



# National Coalition For Men (NCFM)

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Open Letter to the California Legislature

## Please defeat SB 967 -- legislation purported to curb intimate partner violence at California colleges and universities.

NCFM applauds efforts to end all forms of violence, including ending the debasement of fair and equal treatment and institutionalized disregard for the wrongly accused.

While perhaps well intentioned, the adoption of SB 967 will deny people at California colleges and universities fundamental rights of equal protection and due process when accused of sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

In essence SB 967 allows anonymous allegations, reduces evidentiary standards to the lowest level of "preponderance of evidence," does not allow the accused to question his/her accuser, and prevents the accused from offering his/her belief of what happened; all of which defeat honest disciplinary and judicial systems.

Provisions requiring schools to adopt policies based on best practices are similarly flawed if those policies and practices were developed with little or no concern for constitutional protections or the falsely accused, the latter compelling the former.

Terminology is vague, key components lack specificity; and the legislation is stuffed with constitutional violation issues, inevitably subjecting the state to costly litigation.

There are no provisions for holding false accusers accountable because the legislation assumes all allegations are factually true. Instead, SB 967 encourages false accusations by not safeguarding against them.

Thus, SB 967 fosters victimization of the innocent, denies them justice and support, then shields their accusers under the guise of "victim-blaming."

The Bill primarily targets men, though it is *well established* women commit sexual assault even against men, roughly an equal amount of domestic violence against men as men against women, a large share if not the majority of dating violence, the majority of child abuse, and a high rate of same sex intimate partner violence.

Even so, SB 967 appears to be riding contrived rape culture hysteria along with Washington D.C. initiatives flooding our institutions with questionable, if not fabricated rationale for "cultural change," most of which is shamefully anti-male.

Crime rates including those for sexual assault and domestic violence have continually declined for over a decade. Billions of dollars are spent annually on thousands of victim oriented programs. Related definitions of crime have expanded to include more behaviors. Something is working. SB 967 is not necessary. It's destructive.

If you or someone you love was accused of such violence, you would demand no less than a rigorous defense with fair and impartial scrutiny, all of which SB 967 destroys.

**Please work to defeat SB 967 and any similar legislation.**

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