

I'm The Rev. Perrin Radley, a retired Episcopal priest, & returned when I retired, with my wife, to live in the house in Burleith I first moved into in 1948. It was a typical neighborhood then: families owned the houses, & they carefully kept up their properties; children of all ages played on the lawns & sidewalks. There were medical students. But apart from coming & going to class or the hospital, they were rarely seen & never heard.

It was a rude awakening when we moved back to Burleith in 1999. And how difficult it was then I had the opportunity to testify about back when Georgetown University unveiled its 2000 plan.

Since that time there have been changes in some things; but in one all-important matter, no change at all.

After four or five years of student behavior I wouldn't want to describe here, for propriety's sake, during the past four years, my wife & I have noticed an improvement in our life on 37th & R Streets. Rudeness from students has been replaced by a greater civility; I've needed to pick up fewer red beer cups & beer cans. Urination, at least on our property, is, so far as we know, something of the past. Rats still make their way up & down the alleys; but the trash is more often than not placed, where it should be, in receptacles.

I can only speak of our experience. Others have different stories to tell of weekends that are more like ones we experienced earlier in the decade. And, of course, the peace we're experiencing right now could be shattered at any point. Everyone who lives in Burleith must reckon with this possibility. And you need to know that it's with the aid of a white noise machine that we go to sleep every night. The sound of Yosemite Falls protects us from all but the loudest & most drunken of voices.

But while these changes please us, something else still rankles. Georgetown University, in its relations with its neighborhoods, practices every apparent cordiality, while at the same time behaving very differently behind the scenes. We can never allow ourselves to let down our guard & imagine that we're being offered transparency, even though the various people sent to deal with us promise to listen, & offer sympathy. For it's clear that rather than listening, GU always pursues its own interests without regard to its neighbors. And as if this weren't enough, it's all presented to us with a tone of *noblesse oblige*.

Sirs: we neighbors are tired of being patronized. We're tired of being smiled at & plotted against behind our backs. It's not a level playing field we're playing on; in fact, I think we're often playing different games.

Trust has always been a great virtue in the Jesuit understanding of education; & how I wish the university would use it outside the campus.

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia

CASE NO. 10-32
EXHIBIT NO. 206