



[Mary Koenig](#) · UNC

I don't even know where to start talking about all of the clear and problematic misunderstandings, misinformation, and misogyny in this article. Whoever wrote it clearly has no idea about the dynamics of abusive relationships, the power relations between men and women in our society, our overwhelmingly victim-blaming culture, or the inadequacy of UNC's "internal court" in making decisions about the "merit" of evidence in cases like those of rape or sexual assault.

How could "repeated" sexual assault occur? Easy - most women are raised in a culture that unavoidably indoctrinates them with the notion that they must please men sexually, and men are raised with a sense of entitlement to sex from women. This power dynamic can play out in any number of ways, any number of times, throughout a relationship before a woman realizes that ...what is happening is truly abuse, rather than the "natural order of things," like she has been taught. Anyone who has even the most basic knowledge about abusive relationships knows that abuse is not always easy to recognize, and never easy to get out of, even for a university student who apparently has a multitude of resources (hmm, including the ones Gambill tried to use?) at her fingertips to make it "perfectly clear" that she no longer wants to see her abuser. I'd say bringing charges against him is a pretty good way of making it clear that she no longer wants to see him, but perhaps the author of this article would disagree.

How could a woman let "three weeks" go by before accusing her attacker (since apparently there's a three-week time limit that we've decided on here)? Because, once again, it's not that simple. There are serious issues at play that go completely unacknowledged here. Three weeks can easily pass while a woman debates whether or not she is "crazy" or at fault for her abuse (an idea that may be propagated by our generally sexist society, the abuser himself, victim-blaming attitudes like those expressed in this article, and any other of a host of societal and individual sources), while she decides how to prosecute or whether it is even worth it (which, judging by how Gambill has been treated by the court, by , and by articles like this one, is a very valid concern), and as a student, as she writes papers, takes midterms, and tries to keep her life, friendships, family relationships, and academic status afloat.

What could her ex-boyfriend have done if she made it clear that she didn't want him around? Well, for starters, he could threaten her, stalk her, and harass her... which he did. Once again, the author of this article demonstrates no understanding or desire to understand the power dynamics between men and women. It is just not that simple for

a woman to "leave" an abuser, especially one who potentially has her phone number, address, and multiple ways to find her, and has made threats to her personal safety. It would be nice to think that our University's authorities would take these threats seriously and find a way to ensure the safety of Gambill and other women who have been threatened. Furthermore, even on a larger campus like UNC's, Gambill likely had to see her abuser on a weekly or daily basis.

Finally, how does Gambill's activism on behalf of victims of sexual assault on campus approximate anything close to evidence against her claim of her own sexual assault? Is the only credible "victim" (since apparently "survivor" is a mantle only afforded to those women who were visibly physically attacked or held at gunpoint in plain sight of bystanders and who successfully brought a case against their attackers) of sexual assault a "shrinking violet"? Does a woman need to be shy in order to be considered a valid victim of sexual abuse? Does she need to be a heterosexual "housewife bound to a husband with three kids" for her case to be credible? See More

[February 26 at 4:26pm](#)



[Addison A Evans](#) · UNC

excellent analysis mary!

February 26 at 4:38pm



[Britt Sikora](#) · [Research Assistant \(RA\)](#) at [UNC Peer Lab](#)

Well said

February 26 at 4:38pm



[Jannine Sarah Humphrey](#) · [Resident Advisor](#) at [UNC Department of Housing and Residential Education](#)

I don't even have the heart to respond to this absurdity, but I will say this: this article proves the need for women's and gender studies (and by extension AFAM/Latina/o etc. studies) because clearly people don't get it, which perpetuates not only "social issues" but the acceptance of violence because women need to follow steps a-z to be taken "seriously" about actually serious allegations.

February 26 at 5:11pm



[A Voice for Men](#)

I have read many articles about this case. This is the first one I have read that even approaches being balanced. This woman was not raped. Even in an honor court, where the standard of proof is the "preponderance of the evidence" not "reasonable doubt" the accused was exonerated. In that kind of setting that speaks directly to the fact that she was not credible.

And now she wants to bully the honor court into dropping charges by alleging that the school under reports sexual assault. This coming from the woman who didn't even go to the police to report what she calls multiple incidents of rape and other forms of abuse. What a load of BS.

I see that some of the comments are calling you misogynistic for writing this. That is what happens when you weigh facts instead of joining the mob with a pitchfork and a torch.

In other words, good job.

[7 hours ago](#)



[Duncan Crickett](#) · Top Commenter · [Auckland, New Zealand](#)

Its amazing the number of people who just throw around the word "misogynistic". I mean, how is this article misogynistic? At all? Its the word feminists use whenever something comes up that doesn't agree with their seriously warped worldview.

6 hours ago



[Ryan Amos Moses](#)

"The Feminine Values are now the values of America. Sensitivity is more important than truth. Feelings are more important than facts. Commitment is more important than individuality. Children are more important than people. Safety is more important than fun"
-Bill Maher

5 hours ago



[Toru Yuhara](#)

I wonder how the mother of Gambill's "victim" feels about all this, as this mentally unstable woman continues to make baseless allegations against her beloved son. I would love to read an article written by her at AVfM (anonymously of course, to protect the identify of the accused man).

5 hours ago



[Megan Carroll](#) UNC

I'm not even going to address the issue of the honor court in my comment. Although I think a great a clear opinion can be found here:
<http://shoulddoes.com/i-stand-with-landen-i-stand-with-the-honor-system/>.

The issues that I want to discuss are the blatant victim-blaming and ignorant comments made by the author. The first problem is when he says that Landen is not a survivor because she was not physically harmed and disfigured with a knife by her assaulter. Any person (man or woman) who has been sexually assaulted in any way is a survivor. Of course there are degrees of assault, but that does devalue anyone's assault. They all survived through an attack that should not have happened to them. This attack is never the survivors fault, even though our society seems to think so.

Another issue is that fact that the author blames L...anden for staying in the physically abusive relationship. Contrary to popular belief, it is not easy to walk away from an abusive relationship. No, she was not tied down to this man with children, but he could have lived in her same building or had control of her financial situation. She also could have felt that she would be threaten or stalked if she left (and this did happen). There are so many reasons why women stay in abusive relationships and it is not our job as a society to judge them for

staying.

Society needs to work on the rape and victim blaming culture. A woman is never asking to be assaulted or to be abused by her partner. We need to work on educating people to be allies and advocates for survivors instead of blaming them.

If any UNC students want to get involved in becoming an ally, I strongly recommend that you get One Act (<http://safe.unc.edu/get-involved/one-act/>) or Haven trained (<http://safe.unc.edu/get-involved/haven-training/>). Rape does happen here at Carolina, but you can help to do something about it. See More

[Wednesday at 8:06pm](#)



[Alexander Baron](#) [Top Commenter](#) [London, United Kingdom](#)

So your position is that anytime a woman accuses a man of rape or any other sexual offence on no evidence at all, he is guilty, right?

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/318994>

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/322221>

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/324017>

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/338762>

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/329860>

welcome to the real world

Wednesday at 9:19pm



[Colleen Fisher](#) South Point High

Clearly, date rape isn't legitimate rape. Let's just forget they constitute the substantial majority of rape cases. Maybe this guy should have looked up the definition of the word "rape" before writing an entire article about it.

Wednesday at 9:25pm



[Joanna Steele](#) [Legal Assistant at Law Office of Matthew Charles Suczynski](#)

I could build a thesis of this comment alone

Wednesday at 9:41pm



[Harriet Jane](#) · University of Edinburgh

This misogynistic piece of diatribe clearly owes nothing to research and everything to the aforementioned hysteria of the internet. A cursory glance at the profiling of victims of sexual assault, rape or abuse will offer you a plethora of reasons as to why a woman (or a man) in an unhealthy relationship will stay in it regardless of whether they are tied down by marital bonds, a mortgage or 'three kids'. Moreover, since Mr Baron likes to cite cultural phenomena in his article, why don't we quickly reacquaint ourselves with the Jimmy Saville case, currently still filling the pages of worldwide newspapers. His is the role of the abuser, but an abuser that has already died and whose victims are only now speaking out. Are their allegations any less poignant just because they didn't

have the strength to report their abuse at the time? Rape or abuse is still rape or abuse regardless of the time between its occurrence and its report. It is still rape or abuse whether or not the incident is reported to the police within 'three weeks', three months or thirty-three years. If there is anything to be said for this article, it is that it is voices like these that maintain the huge number of unreported rapes and assaults as they reinforce the reprimanding tone that conveys 'victimisation' as 'guilt'.

[February 26 at 5:07pm](#)



[Michael Donelan](#) Top Commenter [University of Massachusetts Amherst](#)

If demanding evidence of a crime before judging the accused is misogynistic, then I am a misogynist.

February 26 at 5:51pm



[Ben Scavenger Noblit](#) [Head Slut at Slut factory](#)

Surprise surprise, you're from Amherst.

February 26 at 6:25pm



[Colleen Young](#) · [Follow](#) Following · [Los Angeles, California](#)

"rape, when it can be proved, is a serious offence"--But if it can't be proved it's totally fine, right? I hear it's really easy to prove rape. What an outrageous article.

February 26 at 6:47pm

[Guy Holder](#) Top Commenter

This is one of the most retarded things I've ever read.

· [February 26 at 1:31pm](#)



[Alexander Baron](#) Top Commenter [London, United Kingdom](#)

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welcome to the real world

Wednesday at 9:19pm



[John May](#) · UNC

Any potentially valid arguments you make are outright destroyed not simply by your assertions (can you provide evidence from UNC-CH students that this person's name is "common currency"? And how is this "claim" of yours any more valid than Ms. Gambill's?) but by the mention of two words; Daily Mail. Anybody with an ounce of brainpower knows never to engage with or cite that corporation. Then again, this article is almost as preposterous and insensitive as the Daily Mail - and that's really saying something.

[February 26 at 4:18pm](#)



[Lariah Ijames](#) UNC

This is disgusting.

February 26 at 4:28pm



[Alexander Baron](#) Top Commenter [London, United Kingdom](#)

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Wednesday at 9:19pm



John May UNC

Your comment makes no sense in relation to my point, but then I realised you just copied and pasted that to everyone. If you can't be bothered to engage in a discussion, why write such an inflammatory argument? Oh wait, because you're giving us a "straight [male, white, middle class, middle age, privileged]" look at rape.

Thursday at 3:04pm



Kelly Grace Watson · Works at Above and Beyond Catering

Did you actively try to make your article as ignorant and misogynist as possible? If so, job well done.

February 26 at 7:57pm



[Michael Donelan](#) Top Commenter [University of Massachusetts Amherst](#)

Instead of calling names, how about you tell us what he got wrong.

Wednesday at 1:47pm



[Alexander Baron](#) Top Commenter [London, United Kingdom](#)

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welcome to the real world

Wednesday at 9:19pm



[NC Fathers](#)

lets try this. An Allegation, no police report, no evidence, no witnesses, no investigation, found to be making false allegations, not whining on the Internet. Case closed. Its almost like the two of you WANT there to be a rape, so it can be used as a political and ideological prop.

· Yesterday at 12:27am



[Lauren Ehle](#) [Top Commenter](#) [Mitchell Community College](#)

It's funny that everyone calling Alexander Baron a misogynist are the same, and the only, people here making women out to be weak, powerless creatures. Very obviously, if she had filed a police report once she decided she had been raped (which took three weeks) then she could have taken that to the school and badda-bing badda-boom, he's suspended with a black mark on his permanent record. Unfortunately, she went to the board with nothing more than a "he said, she said" argument, which thankfully the school did nothing about.

Let's put this into simpler terms. Let's say that the boyfriend stole \$100 from her instead of raping her. Well, she decided not to report the money stolen until three weeks after the fact. Sketch, right? Then, there's the part where she willingly offered him \$100 during the course of the relationship, at least in the

beginning when things were new and exciting. But, after a while, she decided she wanted her money back, so she accuses him of stealing it. She tells the school and the school tells her to prove it. She can't, so she takes the matter public, which is a very clear violation of school policy. Bottom line: I'm very glad we have a non-sexist system where we don't take people's words based on their gender.

[Wednesday at 3:54am](#)



[Craig Hennigan](#) · Top Commenter · [Graduate Teaching Assistant](#) at [Wayne State University](#)

"he's suspended with a black mark on his permanent record."

LOL.. That's idiotic. Is that the penalty you suggest if she WAS able to prove the rape? No wonder women don't come forward.

Did you just compare a petty theft to rape? That's the goofiest analogy ever.

Wednesday at 1:47pm



[Lauren Ehle](#) Top Commenter [Mitchell Community College](#)

Craig Hennigan First off, the accused was found innocent, as she wasn't able to prove the rape. What proof do you have that she isn't faking this entire thing, by the way? That's not the penalty I suggest, that's the penalty he'd get from the school. Obviously, he'd face jail time and fines if he was found guilty by the legal system.

I made that analogy that to simplify it for people who seem to think that this crime should be handled differently because it is a "crime against women", as they're calling it. Rape is worse, but it should be handled in the same manner as any crime should be. No exceptions should be made to the rules, especially if there's no evidence supporting her claims.

Wednesday at 4:48pm



[Alexander Baron](#) [Top Commenter](#) [London, United Kingdom](#)

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welcome to the real world

Wednesday at 9:20pm



[Daniel Campbell](#) Top Commenter [Florida Tech](#)

Most of the comments on this article sicken me. Their total lack of any real logic or intellectual thought is ridiculous. She had no evidence and nothing of any substance to support her allegations and yet most of you are ready to string this guy up for a crime he may or may not have committed based simply on the word of some young woman who is known to have mental stability issues. Absolutely disgusting and morally outrageous.

How about you people try and use some logic. First separate yourself from the emotional heat of this issue and apply to same facts to a crime of similar magnitude or even greater. Lets work with the crime of assault with a deadly weapon. I walk up to a police station and claim that someone close to me has spent the past several months beating me with a baseball bat on a regular basis. I can tell him when it last happened but I can give no actual evidence nor do I have anyone who can say they saw it happen or saw me with any realy bruises or broken bones. There are no prevoius police reports, ER visits or 911 calls. Hmmm I bet at most the police would fill out a report and maybe talk to the guy. That is it, no inquisition and no trial. That is as it should be.

Please people put down your pitchforks and torches. Untie the noose and use some thought a reason-ability. Just because a young woman yells rape does not mean that any male she points at is automatically guilty of raping her!

[Edited](#) · [10 hours ago](#)



[Duncan Crickett](#) Top Commenter [Auckland, New Zealand](#)

Please tell me you're a member of AVfM. We need people like you.

6 hours ago



[Frank James Spencer](#) Top Commenter · [Melbourne, Victoria, Australia](#)

I think everyone should answer the question in the photo below, might make you all think twice...

https://fbcdn-sphotos-g-a.akamaihd.net/hphotos-ak-ash4/398801_10150788274589060_111326739_n.jpg

3 hours ago



[Ilona הנלע Saari Fleischer](#) · Top Commenter · [The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#)

If you have never been in an abusive relationship, you might think it's simple to leave. It's not. You do not "know" what you would do in such a situation if you have never been in one. Abuse in a relationship doesn't just suddenly start-it comes on slowly, and it can take a while to realize what is happening. I have been in that situation. If I had filed a complaint against him, I would be in Landen's situation.

Students in UNC's honor court (because sexual assault is the same thing as cheating on a test) were not trained at all to handle sexual assault cases. Landen's depression/PTSD and suicide attempt were somehow used to discredit her.

I challenge you to figure out how many UNC students actually know the name

of the man in question. I certainly don't, and I have been following this case pretty closely. If he is suffering from this story, please provide me with evidence. What is well-known is that Landen and several others are filing a Title IX complaint against the school. It's not that hard to draw a conclusion that the school wants her to stop giving them a bad name.

[February 26 at 6:38pm](#)



[Alexander Baron](#) [Top Commenter](#) [London, United Kingdom](#)

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welcome to the real world

· Wednesday at 9:20pm



[Marisa Gonzalez](#)

Your "response" does not take into account anything the commenter said. Are you actually reading the comments and then responding accordingly, or did you just come up with a blanket response and then post it in reply to every comment you disagreed with?

Wednesday at 9:22pm

NC Fathers
making reform
in the NC Courts
with NC Judges
and Legislators
to create a less
divisive family

[NC Fathers](#)

lets try this. An Allegation, no police report, no evidence, no witnesses, no investigation, found to be making false allegations, not whining on the Internet. Case closed. Its almost like the two of you WANT there to be a rape, so it can be used as a political and ideological prop.

Yesterday at 12:27am

