



The University of Sydney Union  
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The University of Sydney NSW 2006

## University of Sydney Union Board Statement on Proposed Actions in Response to RepsElect Incident

### ***Content Warning: Discussion of sexual violence, rape, and misogyny***

Following a Special Meeting on Friday 8 November, the USU Board has determined the need for an independent investigation into the reported conduct at the Special Meeting of the Representatives-Elect (RepsElect) for the University of Sydney Students' Representative Council (SRC), where representatives-elect [tore up copies of the Red Zone report](#) on campus sexual violence. These actions, reportedly involving individuals associated with the USU-affiliated Conservative Club and Liberal Club, were blatantly misogynistic and insulting towards victim-survivors of sexual violence.

In response, the USU will conduct an independent investigation, concurrently with the University of Sydney's own investigation, into all individuals reported to have been involved. Additionally, the USU will examine the alleged conduct of any and all clubs that may have been involved. As part of this review, the clubs and individuals involved will be afforded procedural fairness, including the opportunity to formally respond, as we evaluate appropriate further actions.

Additionally, to reinforce our commitment to a respectful and inclusive campus, the USU is conducting a comprehensive review of our Clubs and Societies policies, their accessibility, and their implementation. Our aim is to clarify expectations and strengthen accountability across our programs, ensuring members are held to the highest standards of appropriate conduct. Ultimately, our goal is to foster a supportive and safe environment for all students, absolutely free from any form of misogyny, harassment, or dismissive attitudes towards sexual violence.

We would like to thank everyone who attended the public meeting last week for their sincere engagement and willingness to contribute to this important conversation. Their input is invaluable in supporting the Board's commitment to a safe and inclusive campus. As we continue to address this issue, we are committed to ongoing transparency and actively seeking feedback from our membership. Holding this open meeting was a significant step, and we aim to build on this by keeping communication channels open as progress unfolds.

We would like to reassure our members that the USU Board treats this matter with the utmost seriousness. This behaviour has no place in our community, and must be eliminated wherever it occurs. Students, victim-survivors, and our members deserve nothing less, and we will continue working towards making our vision of a safe and respectful campus culture a reality.

*Note: The USU Board acknowledges Bryson Constable's conflict of interest due to his role as Vice-President of the Conservative Club. We are dedicated to appropriately addressing and managing this conflict.*

## **Resources for victim-survivors and others impacted by these events**

1800 RESPECT; Available 24/7; Phone: 1800 737 732

USyd Safer Communities; Phone: +61 2 8627 6808; After-hours: 1800 793 457

[Mudgin-Gal Women's Centre Redfern](#); Aboriginal-specific support services; Phone: (02) 9698 1173

If you are concerned about your behaviour or use of violence, you can contact the Men's Referral Service on 1300 766 491 or visit [www.ntv.org.au](http://www.ntv.org.au)

Free counselling via [RPA Sexual Assault Clinic](#); Phone: 9515 9040 (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm)