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On April 18th, 2013 we held a press conference in Los Angeles to announce the filing of a Title IX complaint on behalf of 37 Occidental College students with the Office of Civil Rights detailing alleged rapes, sexual assaults, harassment and retaliation against those who spoke out against sexual violence. Our office represents a number of these victims.

Today, we are here with students from USC, along with students from Swarthmore, Berkeley, University of North Carolina and Dartmouth to announce the filing of additional Title IX and Clery Act complaints on behalf of students at these colleges.

We are asking the Department of Education to open an investigation into these complaints and take appropriate actions to force these colleges to comply with the law or risk losing their federal funding.

Women all over this country are demanding that their colleges stop these rapes and sexual assaults from continuing. They will no longer accept the status quo where rapes and sexual assaults are swept under the rug and condoned by college administrators. The message is loud and it is clear- change is in the air and those that refuse to see it and embrace it will find themselves buried under it by an avalanche of student protests, investigations, and lawsuits. Universities also risk the loss of students who may choose to go to other schools that are doing everything that the law requires to keep their students safe and protected, rather than to schools where they are at risk of rape and sexual assault because the administration of those schools does not do what they are required to do under the law to make their students safe.

We are proud to stand alongside the students that are here today, and the many others that will surely follow. These students have decided to stand up and be counted in this historic civil rights movement to win and enforce the right of women on college campuses to be free of rapes and sexual assaults while they pursue a higher education.

Currently my law firm represents students at Occidental and USC. We look forward to working with victims and survivors across the country who are committed to asserting and vindicating their rights to be free of sexual violence on college campuses.

Gloria Allred Attorney at Law May 22, 2013