## **ASLMU Senate**

## Resolution

**Menstrual Production Resolution** 

- I. Whereas, Loyola Marymount University is committed to the "service of faith and promotion of justice" and people across the globe face unique physical, social, and economic challenges relating to menstruation.
- II. Whereas, the risks of potential health problems associated with menstruation, such as reproductive and urinary tract infections, increase when menstruators have minimal to no access to menstrual hygiene materials and adequate facilities for managing menstruation.
- III. Whereas, gender-based pricing discrepancies, or the pink tax, exist between male and female targeted goods. This prices out low-income people who menstruate from accessing adequate personal hygiene products with an average of 13% higher price point than male targeted hygiene products, according to the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs.<sup>2</sup>
- IV. Whereas, many people have been unable to participate in important activities throughout their life, such as school, work, and social events, due to an inaccessibility of resources to support their menstrual cycle. This reality is also referred to as "period poverty". 3 Period poverty, the inaccessibility of menstrual hygiene products, creates an inability for menstruators to participate in basic day to day activities. As stated in an Always 2017 study, "nearly one in five American girls have either left school early or missed school entirely because they did not have access to period products".4
- V. Whereas, the elimination of the pink tax alone cannot solve the problem of period poverty, due to the fact that many people cannot afford and/or access products at all.
- VI. Whereas, students at Loyola Marymount University can experience these same physical, social, and economic challenges relating to a menstrual cycle.
- VII. Whereas, menstrual hygiene is complex and speaks to a greater issue of everyday, intersectional injustices that many women, gender non-binary, and those with disabilities disproportionately face. All people can benefit from increased education on menstruation, which can reduce the stigma surrounding the menstrual cycle, increase societal acceptance for those who menstruate, and implement more support services to aid people who have a period.

Therefore be it resolved, as a Jesuit institution, LMU should recognize that meeting the menstrual hygiene needs of its community is a fundamental issue of dignity, public health, and human rights. ASLMU has listened to the needs of their constituents in regards to menstrual hygiene and calling Student Affairs, Facilities Management, and Loyola Marymount University at large to consider taking on the initiative of free emergency menstrual products throughout restrooms on campus. These menstrual products should be free organic, biodegradable, free of dyes, and ethically sourced to ensure the best outcomes for menstruators and the Earth. In doing so, LMU would provide free tampons and pads for people who menstruate who may find themselves in a dire situation and in need

of menstrual products. These efforts will curb economic injustices against those who menstruate and reduce the stigma against natural functions of the human body.

Taylor Clark

ASLMU Speaker of the Senate

Emily Sinsky

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ASLMU Senator for Service Community

<sup>&</sup>quot;FAST FACTS: Nine Things You Didn't Know about Menstruation." UNICEF, 25 May 2018, www.unicef.org/press-releases/fast-facts-ninethings-you-didnt-know-about-menstruation# edn2.

Blasio, Bill de, and Julie Menin. "From Cradle to Cane: The C St of Being a Female Consumer." New York City Department of Consumer Affairs,

<sup>&</sup>quot;Period Poverty: Everything You Need to Know." Global Citizen. Accessed February 25, 2020. https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/period-3. poverty-everything-you-need-to-know/.

Always Confidence and Puberty Study, Nov. 2017; based on females 16-24 years old; 2016 U.S. census.