



Rivers Chronicles

The Newspaper of Rivers International School

#metoo 

A SNEAK PEEK INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

'TODAY MARKS AN
AGE WHERE FREEDOM
IS A RIGHT THAT
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN
GRANTED'

CORNERSTONE CAROLINE
- SEXUAL ASSAULT
ALLEGATION P. 2

DISCLAIMER:

Some of the topics discussed in this newspaper may be sensitive to some readers. All opinions and comments made by the journalists and artists in this newspaper are under the Rivers Chronicles name. If there are any problems, concerns or comments- Please contact the Head of Rivers Chronicles- Dominique Wagemaker at Dominique4school@gmail.com

Editorial: Trying it out

Dominique Wagemaker

For this newspaper edition I had multiple choices to go with concerning the theme. In the last edition I discussed how the newspaper wanted to incorporate themes per edition for inspiration for the newspaper staff to use and so that you- as a reader- know what to expect.

November was a tricky month, we could have gone simple with fall and Halloween- but instead, when discussing the theme with fellow newspaper member Akke Houtsma, we figured out that 1. November was Bullying awareness month and 2. One year ago was when the metoo movement on sexual harassment allegations gained popularity. This which combined with the 25th of November; the official UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women- seemed to beg to be the topic. I thought that with the motto of trying to be risk taking and having this be less of a contemporary newspaper and more about the opinions of the students, the choice seemed easy.

The newspaper was made on the premise that it was meant to explore difficult topics and implore the students of rivers to take a critical look at the world and experiment with communicating their opinions- either through text or art form. With most of the newspaper being female - besides the much appreciated three boys :) - I thought that the sexual harassment cases could be one for great inspiration. Nevertheless, males play a large part too. Besides the preconceived notion that sexual harassment is from the dominant male gender to the weak females- it can be found in any form. Harassment isn't always obvious and can happen in any situation.

Connected to this, you can find bullying. Over my years here at Rivers, I have seen both cases of this being handled with care and consideration and have seen people struggle heavily because of it. When talking to fellow students I have realized that throughout everyone's life there's a moment when some form of bullying or harassment occurs- usually without the person inflicting it being entirely aware of what they themselves are doing. I therefore found that it would be a good time for self reflection for the members of the newspaper to look back at their own experiences and instead of feeling as if it is an hindrance, take it as a learning experience and understand that life should come with a grain of salt- but that the true reflection on yourself is how you recover yourself afterwards.

Hopefully you as a reader enjoy this theme and find that you are either further informed or that you have gained some insight on the many perspectives of the members of the newspaper. Have fun reading and as always, I look forward to your comments!

Dominique Wagemaker
Head of the Newspaper

If you feel like this edition of the Rivers Chronicles has impacted you or you feel like you too have opinions that could be used for future editions and similar topics- feel free to join for a meeting of the newspaper by emailing me (Dominique4school@gmail.com)

Or if you feel like you have something to say about one of the future themes (which will be visible on the website soon to be published)- you can always write a one time article for the newspaper.

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If you have something going on at school and would like to advertise it (a club, event of charity for example), you can also email a short piece or an Ad to riverschronicles@gmail.com and it will be present in the next edition.

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KATA BALOGH

Halloween



BOY AGED NINE, ACCUSED OF CROSSING THE “LINE”

'Cornerstone Caroline'
Emma Ajayi



Today marks an age where freedom is a right that people have been granted, due to its establishment in the law and historical figures who fought to give us the privilege of having it.

Unfortunately, people take advantage of this freedom by using it to devalue others. Constantly, stories and articles are being published or displayed on social media platforms revolving around severe matters- including the cases of alleged sexual assault.

Although this is a topic that has been under debate; with some arguing that voices with these experiences need to be heard, passed on, and learned from, others argue that it is a method used to gain attention.

Earlier this October, an African American nine year old by the name of Jeremiah Harvey was falsely accused of groping the butt of Teresa Klein (also referred to as “Cornerstone Caroline.”) The scene took place in Brooklyn, New York, at a local convenience store, where young Jeremiah was departing the store with his mother and younger sister when his backpack brushed against Klein, who was facing the opposite direction. When Klein felt this touch, she assumed that she had been assaulted. She took defense by following them outside and threatening to call 9-1-1 believing that she was assaulted by a nine-year-old. The scene escalated and attracted bystanders who became involved and were shocked by the outrage that Teresa Klein brought upon an innocent child. Some reacted by targeting her, pointing out the unreasonable way she acted. Evidence was later proved by the store's surveillance cameras, showing that in fact it was the bag of nine-year-old Jeremiah that touched her. Thankfully the scene was caught, which lead to the prevention of another sexual assault case. Since then, Klein has publicly apologized to Jeremiah Harvey, whereas young Harvey went on an interview on the ABC news show -“Good Morning America”- expressing the humiliation he felt.



Teresa Sue Klein - “Cornerstone Caroline”

Teresa Klein was nicknamed “Cornerstore Caroline” as recognition of the several cases where African Americans are being told off to the police for performing actions seen as supposed crimes. Although there is no definite proof supporting this racial generalization, many who got to learn about this case still suspected that Klein only did this because Jeremiah was black, and black people living in America face the consequences of unnecessary hardships and negative stereotypes. Klein defended herself arguing that what happened had nothing to do with Jeremiah being black.

On a personal level, hearing this annoyed me. Not just because this looks like another story about racial inequality in America, but because of how illogical Teresa Klein reacted to the situation. Why would a nine-year-old boy touch a grown woman in such a private place? He’s nine. He’s probably thinking about cars, football, or getting a phone. He might not even have the term “sexual assault” in his vocabulary. So why pick on him, and threaten to call the police?

I believe that if you have experienced sexual assault, then it is your responsibility to voice it over to someone with authority. However, nowadays there are so many who are reporting on alleged cases of sexual harassment and mistreatment, I am afraid it has now become easily available for anyone to come up with a story, different as to what actually happened, and still receive pity, love, and attention. Yet innocent lives and futures could be in jeopardy because of these accusations. Imagine what could have happened to young Jeremiah if it hadn’t been for those surveillance cameras.

AAVA MÄÄTTÄ

Be kind



1 in 4
women
&
1 in 6
men
get sexually
assaulted
during
their lifetime.
Be kind.



Intersectional Feminism 101

FAATIMAH CLARKE

When people hear the word ‘feminism’, I can guarantee that a majority have the same thought going through their mind: ‘man-hating women wanting to break free from the kitchen and wear short skirts without getting catcalled.’ The statement isn’t necessarily wrong, it’s just oversimplified and stems from misinformed individuals who are unaware of the branches of feminism that go way beyond shouting loudly or disruption through protests.

Much of the stigma surrounding feminism was created by men refusing to participate in a movement that diminishes their power along with women who believe that they have enough rights and don’t see the point anymore. In a way, these mindsets can be applicable to so called ‘white feminism or mainstream feminism’ which prioritizes the voices of cisgender straight white women over minority groups and generally forgets to address overlooked forms of oppression that such groups face. In no way am I diminishing the experiences of these women, but the disregard of issues for women of different backgrounds/perspectives rooted in political and societal systems creates a normalized environment for minority groups as what they go through is rarely addressed on mainstream platforms.

The concept of intersectional feminism, on the other hand is, simply put, an attempt to advocate for a more diverse and inclusive feminist movement. Overlapping identities of women such as their race, class, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation are all elements that impact the oppression and discrimination they experience. An even larger difference between intersectional feminism compared to the mainstream variant is the inclusivity of males; their issues are brought to light on the same level of women. Rape experiences of men and the lack of societal regard for their emotions along with the critique of toxic masculinity are just some of the issues that are explored throughout intersectional feminism. Controversiality is no stranger to intersectional feminism as the range of topics discussed vary from Trump's policies against immigrants and the trans community and his misogynistic and homophobic beliefs to Black Lives Matter, diversity in Hollywood and global scale matters such as climate change.

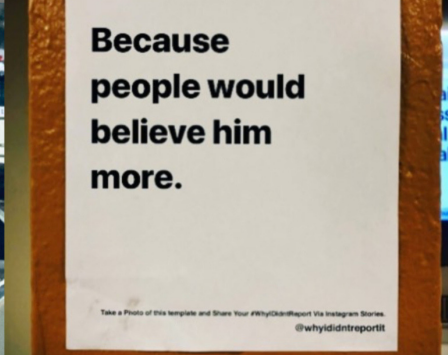
Although the intersectional community still has room for improvement, it has made a progressive step towards diversifying the feminist movement and has created a platform for minority groups to share their struggles and has raised awareness on a global scale.



DIAMONIQUE OSEANA



The posters, created from a trending hashtag responding to President Trump's recent victim blaming, asked New Yorkers to share **#WhyIDidntReport**, either on paper or Instagram



#METOO IN INDIA

By; Therese Steffensen

In October 2017, the hashtag ‘#metoo’ started spreading all across Twitter and other social media platforms in attempts to bring awareness to- and stop sexual harassment and assault in daily life and workplaces, specifically for women. It is a hashtag for people to use, share their experiences through and stand together against the enemy and support each other. The movement is hugely popular in the US, but it has also spread to a global scale.



One such country it has spread to is India. The movement gained a lot of momentum in October this year, especially in the Bollywood industry- where many actresses came out and shared their own experiences. While such movements have been present in India for a long time, they have either been ignored or failed to gain a lot of media coverage. In some cases, the victims are even blamed by the local news outlets.

One such accusation that is still often brought up is from Tanushree Dutta which happened in 2008. In it she accused Nana Patekar of sexual harassment during the filming of their movie together. During this time, Tanushree was attacked by mobs, and large groups of people were angered about the accusation and the fact that she refused to keep filming the movie. After moving to the U.S and staying away from the Bollywood scene, she came forward again in the September of this year, once more speaking of this accusation that ignited the spark.

Women from all around the Bollywood industry started coming forward with their experiences and their accusations of different actors, comedians or film producers who sexually harassed them. At the same time those not in the Bollywood industry are also coming out, becoming braver in sharing their experiences. Before, women feared to raise their voice, to lose their jobs and and to be harassed because of it, but as many people were hoping for, this will no longer happen.

Due to the rapid momentum of the movement and the sudden support of it, common folks are hoping that it will change the way sexual accusations are looked at and it will no longer be something which can be ignored- but there is a certain danger in doing so. In India, whoever comes out to tell their story but is not able to back this accusation with proper evidence can be charged for up to two years in prison, whereas in the US, the first amendment protects this from happening.



Will this help change the way women and sexual assaults are treated in India? The #metoo movement has enabled women to take that step against workplace harassment, when before it was being “normalized” and women believed that this was the average price to pay to be allowed to work. Many are hoping that this normalization of harassment will be lessened and the change this will have in India - if the momentum is continuous - will most likely be significant.

My opinion on the #metoo movement

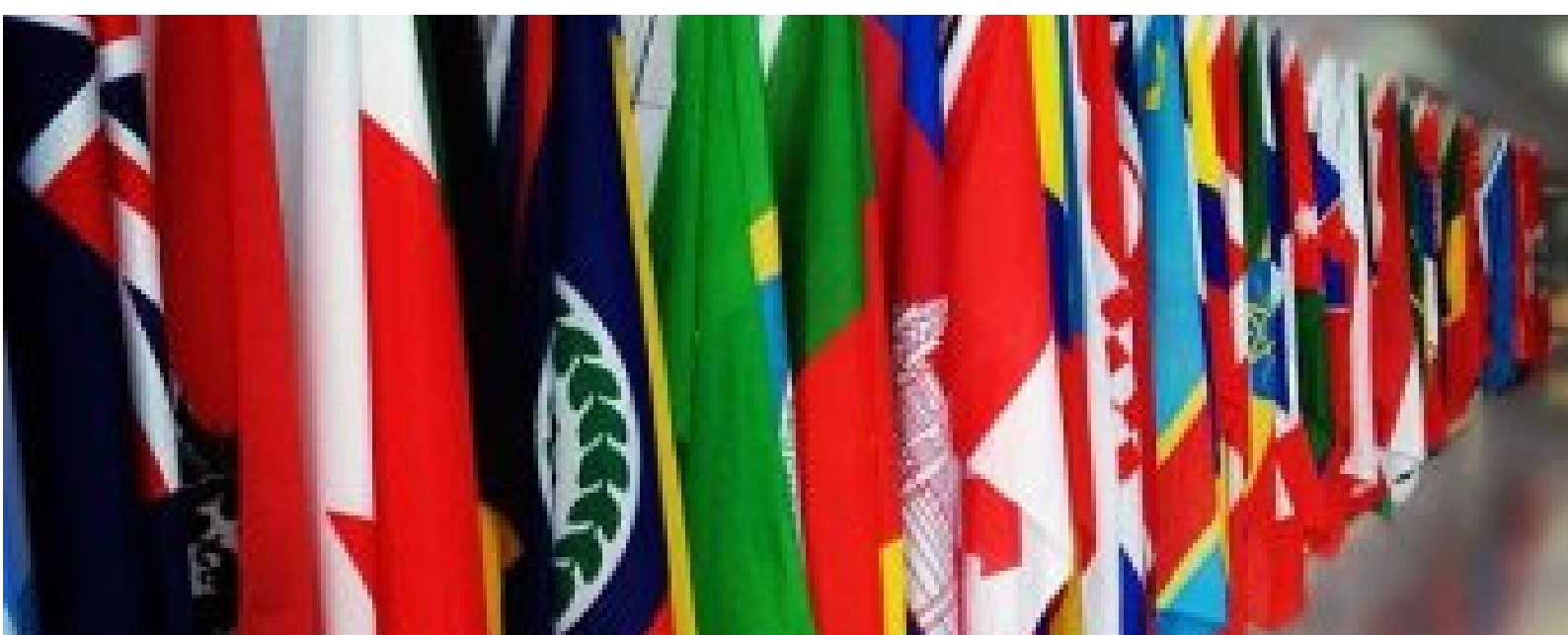
Due to this being such a controversial topic, I felt the need to share my own opinion on this. Not just to inform others on such a topic but also to share my own opinion. I will not be speaking of the movement specifically in India but the movement as a whole. While I support the movement, and I wish for all victims to be brave enough to come out and speak of their experiences, and while I support the idea of protecting people in the workplace more, the movement to me seems like a chaos in the way that it's not much of a movement but more of individual people coming out to share stories with no real action being taken to enforce new rules or safety measures.

I find that the media is often one-sided when it comes to accusations, with the presumption that accused men are guilty until proven innocent, and even if proven innocent, this person's life will be utterly destroyed. It has created this divide between men and women and it's very black and white- it's either this or that. Again, I support the idea of people coming out and accusing the ones that deserve to be accused, but the movement as it is now seems to be going seems to be going out of control.

MUNISH 2018

HELENA VOORHUIS

MUNISH or “Model United Nations of the International School of the Hague” is an annual conference that takes place in Den Haag. Over 1200 students from all over the world travel in cars, planes or even boats to participate in this three-day conference. Students range from the UK, Turkey, Italy, Spain, The United States and many more countries and show up in fancy suits and skirts ready to debate and share opinions. MUNs not only give high school students the opportunity to learn about pressing world issues but it also allows them to participate in the creation of their solutions.



“Be the change you want to see in the world”

Many people think teenagers are too young to take actions regarding global issues or are too naïve and uninterested to discuss and create change, but MUNs prove this wrong. Hundreds of teenagers gather in one place- all of them with goals, hopes and ideas. A place where the people making the change are the ones that will be affected by the outcome and the future it creates.

All of that is great- but even though the debates and the politics are the basis of MUNs, for me, they aren't the most memorable. The most memorable aspect are the people there, the experiences you make and the families that accept you into their homes. Again, imagine a place filled with 1200 teenagers. A place where meeting people is a routine and where you make too many friends to count. Where you have to live in someone else's house and experience a weekend living as they do. The best part about MUNs for me is realizing how many amazing people there are out there. From driven serious delegates to class clowns, everyone keeps an open mind and collaborates with one another.

This year's MUNISH was my 7th or 8th conference as a delegate and it was one of my best. It was great to see all of these people eating 35 cupcakes at once and regretting it later, watching girls and guys slip and fall because of the extremely slippery floors and watching all the serious delegates bust amazing dance moves at the party.

In conclusion, MUNISH is an experience I will never forget because it gave me a sense of being part of something bigger and gave me a great network of people that inspire me. That many teenagers coming together in one weekend was so hectic and busy- but it was really fun, and all the memories from this conference will always put a huge smile on my face.

“We are the future”



THERESE STEFFENSEN

You will be okay



Am I wrong?

My alarm clock yelled at me. It was time to get ready for school. I stretched my arms and rolled over the bed. The mattress made a funny noise as I got up. I walked over to my cupboard and took my school uniform out. I laid it down on the bed and stared at it for a while. "Finally school time." Whenever I talk about school, I feel disgusted. For the whole of October and November I am in the hospital. I was supposed to be in school to learn and play with classmates and friends. It should've been a fun time- but not for me, there's never any fun. I was bullied.

I went to a new school in August, I used to love it. It had a wonderful environment and nice facilities. The teachers were nice and kind, everything was perfect.

I was really nervous before I met my classmates.

I'm a shy girl so I didn't talk much with my new classmates after I met them. Maybe that's why they think I am a freak.

1 week after I came, I was still alone. I had no friends. I went to library on my own and I played alone. I was always alone. I was always the one who got left behind when there was group work in class and they slowly started to stop having any form of communication with me. I felt bad, really bad.

2 weeks later; I started hearing some girls in class talking about me in a negative way. I started to think that I was doing something wrong. They often glared at me in a disgusted way. I hated the way they stared at me- it was creepy and "cold". They always looked at me with those demon eyes.

Around the middle of September, they started to make fun and doing pranks on me. Sometimes there would be a frog inside my lunch.

Sometimes they would spit on my homework and throw it away through the windows and sometimes they would pour water on my chair or pull it away when I wanted to sit down. They would always make fun of me for no reason.

I started to think a lot; I started to become anxious. I was scared of what they would do tomorrow. I started to cut myself with a sharp scissors. I started to question my life, asking myself “what did I do wrong?”. Day by day, my mental and physical conditions started to collapse. My parents are too busy with work so they didn’t even notice what was happening to me.

Finally, I was taken to the hospital, because my teacher witnessed that I was cutting myself in class. I was diagnosed with severe depression and severe anxiety disorder. I had to stay in the hospital because of my disease. They forced me to meet with social workers everyday and answer their questions.

After a 2 months treatment, I didn’t feel any better but I was told to go back.

I always question myself when they stare at me; am I wrong for being a shy girl? Am I wrong for being a girl that is not good at socializing? Why would I be getting bullied for no reason?

Although it is winter- the classroom is full of warmth as people wear as much as they can to keep their bodies warm.

But no matter how many clothes I wear, that broken heart inside my body will never become warm again.

Bullying hurts everyone. Think about yourself and the person you’re inflicting it on.

Be more considerate and help people that need help.

Stop bullying!!

MIRELL LESKOV

Stereotypes

STEREOTYPES





Dear parents,

RIMUN 2019 is fast approaching and we can't wait! RIMUN is River's very own Model United Nations, created by and for students. Last year we held our first ever RIMUN conference and it was a huge success. We had students and schools from all across Europe, as well as a school from Ghana, all participating in our first ever edition of RIMUN. This year, we want to make RIMUN even bigger and better than it was last year, this is where we need your assistance. As we will be having students from across the globe coming to our school to attend this event; they will require temporary accommodation. If you would like to support us in this year's edition of RIMUN you may fill in the link below. RIMUN takes place from the 22nd of February to 24th of February.

At the end of conference, we hold a party to celebrate! By housing, your child is entitled to attend the RIMUN party for FREE! Regardless of them participating in RIMUN or not.

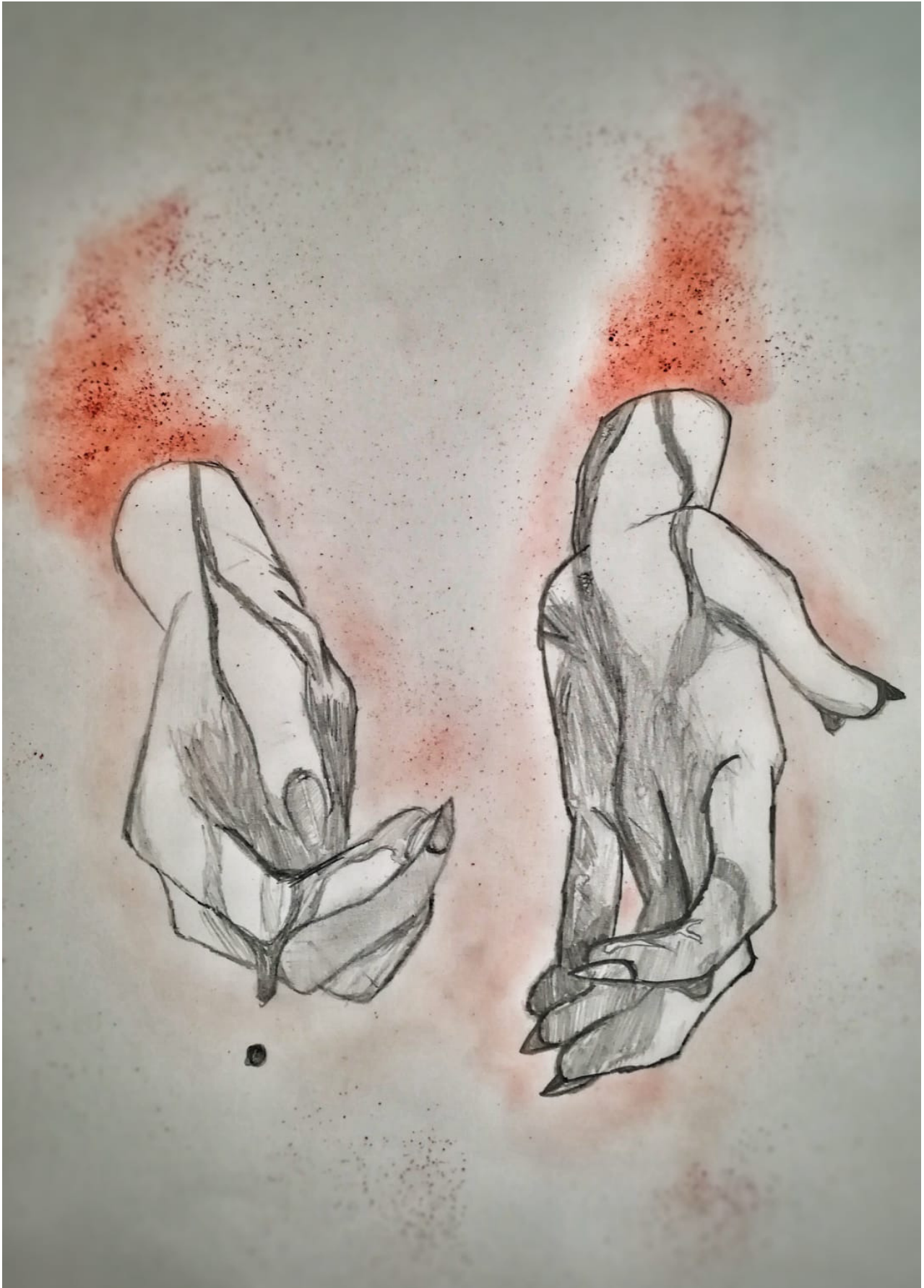
The Email for the housing team is: rimunhousing2019@gmail.com
Feel free to ask any and all questions.

If you would like to house, you may use the following link:
<https://bit.ly/2CPTZ50>

Kind Regards,
RIMUN 2019 Housing Team

FLEUR LUTTEKES

Hands





The 'best' work place

Sarah Stuttaford



Gourmet food served daily, ski trips across the United States, offices with rock climbing walls, salaries well over \$100,000, and an indoor slide? Who wouldn't want to work at Google? With all the perks they offer, majoring in computer science suddenly seems much more appealing. Even idolized dream jobs such as this, have their downfalls. Recently, sexual harassment allegations have arisen against Google employees. With reports ranging from degrading comments to being dragged away from company events, people have united to protest this repulsive behavior.

Sexual harassment claims and unequal pay are not new to Silicon Valley. Only one-fourth of jobs are held by women, placing a further burden on them. Sexism is prevalent throughout the workplace, where stereotypes create obstacles that seem impossible to overcome. Meetings and decisions can be made outside of the office, and women are often left out or feel uncomfortable, like meeting at a strip club to discuss projected revenues of the next product. The normalization of sexism is disgusting and only helps to proliferate the gender pay gap and sexual harassment within companies like Google.

With this readily accepted behavior, these claims only caught the attention of the media due to the large scale reaction. Within twenty-four hours of announcing a protest on social media, employees from Asia, Europe, and the US joined to rebel. The massive walkout and plethora of stories shared by victims demonstrate the urgency to one day achieve gender equality. Google has denied claims of inaction, but the attention of the walkouts may just evoke enough compassion to incite change. Women should feel safe where they work. Men should feel safe where they work. Everyone should feel comfortable when they walk into the office but that can't happen when the fear of sexual assault lurks in the back of employees' minds. We must protect our voices rather than silence them, creating a world where we accept differences instead of sexual assault.

Think with 

Lost

AENGUS SCHULTE

As I walk, all around me, giants,
With bark for skin and branches for arms,
Their leafy fingers reaching over me,
Touching, embracing, like lovers' hands,
Their gentle rustling the only sound
But for the glorious trill of birdsong
And the chuckling of the stream.
Lost, in the great wilderness of the forest.

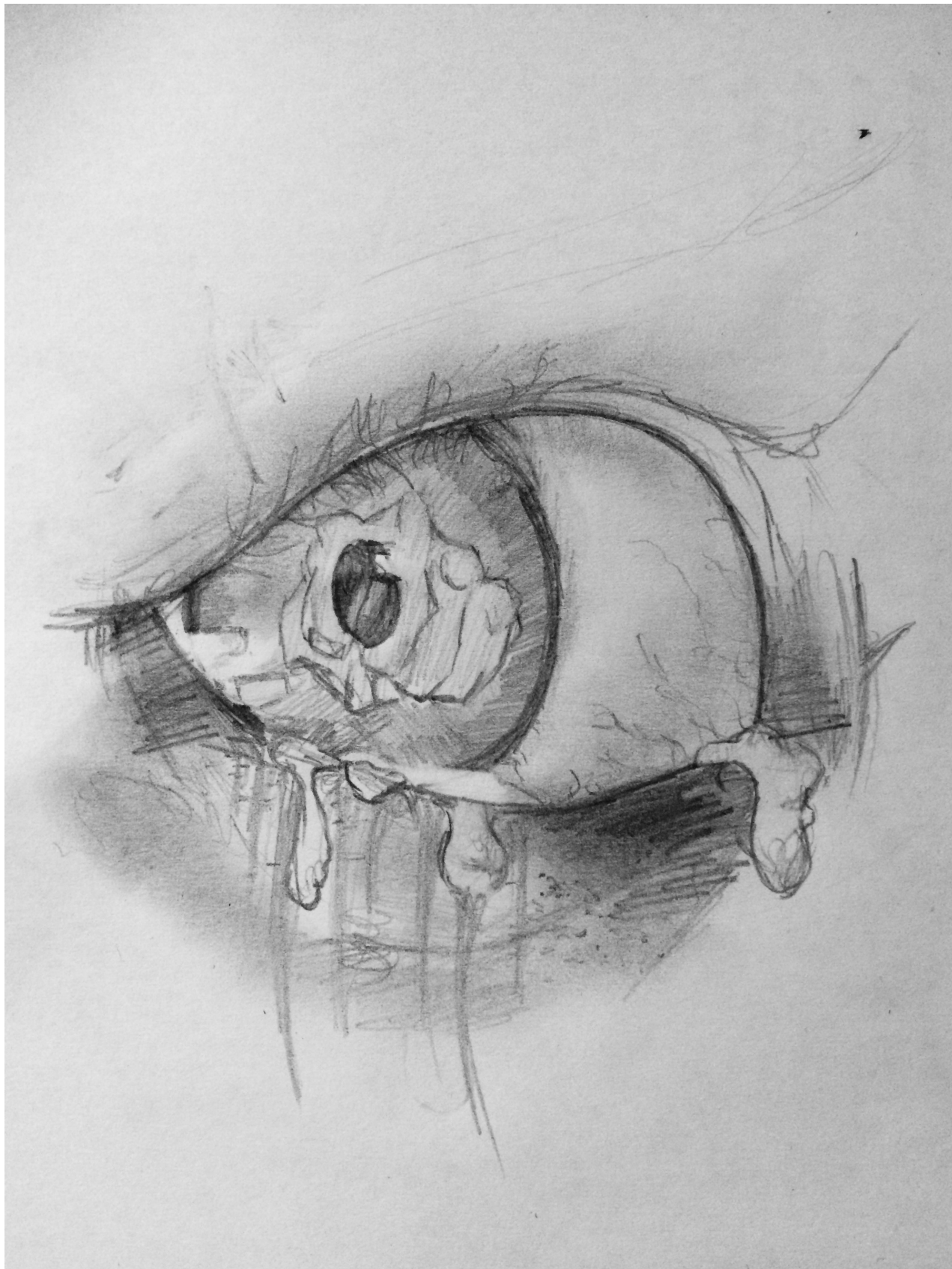
The great roaring of the waves,
Collapsing on top of themselves,
Stirring the sand into pictures
Of my imagination,
Reflecting the grey ceiling in the tumultuous waters,
Stretching as far as the eye can see,
Until sea and sky combine.
Lost, on the edge of the infinite.

The bitter rock, hard under my feet,
Furious at the trespasses of man,
Strives to release itself from the ground,
Muscles heaving, straining.
The cruel, biting wind,
Racing over the back
Of our Mother.
Lost, on the skin of the Earth.

Memories, thoughts, feelings,
Moments gone by, and yet to come,
Times, places;
Words, pictures;
Fiction, reality;
Real, false;
Forest, Sea, Sky, Earth.
Lost, in the endless labyrinth of my mind.

MIRANDA RATLIFF

Eye



The Boosting Club

The boosting club is about providing **free** and **private** tutoring by and for students right here in our school.



Are you in **MYP 4/5** or in the **DP** and need help with a subject?

Or are you a **DP1** or **DP2** student willing to help fellow students out with a specific subject you're good at?


(It counts as **CAS**)

Get in contact with me:

- at this email; jonah.smans@outlook.com
- ask your teacher to contact me
- walk up to me in school

Include the subject you want help with and make sure to share your **timetable**.

Jonah Smans, the head of the boosting club



From the
Newspaper, we
wish you have a
happy

Halloween,
Diwali,
Thanksgiving,
&
Mawlid-al-Nabi

AND ENJOY THE REST OF FALL!

Rivers Chronicles' Members



Dominique Wagemaker, DP 2
Head of Newspaper



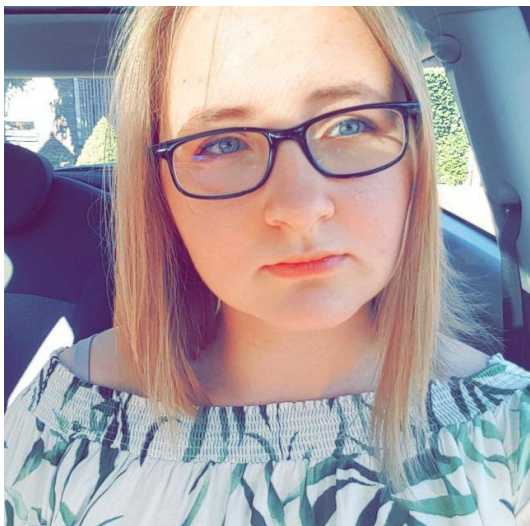
Faatimah Clark, DP 2
Editor & Journalist



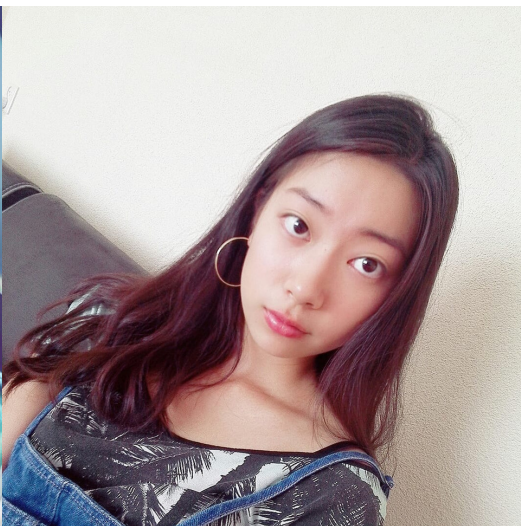
Diamonique Oseana, DP 2
Journalism & Photography



Akke Houtsma, DP 2
Journalism, Editor & Layout



Therese Steffensen, DP 2
Journalism



Ziyue Zeng, DP 2
Editor



Jonah Smans, DP 2
Editor



Maja Balogh, DP 1
Editor



Aengus Schulte, DP 1
Editor & Journalism



Mirell Leskov, DP 1
Journalism & Art



Esra Verspui, DP 1
Editor



Sarah Stuttafod, DP 1
Editor & Journalism



Fleur Luttekens, MYP 4
Art & Photography



Emma Ajayi, MYP 4
Journalism



Aava Määttä, MYP 4
Art, Layout, Journalism & Photography



Kaye Tsoi, MYP 4
Art & Photography



Meenal Guntuboyina, MYP 3
Journalism

Not Pictured:

Miranda Ratliff, MYP 4 - *Art*

Neha Bogavarapu, MYP 4 - *Art*

Lucy Nugent, MYP 2 - *Art*

Kata Balogh, MYP 2 - *Art*

Sarah Al Farhat, MYP 2 - *Art*

John Mannion, DP 1 - *Editor & Layout*

With Special thanks to:

Sander Hordijk