

Sexual Assault: Not a Laughing Matter on Our Network

WHEREAS sexual harassment in the military, frequently accompanied or followed by sexual assault, has become a serious and persistent problem, damaging to troop cohesion and morale; and

WHEREAS, according to Defense Department statistics, sexual assaults rose more than 30% in a recently completed two-year period, from a shocking 19,300 in 2010 to an appalling 26,000 in 2012; and

WHEREAS the American Forces Radio network broadcasts news and commentary, including “The Rush Limbaugh Show,” to our military personnel in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS the Rush Limbaugh Show not only consistently exhibits tolerance for sexual harassment, it treats it as sport and encourages it – as exemplified by Mr. Limbaugh’s broadcast correlations of breast size and IQ, his suggestions that women enjoy sexual harassment and that men could more effectively harass women by asking them to have their breasts "stop staring at my eyes"; and

WHEREAS Mr. Limbaugh, in his demonstrably misogynistic program, has swung between celebrating sexual harassment and denying its existence, and gone so far as to joke about rape itself; and

WHEREAS it is irresponsible for taxpayer dollars to be used to fund the broadcast to our troops of radio programs that advocate, make light of, or express tolerance for sexual harassment and rape;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we call on the U.S. Department of Defense to remove the Rush Limbaugh Show from our taxpayer-funded American Forces Radio; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and to our two U.S. Senators, Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell.

Adopted _____ by _____

Originated by Stacey Dunne, dunn.stacey@gmail.com,
and previously adopted by the 48th LD
Substantially edited by KCDCC Resolutions Committee