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Written Comment

Schools are required by law to protect their students. When a student is sexually harassed in/out of school they should not also have to worry about their school handling their sexual harassment case “the legal way”. Students should feel secure in their schools and their government that there are laws that are 1. Put in place to protect them 2. These laws are being followed by their schools and 3. That their schools are being held accountable to follow these laws. When schools fall short of keeping their students safe and free of a hostile environment they are not only failing their students but failing their communities. Students should not bear the responsibility of holding their school accountable to protect them. That is the responsibility of the Department of Education. We need to help our students through these cases of sexual harassment or violence through understanding them, supporting them and protecting them. Not sweeping it under the rug and hoping it goes away. Laws like Title IX are put in place to help students feel secure in their schools, knowing that there are policies put in place to protect them, which every student has a right to.