**Introduction**

“No means no” has been the traditional slogan when it comes to sexual assault for quite some time. However, this slogan blames the victim, and in most cases, the attacker practically gets away with it. “Yes means yes” is an affirmative consent policy that is unambiguous and more effective than the traditional “no means no.”

**Findings**

- Between 20% and 25% of women, and 4% of men, have reported to have been sexually assaulted during their college careers.
- 18-21 year old women in college are four times more likely to be sexually assaulted than women in any other age group.
- More than half of raped college women tell no one of their victimization.

**Rationale**

- The Clery Act requires colleges to report data on campus crime every year. This includes any incidents of assault.
- Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that receives federal funding.
- Students are filing complaints that their schools violate the Clery Act and Title IX in their handle, or mishandling, of sexual assault cases.

**Yes to “Yes means Yes”**

- California was the first state to implement the “yes means yes” affirmative consent policy.
- SUNY has since implemented their own affirmative action policy.
- Governor Cuomo plans on implementing an affirmative consent policy similar to California’s in the states private colleges.

**Conclusions**

By hosting non-violent protests at schools around the country, we can convince the administration to change their consent policy. Having sexual assault victims speak about their experiences, and how the “no means no” policy failed them, will help schools officials understand why they need an affirmative consent policy. Anyone can be a victim of sexual assault, and we need to make sure colleges and universities have the best consent policy in place so that they can help and protect sexual assault victims.

**Acknowledgements**
