Dear University of Maryland Greek Community,

I think that everyone can agree that the email from a member of Kappa Sigma was insensitive at best and disgusting at worst. The statements made in this email were uncalled for but unfortunately not surprising. Where our community is supposed to foster leaders, we find cowards; where we should see unity, we see segregation; and where there should be justice, we see no such thing.

This email was especially offensive to members of the Multicultural Greek Council because of the various racial slurs used, as well as the blatant disregard for women of color, of which our council has many. It is unfortunate that we live in a society where racism is still the norm. As people of color, many of us have come to a point in our lives where we have become desensitized to all of it – we expect to be discriminated against and we lower our expectations of other people to avoid disappointment.

However, what outraged me the most was the blatant disrespect for a woman’s consent. Sexual assault is not a joking matter; it is a pandemic. Though this view is not expressed by every fraternity man, the fact that it was expressed by one, is one too many. This is not something that our community will take lightly.

While the Multicultural Greek Council does not condone this type of behavior, we will continue to support the Interfraternity Council, as well as work with those whose feelings were especially hurt by this email: the Panhellenic Association, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council, to build and support a more united community. We cannot let one incident divide our community but rather we must use this as an opportunity for positive growth to strengthen us all.

The individual that sent the email is not representative of Kappa Sigma as an organization. However, he and the others in the email who said nothing for over a year, represent the one thing that could go wrong in any organization. The actions of this individual have compromised the name of all of Kappa Sigma. I urge everyone to please use this time for reflection, and remember that whatever you do, you are always wearing your letters. Any individual, no matter how small compared to the size of their organization, is enough to perpetuate the wrong stereotypes for your entire organization.

I look forward to continuing the discussion and moving forward together as a community to create a safe space for everyone. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,
Diana J Kim
Multicultural Greek Council President