



Dear Fellow Members and Students:

In light of recent events, the officer board would like to remind and emphasize our ZERO TOLERANCE stance in regards to those who commit sexual assault or harassment. Any violation of this rule is an infringement upon any person's bodily autonomy and will be subject to the necessary punishment. One of our primary ways of action is by placing them on the official UT FSA blacklist. The blacklist acts to restrict them from participating in any FSA related events either as a current student or as an alumni, so that our space can remain safe for all of our members.

We take the matter of sexual assault and harassment quite seriously due to its prevalence in our country. According to the NSVRC, 1 in 5 women and 1 in 4 men have experienced assault at some point during their lifetime. Knowing this, we strive to create and upkeep an environment where those who have experienced this can come forward and both feel supported and heard. We must be there for our fellow peers when they find the bravery to share their stories and listen for as long as they need us to.

FSA is also an organization built on community and friendship, priding ourselves in being a home away from home or safe space for many of our members. Because of our strong bonds and foundation, we also do not condone those that have stayed complicit about some of their peers' actions. The silence and ignorance about the transgressions of your friends and peers is not only deafening, but is also damaging to those that have suffered. Those of you who partake in this are only further contributing to the culture of sexual assault and harassment.

Finally, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), so we want to do our part on campus by releasing this statement in hopes of encouraging you all to commit yourselves to supporting survivors. The 2021 - 2022 officer board will always be here for our members and fellow students. Healing is a difficult process that is different for everyone, but we remain steadfast in our support of all of you. We hear your stories and stand with you, forever and always. Please feel free to reach out to us for local resources as we would be more than happy to provide as much assistance as we can to those who need it.

Mahals,

Tavi Singleton and Kirsten Andrade
UT Filipino Students Association Co-Presidents 2021-2022
damiasing@gmail.com
kirstenmay@utexas.edu