

H.40: An act relating to nonconsensual removal of or tampering with a sexually protective device.

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Students against institutional violence is a student-run organization devoted to creating a safe and healthy environment for all students. As a group, SAIV combats sexual violence, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and other discriminatory behaviors through public education and activism.

This organization supports the passage of H.40.

It is our position that “stealthing,” or the non-consensual removal of protective devices during sex, is sexual assault and that consensual sex under false pretenses is non-consensual and should be illegal.

No one should have to explain to their parents why they need money for a pregnancy test and urinary culture because their sexual partner promised to use protection and did not.

One could not imagine the fear or pain experienced sitting in the doctor’s office and having to verbally explain again how they were taken advantage of, or how it felt to wait for more results, not knowing if life has been irreversibly changed.

It is humiliating, it is painful, it can change lives, and it is isolating. It should be illegal.