



## PRESS STATEMENT

1. **The Voice Inc.** condemns ALL Acts of Harassment and Violence against women at the University of Papua New Guinea.
2. What happened on Tuesday, 7 June 2021 is the culmination of the ongoing harassment of female students at the University of Papua New Guinea.
3. The continuous accounts of sexual harassment, physical assault and threats do not reflect the acceptable standards of behavior that is expected of students who will one day carry this country forward.
4. The University of Papua New Guinea per the *University of Papua New Guinea Act 1983* has a duty of care towards its students and this cannot continue without any redress.
5. There has to be a more transparent process for students to seek remedies and effective measures to protect the students and those who report these matters.



6. Perpetrators must be dealt with accordingly to the full force of the law.
7. When these incidents are not addressed the overall wellbeing and academic performance of female students suffer because their freedom of movement is restricted due to safety concerns.
8. Female students need to feel safe on campus without having to worry about being harassed.
9. There is no room for victim blaming, tribalism and mob mentality, perpetrators must take full responsibility for their behavior.
10. As long as these unlawful acts continue to go unaddressed, we will not see women who represent half the country's population make a full contribution to the nation.
11. We condemn the attack on the media. An attack on the media is an attack on the Fourth Estate and freedom of speech. It is disappointing that a faction of students who led the attack on the media did not show any remorse. We demand a



public apology and appropriate action be taken against these students.

12. We commit to continue to working with the University Administration, Student Representative Council and our student members to ensure there is continued dialogue to ensure the safety of all students on campus.

**\\ENDS**

**APPROVED BY:**

**Valentina Kaman – Chairperson  
The Voice Inc Board**

**Date: 10 June 2021**