
TITLE IX REPORT

TO: Hearing Panel, Texas University

FROM: Jean Investigator

SUBJECT: Investigation re: Complaint 12345
JB Complainant
EB Respondent

DATE: October 1, 2020

COMPLAINT

On [date], the Title IX office received the following complaint:

To: Title IX Office

I need to report another student who is stalking me. Eliza Darcy has been following me around campus, lurking around my dorm and my classrooms, sneaking up on me in the dining hall, and yelling at me when I told her to stop. I told my RA today, and we called the police and told them about it. I wanted to also tell the Title IX office. I can't learn on a campus where I don't feel safe. Something has to happen; she has to leave me alone.

Sincerely,

Jane Bingley

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THIS REPORT

I have investigated this matter based on the University's stalking policy.

FACTS

Eliza and Jane are freshmen who had a Global Cultures class together and became friends. Both are from the same area in Virginia, but did not meet until they attended school here.

Eliza confided in Jane that she had had a difficult childhood with a dysfunctional family. While she was relieved to be away from her family, she also was having a hard time finding her place in a large college environment. Jane felt that Eliza was struggling and wanted to help her adjust.

The Global Cultures class planned a trip to Tepic, Mexico, in the state of Nayarit, over the Winter break, to spend time learning about the four indigenous populations of that area. Eliza suggested that she and Jane go on the trip. Jane agreed, thinking privately that it would be good for Eliza to have something to do other than go back to her family over the break. Several mutual friends and acquaintances also signed up for the trip, including Charles, Fitz, and Charlotte. During a

weekend on which no activities were planned, the five decided to take an early Saturday bus to Guadalajara to explore that city for the weekend.

By the third day of the trip, Jane was frustrated with Eliza, who seemed intent on flirting heavily with substantially everyone she met, regardless of age, gender, or apparent marital status, often in a highly suggestive manner. Her behavior resulted in clear signs of insult from the locals who were participating in the program and individuals the group met in the local area. At lunch on Friday, after the morning's session, Eliza became very intoxicated and stumbled back to her room with a few of the friends, vomiting along the way. Jane and Charlotte put Eliza in bed with a glass of water and left her sleeping.

Jane, Charlotte, Fitz, and Charles then went to a park, where they expressed mutual frustration with Eliza's behavior. Several hours after they left Eliza, she began texting Jane for details about the departure for Guadalajara. Still frustrated, Jane did not respond. Neither did the others in the group, who also got texts. After about an hour of texts, and a few calls from Eliza that Jane silenced, Jane texted Eliza that the group was uncomfortable about Eliza's blatant flirting, and wanted to be sure it wasn't going to continue on the planned weekend trip. Eliza's texts to Jane became strident, with Eliza denying she had behaved inappropriately. After several exchanges, Eliza accused Jane of being a terrible friend, jealous of her and the attention she got, and talking badly about her to others at school and on the trip. Jane stopped answering, and Eliza's texts became angrier, ending in "do what you want you selfish bitch dyke!"

In the morning, on the bus, Jane received a text from Eliza saying she was sorry for being rude the day before. Jane did not respond, and kept her distance from Eliza for the rest of the trip. Jane changed her Spring class schedule to drop a class with Eliza.

When school started again in the Spring, Eliza realized that Jane had dropped the class and sent Eliza a series of confrontational text messages. Within a week or two Eliza's messages changed to how much she was sorry, and saying she loved Jane and wanted to be close again. Jane responded once, saying she needed some space to process the things Eliza had said and done.

A week later, Jane got back to her room to find a handwritten note from Eliza on her nightstand. Eliza wrote at length about how upset she was about the change in their relationship, and how she couldn't sleep at night or concentrate in her classes. Jane did not respond, but discussed her concern over Eliza's mental state with her own resident advisor.

Jane then began seeing Eliza all over campus. Eliza would be in the hallway outside Jane's classes as they finished, or at events Jane attended. Jane began catching sight of Eliza in the lounge of Jane's dorm, although Eliza lived somewhere else and did not have any friends in the building. Some of Jane's friends and classmates, including Charlotte and Fitz, noticed and remarked on how Eliza always seemed to be around.

At the dining hall one late morning, Jane had just made it through the line and to the cashier when Eliza suddenly appeared and, reaching around Jane, inserted her own access card into the reader, saying "I'm buying breakfast for my good friend today!" Jane nearly dropped her wallet, and shouted "What are you doing?!? Why can't you just leave me alone?" Eliza shouted back, "ungrateful bitch! Why can't we go back to the way we were? What do I have to do to make you understand I love you and I'm sorry?! Why are you torturing me?!?" and stomped out of the hall.

Jane went straight back to her dorm and spoke with her RA, telling him that she felt unsafe and that she thought Eliza might hurt herself or Jane. The RA called the police, and Jane filed a

report and also reported the issue to the Title IX office of the school. The police visited Eliza that afternoon, and she denied the behavior Jane told them about, and told them she was perfectly fine. The officers told Eliza it was best if she didn't talk to Jane again.

Three days later, Charles saw an Instagram post from Eliza with Jane's picture, which showed Jane looking haggard and red eyed. Jane was almost, but not quite, unrecognizable. Eliza's comment on the post said "Losing sleep over the lies you told the cops about me? Guess you have a choice now. I can help make your life better again or let you rot. LMK bye." Fitz saw the post, too, and commented back, "Dude, stalkerland, uncool." Jane had blocked Eliza on all social media, so she did not see the post until Charles showed her a screen shot of it. By the time Jane looked again, the post was gone. Jane and Fitz both recognized the picture as one Eliza had taken while they were in Mexico, but Jane was healthy in appearance and reality in the original.

Jane immediately went back to her RA and the police, and filed a Title IX report. Texas University staff sent Eliza a notice of the report and investigation with a standard reminder that the process was confidential and should be shared only with specific individuals. Two days later, Fitz showed Jane Eliza's Instagram, which had a picture of the notice with "Happy now, Jane? What else will you do to ruin my life?" written across it.

CONCLUSION

Based on my investigation, Eliza stalked Jane.