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# LADY PARTS JUSTICE LEAGUE

(<https://lpjleague.org/>)

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(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 1st, 2019) In response to the allegation of improper sexual conduct against Dr. Willie Parker, who has been a Lady Parts Justice League (LPJL) Advisory Board member since 2017, LPJL and Lizz Winstead issue the following statement:

Our staff took the time we needed to process and discuss not only this story, but our own stories and feelings. We listened to each other's individual experiences and made space for those who either needed to step back or work through the complexities, so we could come together and issue a statement that reflects our values as an organization.

LPJL believes survivors. When someone comes forward with claims that a member of our community has failed to meet our standards of respect, boundaries, or consent—no matter their role in the movement—we must take these accusations seriously. Bodily autonomy is the core value of LPJL and of the reproductive rights, health, and justice movements.

As details of these allegations unfold, LPJL has accepted Dr. Parker's resignation from our advisory board. We thank him for his service to LPJL and for his dedicated work as an abortion provider.

Part of the work in accomplishing justice for survivors is to create more transformative spaces to discuss the complexities of sexual violence. Spaces that fight to repair the painful reality that justice is rarely granted to survivors who come forward. Spaces that work to put an end to the racialized history of sexual violence against black and brown bodies, especially women and girls. And spaces that recognize the institutionalized response to criminalize the sexual behaviors of people of color. Moving forward we must work towards having conversations with integrity and that allow for complexity, empathy and, most importantly, justice.

From LPJL founder, Lizz Winstead:

"As an activist and also a survivor, I believe survivors and work to create supportive environments that invite people to come forward and speak their truth without judgment.

Dr. Parker was not only a member of the LPJL advisory board, he is a colleague and my friend. My personal relationships do not influence the decisions that need to be made regarding what is best for LPJL and our work fighting to ensure access to reproductive care. My personal relationships also never compel me to remain silent in my commitment to supporting survivors.

Until a time when true justice is a lived reality for everyone, I am committed to having difficult conversations with friends, colleagues and loved ones that help us understand each other better and move towards ending a culture of sexual violence."

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## ABOUT THE LEAGUE

Lady Parts Justice League is a coven of hilarious badass feminists who use humor and pop culture to expose the haters fighting against reproductive rights. We believe if there is not laughter, dancing and sexy time in your revolution, you need to fix that.

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