



NPC Position Statement on Right of Association as Women’s Only Organizations

The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), one of the world’s largest organizations advocating for women, is the umbrella group for 26 inter/national sororities. NPC supports the right of association through its governance documents known as Unanimous Agreements. Unanimous Agreement IX reinforces the right to associate.

NPC’s 26 member sororities exist, and have existed throughout their history, as women’s-only private social organizations.

NPC values its ability to remain an independent voice for women. Through recruiting, educating and initiating sorority members, women are supported as they uphold both the ideals stated in the NPC Panhellenic Creed and the ideals of their individual member organizations.

The U.S. Congress recognized in Title IX of the Education Act Amendments of 1972 that the membership practices of social fraternities and sororities are excepted from the prohibition contained in Title IX against gender discrimination in education programs or related activities.

The U.S. Supreme Court also has affirmed that the “right to freedom of association is a right enjoyed by religious and secular groups alike.”

In addition, according to Unanimous Agreement X, each College Panhellenic Association shall denounce participation of undergraduate Panhellenic women in auxiliary groups to men’s fraternities and in men’s primary recruitment activities.

[Adopted: 2014; Affirmed: 2018]