

**CONSTITUTION (BYLAWS) OF
Zero Tolerance**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Zero Tolerance (ZT) do hereby establish this Constitution in order that our purpose is realized to its fullest extent.

ARTICLE I. -- Name

The name of this organization will be Zero Tolerance, henceforth referred to as “Zero Tolerance” and/or “ZT”.

ARTICLE II. -- Purpose

Zero Tolerance is a student organized and operated group on the UConn-Stamford campus. Its primary goal is to help put an end to acts of violence based upon gender and sexuality. This is to be accomplished through education, outreach, prevention, and by raising awareness to such issues such as, but not limited to, domestic violence, sexual assault and

Revolution Against Rape is a student organization committed to ending the rape culture through education, activism, and reform. Revolution Against Rape seeks to empower and support survivors, promote awareness of sexual violence, and to create events whi

To reclaim the reality that "Sisterhood is Powerful" by uniting women and men on campus despite their age, gender, sexual orientation, race, political party or feminist orientation to work actively on and off campus for the common goal of ending sexism and oppression.

Promote activism through advocacy and education for the achievement of equity, at the University and within the community at large

The purposes of Zero Tolerance of University of Connecticut will be:

1. To educate and raise awareness in the campus and wider community about the epidemic of violence against women and girls on a state, institutional, local, family and intimate partner level.
2. To work to end the plague of violence against women and girls in all places it exists.
3. To establish a broad constituency to work in pursuit of feminist ideals -- social, political, and economic equality for women and men, girls and boys.
4. To study and take action on national, state, local, and campus feminist issues and concerns.
5. To provide leadership and career building opportunities for feminist students.
6. To educate the college/university community about feminist issues.
7. To enhance the feminist community on campus.

ARTICLE III. Principles

1. **Zero Tolerance promotes non-violence in all situations and works to end violence against women and girls perpetrated by the state, institutions, acquaintances, within families and intimate partner situations.**
2. Zero Tolerance promotes equality between women and men and boys and

girls, and supports constitutional and statutory measures to gain full equality locally, statewide, nationally, and globally.

3. Zero Tolerance supports safe, legal and accessible abortion, contraception, and family planning, including Medicaid funding and access for minors.

4. Zero Tolerance is dedicated to achieving civil rights for all people, including affirmative action programs for women and people of color.

5. Zero Tolerance supports lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and gay rights.

6. Zero Tolerance does not permit discrimination on the basis of sex, race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, religion, ethnicity, age, marital status, national origin, immigration status, incarceration history, veteran status, size or disability.

7. Zero Tolerance encourages programs directed at the preservation of the environment, clean air and water, the elimination of smog, toxic and hazardous wastes, chemical and nuclear weaponry.

8. Zero Tolerance supports workers' collective bargaining, pay equity, and the end of sweatshops.

ARTICLE IV. Standards

1. Any undergraduate student of University of Connecticut who agrees with Zero Tolerance's purposes and principles as stated above may apply for official membership in the local campus unit. We will strive to maintain a balance between students of all ages. Criteria for participation in the unit will consist of a commitment to participate in at least one activity or event, and leadership/activist experience or potential to grow within Zero Tolerance.

2. The local campus unit may not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion, ethnicity, immigration status, veteran status, incarceration history or disability, and affirmatively seeks to achieve diversity among participants.

3. The campus unit shall establish a faculty advisor from within the department of Women's Studies.

4. The campus unit shall hold at least one meeting per week during the semester, excluding midterms and finals week if necessary.

5. The campus unit shall make efforts to establish links with feminist individuals and organizations within the community and on campus, being based out of the Center for Women's Studies and in partnership with Women's Studies faculty.

ARTICLE V. Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee of the campus unit shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

2. The Executive Committee of the campus may also include a Publicity Chair, Events Chair, Media Chair, Recruitment Chair, Communications Chair, Community Outreach Chair, Equality & Diversity Chair, Web Chair, and Class Representatives if ever warranted by membership numbers and event planning needs.

3. Each executive board member shall have specific responsibilities as outlined below but none will hold more or less power than other officers.

President: The President presides over general ZT meetings; acts as a spokesperson for the group; chairs the executive committee; and acts as a liaison to faculty, administration, student government, and the Faculty advisor.

Vice President/Co-President: The Vice President is the officer responsible for administering meetings when the President is not available. The Vice President is also responsible for recruiting the faculty and staff advisor(s).

Treasurer: The Treasurer/Finance Chair is responsible for handling all accounting for the group, submitting budget proposals, applying to the school for grants or other funding, and planning any fundraisers each year. The Finance Chair reports on the status of the accounts at each meeting.

Secretary: The Secretary/Recorder is responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings and submitting them to the group e-mail list and the Executive Committee. In the event that the secretary is unable to attend a meeting a substitute minute taker will be assigned.

ARTICLE VI. Meetings and Procedures

1. Member in Good Standing/Voting Eligibility

A. Members who attend at least 50 percent of the regularly scheduled meetings, take part in organization sponsored events, are enrolled in the campus at an undergraduate level during the academic year, and have been members for at least 30 days are considered members in good standing and are eligible to vote on organizational matters and in local campus unit elections.

B. Graduate students, non-members, and non-students are welcome to observe and participate in open campus group meetings, but may not hold offices or vote on organizational issues or in elections.

2. Election of Officers

A. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the eligible voting members of the local campus group. Elections will be held on an annual basis during April, at a meeting comprised of a quorum (40%) of the organization's members. Special elections may also be held as needed to fill executive committee vacancies.

B. All voting shall be done by secret ballot.

C. Officers shall serve for the academic year following their election.

D. Results of all elections and officer contact information will be submitted to the Student Activities Coordinator.

E. Elections will be held annually during April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

3. Removal of Officers: Any officer of the local campus group who violates the organization's purpose or Constitution, injures the organization, or fails grievously to fulfill duties as stated may be removed from office by the following process:

A. Written notification to the officer of the request, asking the officer to be present at the next meeting prepared to speak in her/his own defense;

B. Written notification to the membership; and

C. Seventy-five percent of the voting membership must be in attendance to vote on the removal of an officer. A two-thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer.

D. *Robert's Rules of Order* will govern the removal or dismissal of officers.

4. Removal of Members: Any member of the local campus unit who violates the organization's purpose or Constitution or injures the organization may be removed from the group by the following process:

A. Written notification to the member of the request, asking the member to be present at the next meeting prepared to speak in her/his own defense;

B. Written notification to the membership; and

C. Seventy-five percent of the voting membership must be in attendance to vote on the removal of a member. A two-thirds majority vote of members present is necessary to remove the officer.

D. *Robert's Rules of Order* will govern the removal or dismissal of members.

5. Replacement: Should an officer resign or be removed, a special election will be held one month after written notification of all voting members.

6. Meetings: Regular group meetings will occur on a weekly basis at a time to be selected at the beginning of each academic term. Alternate between program meetings and executive committee meetings.

ARTICLE VII. Amendments

Amendments to the constitution must be approved first by a two-thirds majority of members voting and second by the Faculty Advisor for ZT. Each year, the local campus unit shall review the constitution (obtaining a revised version from the Student Activities Coordinator if necessary), consider amendments and resubmit the updated constitution to the Student Activities Coordinator and Faculty Advisor as necessary.

ARTICLE VIII. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the campus unit in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the campus unit may adopt.

Founding Member or President Date

Founding or Executive Committee Member Date

Advisor Date