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confidential, survivor, New York, (b)(6)

When on-campus students accused of sexual assaults go through the judicial process and receive minimal punishment it invalidates the victim and it reinforces the behavior for the accused student to repeat the act again. A basketball player on (b)(6) campus was accused of sexually assaulting a female. He went through the judicial process, which is protected by FERPA. While I was a graduate student I became another victim of his, but based off his actions I knew he had done this before, and I reported it to the police. FERPA prevents the release of these records so the grand jury could never hear of his past actions in (b)(6), however it was word of mouth all over campus and his teammates that were fed up who informed me of his prior actions. Had (b)(6) released him from school after the complaint, maybe they could have prevented my rape and he would know today this behavior is not acceptable.

After filing a Title IX complaint, complainants many times experience retaliation and nothing is done about it. Higher education institutes should have zero tolerance for retaliation because in many cases the retaliation is worse to deal with than the abuse and/or harassment. While working and attending graduate school, I filed a Title IX complaint with the coordinator at a major university in New York against my boss for continual harassment based on sex that eventually led to him detain me in my office. After he was informed of the complaint, he took my job duties from me and reassigned them to another co-worker, within 60 days the school removed me from my position, in addition to having me sign a non-disclosure agreement. In the end I was given a letter to say that my boss did not discriminate against me, or anyone else, because overall he was just a bad boss, in summation. He was allowed to take early retirement from the university, however due to his actions and retaliation, I lost my job. Complainants go through the Title IX process to report harrassment and abuse in hopes to be protected from any retaliation. Too many times institutions want to silence the complainants and place their sportstars, alumni, and trustees above everything else. Non-disclosure agreements should be prohibited for complainants.