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From: Queer Resource Center <qrc71817@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Apr 5, 2010 at 9:47 AM

Subject: Walker Wall: A Response from the Queer Resource Center

To:

To all members of the
Claremont Community,

Please be sure to share the
following statement with your friends, colleagues and others who may not have
received it:

The
queer community and its allies are shocked, angered and embarrassed at the
defacement of Walker Wall that took place Saturday night, April 3, 2010, during
Beer Scavenger Hunt. This vandalism happened just hours after two days of labor
and QRC resources were put into launching the Queer Resource Center's Gaypril
events. Last April, when the QRC painted a rainbow on Walker Wall, it remained
untouched for more than a full month. Clearly, members of the Claremont
community understood the significance of this production. On April 3rd of this
year, the whole of Walker Wall was painted over with slogans and slurs that
were not only homophobic, but also racist and sexist.

The morning after the vandalism took place, red plastic cups, cans of
spray-paint, and tubs of paint were left near the wall for Pomona grounds
keeping to clean-up. This action is indicative of the racism, sexism,
homophobia, and class privilege that permeate the student culture here. This
event is not simply drunken students making an unfortunate choice, but rather
part of a longer tradition of racism, sexism, homophobia, and classism in and
outside of the colleges. Though the perpetrators may not recognize these
legacies in Claremont, the community members targeted by these events do. That
some groups did not write their names on the wall shows that anyone
participating could have done the same.

It is not the responsibility of the queer community and the QRC to repaint the
wall and sweep this incident under the rug. If Claremont becomes unsafe for
certain groups, covering or hiding it will not help. If there is going to be
any event in response to this, the QRC—busy with its own events this April—
does not want to expend additional time and resources doing damage control. We
urge that the perpetrators of this vandalism accept responsibility and respond
with action.

In
solidarity,
QRC
staff and allies