual assault and sexual violence against women.*

*As with hazing, people were pressured, sometimes by senior residents, to take part in these traditions...*

*People described college traditions which involved publicising the private lives and sexual relationships of college residents. Women were often shamed on the basis of their sex lives while male residents were glorified or praised for having slept with the highest number of women...*

*Some submissions detailed college traditions which involved having their sexual relationships published online or in a college yearbook or newsletter.*

*Submissions often described the residential setting of colleges as providing opportunities for sexual assault and sexual harassment to occur. These behaviours occurred in private bedrooms and shared bathrooms in colleges. In addition, people also reported that the private lives and sexual relationships of college residents are considered to be 'public knowledge', and that women are sometimes sexually harassed on the basis of rumours about their sexual relationships. Where people did experience sexual assault or sexual harassment by a fellow college resident, the impacts were exacerbated by the fact that they had to live in close proximity to the perpetrator and see them on a regular basis...*

*Experiences of sexual assault and sexual harassment in residential colleges and other residential accommodation sometimes occurred over a period of several weeks or months. In these cases, the behaviour was compounded by the fact that the perpetrator was living in the same residential college. One former college resident reported that her friend experienced ongoing sexual harassment from another male college resident...*

*The Commission heard in submissions that it is common within residential colleges for residents' private lives to be considered public knowledge. This builds on what the Commission heard about college traditions which involve the details of sexual relationships being published in college magazines or on websites. In some instances, people – usually women – reported being shamed by their fellow residents on the basis of rumours about their sexual relationships...*

*Some individuals noted that while women were shamed by their fellow residents for having sexual relationships, male residents who were known or thought to have had a large number of sexual partners were praised for this...*

*Submissions described instances of women being filmed without their knowledge or consent. A number of individuals reported being filmed in mixed-gender and female only showers or bathrooms at their residential college...*

*The Commission received submissions describing incidents where college residents watched or filmed consensual sex without one partner's knowledge...*

*Some students living in residential colleges raised concerns about the lack of privacy and security resulting from living in close quarters with other students at college. People described how residential settings provide opportunities for sexual assault and sexual harassment to occur...*



*Some individuals also reported being sexually assaulted in a college bedroom during a party held in the common living areas of the college. In one scenario, a female student reported being sexually assaulted by a male resident during a college party. The assault took place in her college bedroom. After the assault, the male resident left and returned to the party as if nothing had happened...*

*People also reported being sexually assaulted in their college bedroom by a friend or acquaintance who had offered to help them back to their room after a night out drinking...*

*Alcohol was also frequently reported as being a factor in instances of sexual assault and sexual harassment which occurred in college settings. People described an environment in colleges where 'binge drinking' is common, alcohol is readily available and residents are sometimes pressured by their peers to drink...*

*Students reported that it is acceptable in colleges to have sex with someone who is heavily intoxicated...*

*The Commission received a number of submissions which reported sexual assault by a fellow college resident while the person being assaulted was unconscious or severely impaired due to the influence of alcohol...*

*The Commission also heard of instances of women being sexually assaulted after being 'fed' drinks or encouraged to drink by the perpetrator of the assault. One individual reported that on a date with a fellow resident, he told her to 'drink more wine' after she refused to have sex with him. He then pinned her to the bed and sexually assaulted her.*

*Some submissions reported that they had been sexually assaulted after having their drink spiked at a college party or event...*

*A feature unique to residential colleges is the employment of residential advisors. Residential assistants or advisors (RAs) are senior residents tasked with providing pastoral support to other college residents. RAs may also assist in organising college social events, and are tasked with looking after other residents' safety after hours. In some colleges, RAs are given master keys that provide them with access to the rooms of other residents. Students reported that RAs in their college used their master keys inappropriately... Students also reported incidents of RAs sexually assaulting other college residents.*

The Commission's report also included a number of quotes and case studies drawn from the submissions about colleges, which we reproduce here at length in order to demonstrate the nature and sheer extent of the problem at Australian university colleges and residential facilities:

- You had to participate, there was nothing you could do about it. The administration knew about this and they condoned this. The students had no power whatsoever, you couldn't say anything.
- One female student described a hazing practice for new female students called the 'run the gauntlet' challenge. Female students were required to run down a corridor lined with male

residents. The male residents had cask wine sacks in their trousers with the nozzles hanging out of their fly. Female students were required to kneel before each male resident and 'drink from his sack'.

- Another former resident reported that first-year female residents were given ratings on how 'f\*\*kable' they were and invited to a party for male residents where they were told to wear 'as little as possible'.
- A first year college resident described a 'culture of hazing' at her college, which included being made to sing inappropriate sexual songs in public and stripping naked and jumping into a river.
- An all-male college organised annual O-Week trips for first-years. As part of the trip, first-year residents were woken up early to march past the all-female college while singing songs describing sexual assault. Some songs identified female college residents by their name.
- One residential college student described a practice at college parties where first-year female students were pressured to take their tops off when a certain song is played. The male residents of the college would then form a circle around the female students and prevent them from leaving the dance floor without removing their tops.
- A college held an annual event called 'feral women's night' where first-year female residents were force fed alcohol, told to remove their tops and serve drinks to older male college residents while being subjected to derogatory comments and chants
- I was told I was 'letting my team down' as we would not get my 'points' for the day for not getting naked. I was made to feel extremely excluded and humiliated, all because I didn't want to take my clothes off.
- Whenever someone starts chanting 'win-on' and making a chopping motion with their hand in the direction of a male and a female, everyone normally follows along, and this means that those two people have to kiss. Again, of course you can always say no, but this looks so bad in the eyes of your peers that most just do it.
- One person reported that her college held 'stag nights', or male only parties, where male residents sang songs referring to female residents as 'pigs to bend over backwards and f\*\*k when they get home'.
- A female student described a tradition in her college which takes place in the first week of semester and involves drinking games and going to nightclubs with fellow college residents. She was sexually assaulted by a fellow college resident after one of these nights out.
- Conquests of guys getting girls from other colleges were broadcasted weekly in this gossip session the whole college had, where you would submit your experiences to an executive, and on weeknights we would gather and hear about everyone's conquests that week...women were described as objects or trophies.
- Students were required to pay a weekly 'fine' for actions ranging from 'seen kissing another student' to 'spit roasting'. Any action seen as worthy of notoriety was re-enacted at the next college dinner in front of 200 plus student body.
- At the end of the year, everyone voted for awards like 'worst (car) parker ' and that sort of thing, and everyone voted for who they thought had had sex with the most people. It was called the

'Casanova' award for boys and 'Lady Luck' for girls. The spirit of it was that the boy who received the award was a champion, whereas the girl who received it should be ashamed.

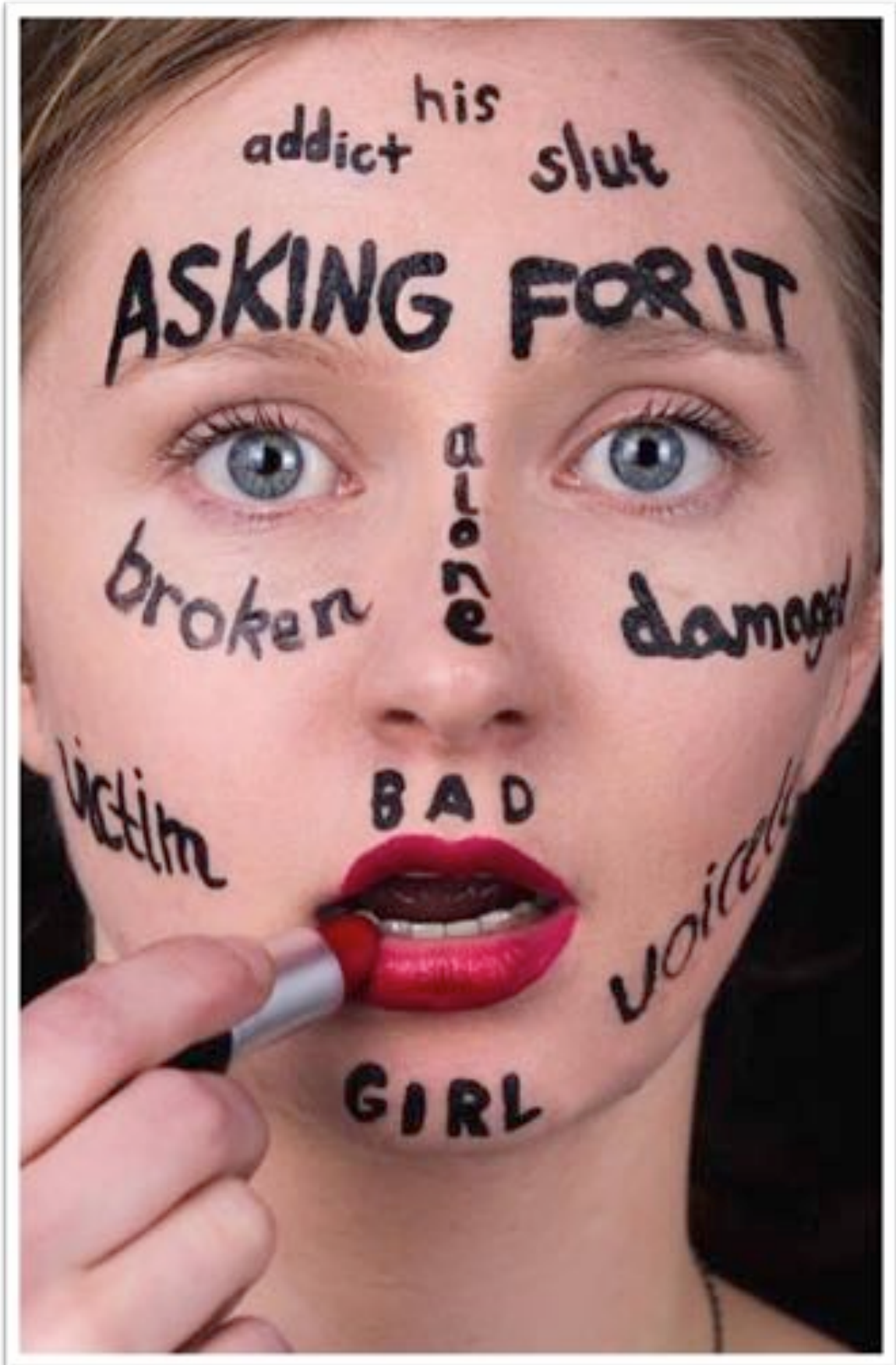
- One student was sexually assaulted and had the experience broadcast over the college's PA system as a 'hook up'.
- There was [a] section at the back of the [college] magazine where there were riddles and things, which gossiped about students, and these often talked about students losing their virginity and certain students' sex lives.
- I've also been put in an online 'web' called the "college-spit chain", where boys (often lying) link up all the girls names they have kissed or had relations with.
- We had an internal server where everyone's hookups were listed and people were ranked according to how many people they'd slept with. If I did sleep with someone, everyone knew about it before the next morning. Their friends would make comments and harass you.
- He would aggressively pursue her friend and refused to take no for an answer. He also entered her room without permission to ask about her friend, and revealed that he watched them when they were together and knew about their movements.
- A fellow student that used to live at my [residential accommodation], invited me repeatedly to go to his room or to his office at inappropriate times and most of the times promising to give me alcoholic beverages. When I got tired of his invitations, I told him I was already dating someone else and he behaved angry and aggressive through his messages.
- Stella lived in a residential college. Within a few weeks of living at the college, a postgraduate student who was also a resident of the college began to harass and stalk Stella. He would follow her around campus, grab her and hold her against her will and would tell her how much he wanted to be with her, despite Stella telling him that she was not interested in him. He began telling people that Stella was his girlfriend and told Stella she did not 'appreciate how much he wanted her'. One night, Stella woke up to the resident raping and physically assaulting her. The resident told her that if she told anyone else what had happened, he would kill her.
- ...students weren't free to have sex or explore their sexuality in a private way, everything was made public and everyone was judged.
- One woman reported being asked 'how many guys [she] had fucked today?' by a fellow resident at college. People also called her a 'slut', told her they were surprised she wasn't pregnant or 'hadn't died of AIDS yet' and implied she had a sexually transmitted disease.
- Grace lives in a residential college. One night at a party, her friend Jack pressured her to have sex with him but Grace refused. The next day Jack started spreading rumours that they had slept together and that Grace was a 'slut'. Other males at the college joined in the harassment and Grace would often overhear derogatory comments directed at her in the common areas and hallways of the college
- At college there are very distinctive gender roles. For women, you are most desirable if you are in your first year and physically attractive. For men, you are most desirable if you are in a later year and are funny and popular. For men, having sex with a 'hot' first-year girl is a major achievement, one which you will tell all your friends to boost your popularity.

- Single-sex colleges are particularly problematic in that men's colleges encourage masculinity and having relations with as many women as possible. This can lead to women being taken advantage of in an attempt to appear masculine and popular at male colleges.
- Priyanka was showering in a unisex shower stall at college when she noticed a mobile phone hovering over the stall. She confronted the perpetrator and he denied doing anything.
- I am a staff member...and have worked within student residences for 26 years...I am also finding a growth in photos and vision, of consensual sex acts being shown to friends of one of the partners without their permission. Particularly males, taking photos and vision of a female partner, when both are usually heavily affected by alcohol or an illicit substance.
- The final issue that I believe leads to high rates of sexual assault at college is the fact that everyone lives together. This means that it is easy for someone to take advantage of someone else by going to their room uninvited.
- One night I had forgotten to lock my door, and an intoxicated male, one of the more senior students...came into my room and tried to convince me to have sex with him. Thankfully he eventually left without anything happening, but nevertheless. It was the sort of thing that could/would have happened much more frequently had I not locked my door every night.
- I had my door unlocked because I was waiting for my boyfriend to come home from town but I woke up to find another boy from my college in my bed touching me.
- Rachel was a first-year student living at a residential college. She was raped during O-Week by a male student who entered her dorm room without permission.
- Mariana lived in a residential college during her first year of university. One night, there was a party in the college and Mariana attended with her friends. One of her male friends offered to get her more alcohol from his room. When they got his room, he suddenly kissed Mariana. He began undressing her and Mariana remembers being confused and scared. He then raped her while she kept trying to push him off.
- At college...A common occurrence was for a later year boy to offer to 'help' a drunk younger girl to get home after being out and then to take advantage of her.
- Bianca had attended a party at the university bar and decided to go home. Two of her male friends offered to walk her home. Bianca accepted but on the way they said they had to stop off at their college for something. Once inside of the students' room, they locked the door and took turns raping Bianca.
- ...the 'binge drinking' culture has been part of [residential college] for years...Each Thursday we would drink and then go to the local pub, as first-years and within the first two weeks we would drink excessive amounts to fit into the 'norm'.
- ...binge drinking is rampant and encouraged. Many college events revolve around drinking games.
- ...chalk on footpath advertising a college party: 'Beer \$2, bitches free'.
- I think the 'lad culture' and boys club mentality of the college helped to cultivate scenarios where taking advantage of intoxicated people was accepted and commonplace.
- It's because there was no education at any time during college about respect or consent. Instead, it is encouraged and highly regarded to 'bag' as many people as possible...Among my peers in my immediate vicinity at the time, it was so common for people to be very drunk and have sex.

- Girls were encouraged, almost forced to drink and I saw so many times unconscious girls carried to their bed by guys and I was too scared to do anything, but I always wondered what happened behind closed doors.
- I have not experienced sexual assault myself, but being in a college environment hear of multiple accounts of girls waking up after a night of drinking and being unsure of what has happened, or knowing that they have been pressured into sex or even raped when they were unconscious or just barely conscious.
- One resident who had been drinking with friends in the room of a fellow resident said she had been drinking heavily and fell asleep on the bed while her friends were still talking, but woke up to a friend having sex with her.
- Allison attended a party in her first year living at a residential college. She participated in drinking games and consumed a lot of alcohol so she would fit in. At one point in the night, a large group of older residents grouped around Allison and a male college resident she had been talking to and chanted at them to kiss. After this, Allison had very few memories of the night. Her friends who walked her home told her she was slipping in and out of consciousness as they walked her back to college. The next morning, Allison woke up in the room of the student she had kissed at the party. He was having sex with her. Allison went into shock and did not know what to do. She was very upset but pretended that she was okay so she could collect her things and get back to her own room.
- One individual reported that on a date with a fellow resident, he told her to 'drink more wine' after she refused to have sex with him. He then pinned her to the bed and sexually assaulted her.
- Veronica was a first-year student living in college who was sexually assaulted by a friend, Paul, who was also a fellow student. She and Paul had been working on a group assignment with some other male students in Paul's dorm room at a residential college. Paul and his friends encouraged Veronica to drink alcohol and continually topped up her glass. Veronica became faint and lay down on Paul's bed. When the other male students left, Paul kissed Veronica and digitally penetrated her.
- Estelle went out drinking one night with friends from her residential college. One of her friends, Freddy, insisted on buying her shots of alcohol all evening. Estelle felt very intoxicated and Freddy offered to take her back to her room at college. When they arrived, Freddy instead took Estelle to his room where she passed out. When Estelle regained consciousness, she was in pain and Freddy was sexually assaulting her.
- Cordelia's drink was spiked by a college resident at the end of semester college ball. He had been trying to dance with Cordelia all night and kept offering to buy her drinks. He then gave one of her friends a drink at the bar and asked them to give it to Cordelia. She took the drink and he later raped her in her room at college.
- I am not satisfied the college did enough to ensure the safety of its students i.e. RA having easy access to a student's private bedroom and often lending the master key to others to perform pranks etc.
- A certain member of staff who has a master key to all of our rooms always comes into my room without an invite to question my personal decisions... This usually goes on for hours. They then attempt to get with me, which is not wanted.

- Lea, an international student, spent a night staying at her friend's residential unit. She was offered a mattress on the floor by the RA who said she would be safe. However, during the night the RA groped Lea and tried to pressure her into having sex.
- Tara was in her first year of university and living at a residential college. Early on in the semester, there was a big party at the college. Tara was drinking and she started to get upset. The senior resident who had been employed to look after Tara's floor saw this and took her away to calm her down. Tara was too upset to realise that the senior resident had taken her back to his room. Once she had calmed down, Tara realised that the senior resident was rubbing his erect penis on her back. She tried to move away but the senior resident kept holding onto her and started to kiss her.





(University of Sydney rape survivor, Joanna Williams. **Source:** Elena McGannon).

## 8.6. COLLEGE RESPONSES TO *THE RED ZONE REPORT*

**Geoff Lovell | Principal, St Paul's College, the University of Sydney**

Dear Ms Hush,

St Paul's College is committed to the values of respect and dignity, including equality of respect for women and men alike. Actions inconsistent with these values, including any form of bullying, harassment (including sexual harassment) and discrimination, are not tolerated.

While we appreciate the opportunity to comment on your document, we note our strong objection, in the interests of procedural fairness and "balance and accuracy" (to use your words), to the advance release of the draft document to the media and not to us. This has now been followed by your request for any comments and clarifications after the media has already reported on it and within a day of your request. We also note that the document appears to have become publicly available yesterday anyway, so we are not optimistic that any amendments now will be noticed.

We say this particularly because of several inaccurate and unbalanced items relating to St Paul's College in your document, including:

1. References to the death of Miss Annette Morgan and her body being found on the grounds of St Paul's College in 1977 (pages 7 and 42): despite comprehensive Police investigations at the time, there is no evidence that the College or its residents had any involvement in this tragic matter, only that the body was found on the College grounds. Your reference to this in the document, including prominently within the Executive Summary, implies that it is somehow linked to a culture of rape in the College at the time. This is unbalanced and inaccurate.
2. References to the Facebook group called "Define statutory: pro-rape, anti-consent" (pages 17 and 49): this group was created by a person who had formerly been a College resident and whose residency at the College had been discontinued prior to the creation of the Facebook group. While the Facebook page was totally unacceptable and inconsistent with the College's values, as the College has sought to clarify on multiple occasions since 2009, it has no jurisdiction over any person who is not a member of the College. To assert that this page was an example of any "history of sexism" at the College is unbalanced and inaccurate.
3. The document refers to various "hazing rituals" taking place at the College (e.g. pages 25,53,100). There is not a culture of hazing at St Paul's College. It is a very positive, warm and welcoming community in which students achieve outstanding academic and extra-curricular results. The College is committed to the values of respect and dignity, including equality of respect for women and men, and actions inconsistent with these values are not tolerated.
4. The Stuart Kelly matter (pages 54,69-72,142): we provided Nina Funnell on Sunday 25 February with a response regarding this matter (as well as an allegation regarding the drinking of live goldfish). This response is provided again below for completeness.

There may be further unbalanced and inaccurate areas in the document in relation to St Paul's College and we expect that other colleges will have their own comments and clarifications.

We request strongly that the document be amended to reflect the incorrect and unbalanced items outlined above.

**Email to Nina Funnell – Sunday 25 February 2018 at 3.43PM:**

Nina,

Your email is the first the College has heard of an allegation that Stuart Kelly may have been sexually assaulted. If anyone has such an allegation, or evidence of any sexual assault, they should inform the NSW Police immediately. The College is ready to cooperate with any inquiry which would assist.

The College again reiterates its deepest sympathy to the Kelly family in their distress and supports their desire to understand the causes of Stuart's death.

In an attempt to support the Kelly family's attempts to find answers, the College has undertaken its own serious and comprehensive investigations into Stuart Kelly's brief time in College in February 2016, including using external lawyers, and has provided that information to the NSW Police. These investigations involved interviews with College staff, senior students and Stuart Kelly's fellow first year students. These investigations found that the allegations previously made were not substantiated.

We understand that investigations being undertaken by the NSW Police and Office of the State Coroner into the circumstances surrounding Stuart Kelly's death are yet to be completed. The College will continue to co-operate fully and openly with those investigations, as well as with any further processes that may help.

We have advised the Kelly family that the College is always available to provide any form of assistance that we can or further information related to Stuart's time at the College, should it become available.

On your second point, the College has no knowledge of, nor has it previously heard of, any such allegation regarding goldfish. The College would, of course, strongly disapprove of any such behaviour.

Yours sincerely,

**Geoff Lovell**

Deputy Head of College

**Amanda Bell | Principal, Women's College, the University of Sydney**

Anna

Thank you for sharing this report in advance of the public release and inviting clarification.

Both my Chair, Julie McKay, and I have read it in detail and of course are deeply concerned by its contents.

In the last 3 years in particular, we have worked extremely hard with our student leaders and each student cohort to focus on and ultimately address these issues raised in your Report and ensure that there is a culture that supports students coming forward, reporting and seeking support. We know the job is not

done, and as a women's college we remain deeply concerned by the gendered nature of many of the examples we hear about and read.

This year, owing to our building project, Women's Welcome Week (O Week) has been shortened with students commencing on Thursday. Our orientation for new students and training for student leaders focuses very much on behaviours, expectations, the role of bystanders and there will be specific training on alcohol, sexual health, sexual misconduct, reporting procedures and an update on our implementation of the Broderick Review's recommendations.

We would be open to speaking with you further about our approach and welcome suggestions.

As women, and serving a long-standing feminist institution, we note your commitment to raising awareness of the need for and advocating for cultural change.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Amanda Bell AM**

**Principal**

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## Statement in Response to The Red Zone Report

King's College is proud of the progress and cultural development made over the last ten years.

The events listed in The Red Zone Report at pp109-111 do not reflect King's College as it is today. We (the College Council, staff and students) work hard to have young men who are in touch with the standards and needs of a modern society and we acknowledge the historical issues which have not reflected well on King's College. These practices are not and will not be tolerated.

King's College has worked closely with the Students' Club and all members of the College to ensure there is a program of education and a set of standards which reflect society's expectations today regarding healthy and respectful relationships. The College does not condone behaviours that contravene these standards. The College works with our developing young men to help them learn and grow.

Today the College ensures that its students receive valuable support and education through:

- Bystander intervention training
- Seminars in sexual assault and harassment
- Mental health first aid training and
- Alcohol and drugs education

In the broader community, King's students support sufferers of women's cancer through the annual King's in Pink Run and the local community through various initiatives.

Greg Eddy  
Master and Chief Executive  
27 February 2018



27 February 2018

## Statement on the 'Red Zone Report' and current College culture

*Today St Andrew's College has issued the following statement in response to the publication of the 'Red Zone Report' by advocacy group End Rape on Campus (EROC), and media reports about current cultural practices at university residential colleges:*

First, St Andrew's would like to acknowledge EROC for its desire to pursue an equitable and safe learning environment for every university student.

As a community of students, councillors and staff, St Andrew's shares that goal. Everything we do seeks to provide every person who lives, works or studies here with a positive experience, so they can achieve their academic and personal goals.

### **St Andrew's past vs present**

St Andrew's has come a long way since its beginnings 150 years ago. It is a different place to what it was 30 years ago and even 15 years ago, when the College first became co-residential.

We recognise we still have work to do to ensure our culture and practices are in line with the evolving needs of our students and the expectations of the wider community.

That's why we will continue to work through our Action Plan in response to the Broderick Review, and are working to ensure our frameworks for preventing and reporting sexual assault and harassment are best practice.

We have been on this journey for several years. In 2016, we developed and ran our own 'Holding the Mirror' initiative to strengthen our community and our culture. Later that year we voluntarily participated in the Broderick Review, and accepted all the findings and recommendations of the Broderick report in December 2017.

The overarching report from Elizabeth Broderick & Co found that 86% of both female and male students said college was a positive and rewarding place that adds to their university experience.

This helps explain why St Andrew's has six applications for every place in College (7 applications for every female place, and 5 for every male place), a record of academic excellence, with 40 per cent of students attaining a Distinction average or higher, and gender parity in its student admissions.

We believe that our commitment to cultural change contributes to this continued demand for a place in St Andrew's.

Twenty years ago, students only needed to maintain a 'pass' in their studies in order to stay at College. Today that standard has lifted to a credit average, and we are moving towards a Distinction average. We take pride in being a centre of academic excellence.

### **St Andrew's in the future**

St Andrew's became co-residential in 2002. For the first time in 2018, women have been elected by their female and male peers to the majority (73%) of student leadership roles, and 100% of the most senior roles.



As a community led by these students, councillors and staff, we are united in our desire to learn from each other and ensure we create a positive and safe environment for all.

Alongside this group of talented leaders, we will continue to review the way we do things to make sure St Andrew's is meeting the needs of all students and the expectations of the wider community.

### **'The Red Zone Report' clarifications**

We acknowledge EROC for its desire to pursue an equitable and safe learning environment for every university student.

However, there are a number of factual and tonal errors throughout the report:

For example:

- P6: the use of the phrase "describe a practice" in relation to an allegation that men routinely masturbate into women's shampoo bottles. There is no attribution to this claim nor is there a timeframe for when this may have occurred. St Andrew's has not been made aware of any incident, let alone "practice" of this nature in the last 15 years. To characterise it as common practice is misleading.
- P97-98: the use of the present tense to describe activities which no longer take place at College, for example "details of hook-ups are broadcast over PA systems" and "a slideshow of embarrassing sexual encounters is exhibited during O-Week". While instances of these activities have unfortunately occurred in the past, they have been banned and no longer take place.
- P103: the reference to an unfortunate burning of a pride flag in 2016 failed to mention the College's swift and firm response to those responsible. St Andrew's students and staff lead the inter-college community in our support for the LGBTQI+ community in colleges and in the University. To juxtapose that isolated incident with chants from 25 years ago is also misleading and misrepresents the St Andrew's community today.

### **Orientation Week**

This is an important week for first year students and we have worked very hard to make it a success for everyone involved.

Building on the commitment we made following the Broderick Review in December 2017, we have:

- Conducted more than 50 hours of training in advance of Orientation Week
- Updated and improved our sexual misconduct, respectful relationships, diversity, smoking, alcohol and other drugs policies and expanded and strengthened sexual misconduct and respectful relationship procedures.
- Nominated nine pastoral leaders, who take a leadership role in supporting the mental health and wellbeing for all students, who are themselves supported by staff with expertise in mental health and wellbeing.
- Hired five external experts to facilitate evidence-based training on diverse experiences of sexuality and gender, mental health first responder training, physical first aid, alcohol and other drug awareness, de-escalation skills, vicarious trauma, consent and sexual misconduct training.
- Selected 36 senior students to act as mentors and support the physical and mental wellbeing of new students. These mentors underwent preliminary training in 2017 and have signed an MOU guiding their commitment to creating a positive and safe environment for their mentees.
- Strengthened accountability for our 11 elected student leaders for 2018, who also signed a commitment to lead a positive and safe environment for all students.

- Initiated Mental Health, First Responder and Physical First Aid training for staff, to expand their skills and support their competencies for our 'No Wrong Door' policy.
- Appointed four senior staff to Respectful Relationship Officer roles with additional training to support investigations into unacceptable behaviours.
- Restructured College events to strengthen and ensure responsible service of alcohol.

**Wayne Erickson**  
Principal

**Dr Hester Wilson**  
Vice Principal and  
Director of College Life

**Charlie Taylor**  
Chair, College Council

**Susannah Cooke**  
Senior Student

## About St Andrew's College

St Andrew's is a co-residential academic community within the University of Sydney, home to 336 male and female undergraduate students, postgraduate students, resident fellows and graduate residents, and non-residential associate members. The College offers students a combination of intellectual independence, academic support and personal development through involvement in sporting, philanthropic and cultural activities.

### Gender equity

- St Andrew's has gender parity in its student base
- In 2017, there were 600 applications for 100 places (50 for women and 50 for men), including 7 applications for every female place, and 5 for every male place.
- Women have been elected by their female and male peers to 73% of student leadership roles for 2018 and 100% of the most senior roles.

### Academic Excellence

- St Andrew's requires that all students achieve and maintain a Credit average to remain in College, and more than 40 per cent of students have a Distinction average or higher.
- Underpinning this expectation of academic excellence, the College has in place a comprehensive and well-resourced academic support program.

### Equal Opportunity

- Each year, St Andrew's offers \$1.5 million in means-tested and merit-based financial support to attract students from diverse backgrounds.

### Governance

- Unlike some of the other colleges still operating under their original 19th century Act of Parliament, St Andrew's replaced its old Act in 1998. The changes allowed the College to provide formal connection to the University of Sydney by installing the Chancellor as Visitor; to provide for the admission of women (which followed in 2002); to permit students of universities other than Sydney into residence, to remove specific governance connections to the Presbyterian Church while maintaining its heritage as a Protestant College; and for a more flexible governance structure.

For more information visit <http://www.standrewscollege.edu.au/>

ENDS