

From: L P
Sent: Thu, 10 Jun 2021 20:48:03 -0700
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing (Preserve the essence of the current rule)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) Title IX Comprehensive Review:
As a physician and father of a daughter who is about to leave for her first year of college in another state, I am very concerned about my daughter's safety and vulnerability to sexual assault. At age 18, she is naive and trusting. We have done the best we can to prepare her to live a safe and happy life at college, to have fun, but be aware of the potential predatory behavior of others. A sexual assault can be a life-changing trauma and we support proactive approaches by colleges and universities to educate students about the differences between appropriate consensual behavior and sexual crimes or abuse. We also believe in a "no tolerance" attitude toward behavior in which one individual takes advantage of another's vulnerability. However, history is rife with stories of false accusation; and abuse of others can also take the form of manipulation, including duping authorities into punishing the innocent. "Narrative" is not truth. The bedrock foundation of our free society is adherence to principles of due process which are the only, if imperfect, assurance that truth and not false narrative will prevail. We live in an age of Internet and media "mobs" and rush to judgement. In this environment, without respect for due process, even a false accusation can lead to conviction by kangaroo court. This serves no one well, and leads to the disrespect of law and truth in general. As an Independent voter who frequently votes Democratic, I urge you not to gut the DeVos rules, which were thoughtfully implemented after much study and public comment, simply because they were the product of the Trump administration. To do so, would not be leadership or statesmanship, but instead, the height of cynical self-serving political behavior.

Sincerely,
A concerned voter and father
I