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Post Script from York U

BRITTANEY CARON, ALYSSA TEEKAH AND MELANIE REDFORD

Three years after the activities in the preceding article took place, the culture of violence at York University persists. According to an article in York's student newspaper, *Excalibur*, dated September 23rd, 2009, "Since January 2007, there have been 15 reported sexual assaults and 10 reported assaults causing bodily harm on campus, according to York security logs. Campus alerts have been issued for only 20 percent of them" (Birukova). Another assault was then reported in Bethune residence on November 19, 2009 (Kwan). A few months later, on April 21, 2010, a woman, a York community member, was raped by

three men just outside of the York campus. This sexual assault became the "straw that broke the camel's back" for student feminist activists. Sexual assault is a problem for many university campuses, and York, like many other universities, seems to have fallen short of developing effective preventative measures, and adequate response and security. This indicates what might be perceived as an overall indifference on the part of the administration to the severity and impact of sexual assault for the entire student body, as well as for teachers and staff members.

Following this last attack, a group of students of which we were part,

decided to mobilize. On an evening in May of this year a coalition of York students and non-York allies assembled and organized an event that had multiple goals. Like other feminist, anti-racist, anti-oppression students before us, we sought to provide safe walks home from the campus (given by volunteers in teams of two), and to inform students about the culture of violence that we perceive as being indirectly perpetuated by the administration. We took to the campus to occupy space, to show the administration that students have a voice that will not be silenced, to protest that our tuition fees are not being put to proper use, and to make it clear that our sisters (and brothers) who have been directly and indirectly affected by sexual violence have our support. We wanted to show that rape is not simply something women should be