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2001 APR -3 PM 2:42

Board of Zoning Adjustment

RE: Northwest Church of Christ

Dear Madams/Sirs:

I write this letter to you in complete opposition to the Request for a Zoning Variance at 1305-1307 Irving Street by the Southwest Church of Christ.

Over 40 years ago my single mother bought this house in a community full of families bordered by a vibrant commercial corridor. After the riots, most of those families and business were forced to move and we became the victims of abandonment, drug sales, prostitution and overwhelming violence. I have many neighbors who work with me to help make this a safe block, but never was one of those helpers, the Southwest Church of Christ or any of its members.

Since 1987, we have lived next door to a group residential home for girls. We already endure sleepless nights while they argue, the police come and go because of their various incidents, trash is thrown in our yard, girls climb out of the windows to meet other teenagers and frequently they run away. The Church does not do anything to help us manage 15 girls, how can it take on another 700? With the addition of another "community service" center one house away, I will be completely unable to enjoy any peace and quiet in our own home.

I am now a senior citizen and I am unable to have a good night's rest. After 30 years of working to teach and care for children, I still volunteer as an educator. I need the sanctity of the home my mother and I worked so hard to get and maintain. We need the vacant houses occupied by people who will restore the property for families who will help pay the taxes and take care of it.

Please do not allow this variance to go forward.

Sincerely yours,

Greta P. Brown

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BZA
Case No. 16650
Exhibit No. 46

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16650
EXHIBIT NO.46