Marilyn & Victor Reis
1804 37th St. NW
Washington, DC
20007

July 9, 2000

Ms. Shelia Cross-Reid, Director
Board of Zoning Adjustment, Suite 10
441 Fourth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Cross-Reid,

We have been residents of the Burleith Community for 16 years. In that time we have been confronted with student-life problems on a continual basis. Many is the night and early morning we have had to call the police to break up loud parties. I used to grow ornamental grasses but when one student cut them all down, I gave up. They had used the garden as a latrine, anyway, when during parties, they did not have enough bathroom capacity for the 80 or 100 people that usually gather for parties. Our Burleith homes are modest and cannot accommodate the 6 or sometimes 8 people landlords cram into them to make a profit from the rents they charge. 6 students generate a lot of trash. 6 students in these living together usually don't take responsibility to mow the lawn or clean up the property. 6 students generally play loud music. Multiply 6 students dwelling in multiple houses along the block and you can see what kind of a neighborhood Burleith has become.We are zoned residential but absentee landlords have almost over-turned Burleith'into a business zone with their investments in houses for students. Half the houses in Burleith are student-group houses instead of single-family homes..

There are just so many problems with Georgetown students and Georgetown University. We've worked many years to convince the University to house its students on campus. Now, they want to increase their enrollment and jeopardize the gains that will be made when they open their new dorm. We are opposed to any increase in enrollment. We also oppose Georgetown University realigning Entrance No. 1 with 38th Street and we oppose the use of only four categories to identify the uses of the buildings on campus. The reasons for our opposition are basic. If they realign the entrace at 38th Street, they will increase traffic flow in our neighborhood. If they can decrease the categories identifying the building uses on campus, they will have more flexibility and less official control over how they manage their campus uses.

We've become very suspicious of Georgetown over the years, sad to say, that a major religiously oriented school of higher learning should be so untrustworthy. They have not been responsible in their stewardship of the students they accept to the school. There have been repeated and tragic incidences of alcohol abuse and so many other problems that they have promised to address and haven't. Therefore, based on their past behavior we cannot expect to trust the University with an expansion of their school enrollment or almost any thing else they want to do to ease the mis-use of their physical plant.

Sincerely,

Marilyn A. Reis

Marilyn A. Reis

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BZA
Case No. 16566
Exhibit No. 66

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16566
EXHIBIT NO.66