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October 17, 2000

Ms. Cross Reed,
Chair,
DC Board of Zoning Adjustment,
441 4th Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms. Reed:

RE: BZA Application No. 16566
Georgetown University 2000 Campus Plan

This letter is written to support Georgetown University's 2000 Campus Plan

My wife, Faith, and I and our now 19 year old grandson, have lived at our present address since April 1991. This scholastic year of 2000/2001 if any students –or young professionals -- are living in houses close-by, they have not disturbed us at all.

Please note the category "young professionals" was purposely put in this context.
These are the graduate students and their peers in the early 20s in their first professional positions in government, law firms, non-profits, lobbyists, etc. We have had some of these as neighbors in the past, and their parties can be noisy.

From what has been seen and heard from neighbors, Georgetown University faculty and administrators have instituted this fall very proactive steps to identify the group houses
and individuals disturbing the peace and causing other incidents in the Burleith, Georgetown and other nearby areas. These are:

>the very effective "hot line" for neighbors to report incidents to the University;
>the new quick response vehicle of the University, plus University Public Safety unit patrols, which go immediately to the scene of the reported disturbance.

It is understood the University "hot Line" night staff works closely with the 2nd District MPD to insure police response to such calls and to identify persons involved in such incidents. Also, this year it appear the University has/is taking quick administrative action against students alleged to have caused disturbances.

Georgetown University's fall semester has been in session now just under two months.
During the first three weeks of September we did hear almost nightly, laughing/loud talking young voices passing our house between midnight and 3 a.m. Two things were assumed: - they were students going to and from Georgetown night spots. Now, almost 7 weeks into the fall term, students received results of their first tests! And, just as in years past, week nights now are quieter. (If memory holds, it was the same in the 1930s/40s!)

Ms. Reed, the undersigned does not support the views of the several groups of residents of the area just outside the walls of Georgetown University, that insist the University:

>MUST house ALL undergraduate students;
>is responsible for ALL misdeeds of every Georgetown University student

at all times off-campus, from non-registration of out-of-state cars, piling trash in the alley behind "group house", to more serious offenses.

The University has and is promulgating vigorously this semester, a code of conduct for students. But, the University should not be held responsible for what 17-22 year olds do off-campus. The "hot line" and the University's proactive response to alleged student incidents are steps in the right direction toward bettering "town and gown" relations.

My main objective in writing this letter, Ms. Reed, is to have the residents in the town consider Georgetown University a neighbor, not their enemy.

Rec'd Oct. 20 P 2:14 EB

BZA
Case No. 16566
Exhibit No. 209

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.99-10
EXHIBIT NO.60

CASE NO. 99-10
EXHIBIT NO. 60

A major problem in undersigned's mind is the "group house." Only enforcement of District ordinances by the District can regulate these festering sores in the neighborhood. Residents blaming the University for "group house" resident's acts is unrealistic. The situation should improve if District authorities could det4ermine:

>are occupancy limits kept?
>are house up to sanitation code for number of occupants?
>is trash removed from property and vermin control procedures enforced?
>are District ordinances on vehicle licensing and inspection enforced?
>are rent control ordinances being enforced?

Ms. Reed, our thanks to you and BZA members for any consideration given to the above.

Sincerely yours,

G.F.McGreevy, Jr.