

October 27, 2017

Recently, our colleagues in Sacramento accurately described the inappropriate sexual harassment that is still all too common in state capitols. Our friends in California said it well, so we will simply repeat it:

As women leaders in politics, in a state that postures itself as a leader in justice and equality, you might assume our experience has been different. It has not. Each of us had endured, or witnessed or worked with someone who has experienced some form of dehumanizing behavior by someone with power in our workplaces. People in positions of power have made promises, or threats, about our jobs in exchange for our compliance, or our silence. They have leveraged their power and positions to treat us however they would like.

Having the courage to speak up is difficult. Our colleagues are correct in stating:

These degrading acts over time cause us to shrink back in our personal and professional lives. While advocating for the causes and clients in which we believe, and working to advance our careers, we must concurrently balance these activities with worry, fear or shame.

California, we join you in saying enough.

Oregon has more women in political leadership than any other state, and that has made a positive difference. But it's still not enough. As women working in the halls of our democratic institutions, we want to empower women to speak up without fear when they have been harassed, bullied, or dehumanized. We must all strive to create a culture where it is expected that people (both men and women) will speak up when it is happening in front of them, and ensure that it is safe to report it when it happens in private. No more sweeping it under the rug, no more being made to feel like you should have done something to prevent it.

We, too, are standing up and bringing awareness to this serious issue. Join us. You can sign on to this letter at www.wesaidenough.com/oregon .

Sincerely and in solidarity,

In alphabetical order:

Teresa Alonso Leon

Evyandries

Lizzy Atwood Wills

Gwenn Baldwin

Chloe Becker

Vicki Berger

Denyc Boles

Ellie Booth
Deborah Boone
Mary Botkin
Joyce Brake
Ginny Burdick
Janelle Bynum
Janet Byrd
Stacy Chamberlain
Parasa Chanramy
Jennifer Chapman
Cris Cloyd
Joanie Cosgrove
Stacy Cowan
Anna Curtis
Laura Curtis
Calli Daly
Grayson Dempsey
Angi Dilkes
Margaret Doherty
Stacey Dycus
Julie Fahey
Toya Fick
Nikki Fisher
Jaye Caroline Frasier
Sara Gelser
Jessica Giannettino Villatoro
Michelle Giguere
Becky Gilliam-Madge
Samantha Gladu
Susan Grabe
Courtney Graham
Gnora Gumanow
Jodi Hack
CM Hall
Sybil Hebb
Courtney Helstein
Amanda Hess
Erica Hetfeld
Jane Hill
Lili Hoag
Amy Hojnowski
Elizabeth Howe
Val Hoyle
Courtney Johnston

Deborah Kafoury
Emma Kallaway
Alissa Keny-Guyer
Annelise Koehler
Theresa Kohlhoff
Tina Kotek
Amanda Kraus
Pamela Leavitt
Christine Lewis
Jennifer Lewis-Goff
Hannah Love
Jenn Lynch
Sheri Malstrom
Pam Marsh
Kyndall Mason
Kimberly McCullough
Mary Kyle McCurdy
Sandi McDonough
Molly McGrew
Alison McIntosh
Caddy McKeown
Emily McLain
Susan McLain
Rayleen McMillan
Audrey Mechling
Judi Mehrens
Soren Metzger
Tess Milio
Adriana Miranda
Laurie Monnes Anderson
Nancy Nathanson
Kate Newhall
Mary Nolan
Lindsey O'Brien
Andrea Paluso
Julie Parrish
Jessica Vega Pederson
Martha Pellegrino
Carla Piluso
Karin Power
Annette Price
Dana Richardson
Sabrina Riggs
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Maura Roche
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Dominique Rossi
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Sara Ryan
Andrea Salinas
Tawna Sanchez
Christine Saunders
Jillian Schoene
Lindsey Scholten
Natalie Sept
Meredith Shield
Andrea Short
Courtney Sipel
Barbara Smith Warner
Mary Sofia
Janeen Sollman
Paige Spence
Christy Splitt
Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
Corran Stephan
Nicole Stoenner
Jennifer Stoll
Elisabeth Swarttouw
Kathleen Taylor
Nicholina Terzieff
Kim Thatcher
Rebecca Tweed
Patty Wentz
Rachel Wiggins Emory
Jennifer Williamson
Laurie Wimmer
Jackie Winters
Molly Woon
Leslie Wright