



**Civil Complaint Review Board**

**2/14/18**

**Gabrielle Larochelle**

**Young Women's Advisory Council Member**

**Girls for Gender Equity**

Hello, My name is Gabrielle Larochelle and I am a 19 year old college student that goes to The New School. I am a Haitian, Spanish, and African American young woman.

Thank you Civil Complaint Review Board for your time and consideration today, I truly appreciate it. I am a part of Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) which is an intergenerational organization committed to the physical, psychological, social, and economic development of girls and women. Through education, organizing and physical fitness, GGE encourages communities to remove barriers and create opportunities for girls and women to live self-determined lives.

This proposal is important to me and to my fellow cisgender and transgender sisters and brothers who live in New York City because it can finally hold some of the members in the New York Police Department (NYPD) accountable for their actions when it comes to sexual assault and harassment. The NYPD cannot objectively oversee its own community when it comes to these types of cases because of their dedication and loyalty to their "brotherhood". New Yorkers need a separate entity that is not affiliated with the NYPD to police the police when they have failed us. There is a story in the news currently about a young woman named Anna Chambers, who is actually my own age, and was sexually assaulted by two NYPD officers. These two cops are being protected by the law due to a completely inane loophole where cops are allowed to have sex with someone in their custody. This is allowed in 35 states, including New York.

As a sexual assault survivor, this places fear and distrust in my heart towards cops more than ever. How can I trust the protectors of the law when they cannot even protect young women, men, and gender fluid individuals, because the law allows officers commit sexual misconduct legally? How can I trust the police to not sexually assault me if I ever get stopped by them for any reason? How can I trust the police to not sexually harass me when there have been cases showing a pattern of sexual harassment by the police a mile long shoved under the rug?

This proposal must pass in NYC because we are a state that prides itself on justice and equality for all. We have to be the first out of the 35 states to change this archaic loophole because we need to trust and believe again that our cops are truly trying to protect New Yorkers, and not themselves whenever they get caught doing something wrong.



As a citizen of NY and as a young black & hispanic woman, recent times have shown me that the police does not have the best interest of my people or self at heart. I would like for that to change. The first step is to implement this proposal for the CCRB to hold oversight on NYPD for sexual misconduct by all NYPD officers. If implemented, I can believe that the NYPD will finally be rightfully accountable for the immeasurable amount of injustices and damages they have caused towards our bodies, our minds, and our spirits. Thank you for listening and I urge you all to please make the right decision this evening.