1. **How do you define sexual violence? How do you think sexual violence is defined by Penn State administrators and/or in institutional discourse? Is this definition inadequate and, if so, how would you leverage your role to change it?**

 I would define sexual violence as any unconsented act of sexual nature placed upon an individual; this type of violence can take many forms, and one individual’s experience may be incredibly different than another individual’s. With that being said, it is important to identify the roots of the problem and how we can help prevent further acts of sexual violence from happening. I think a key problem lies in the fact that sexual violence, especially at Penn State, has become so common that it loses its sense of severity when reported to the students. It would be fair to say that Penn State administration has the same definition of sexual violence; however, what the administration has demonstrated is that as long as the act is reported, there is not much that can be done other than that. I would take action to make sure that students receive more information than just “Timely Warnings”, and I would reach out to other organizations to try and create a multi-layered platform in which students can demand more information, greater action to be taken by administration, and increased awareness of these heinous acts occurring on and around campus.

1. **What do you think Penn State (specifically administrators or governing bodies), or our local/state/federal government can do to decrease the incidence of sexual and relationship violence?**

The issue of sexual violence is one that is constantly seen in the news and media as a crime in which we cannot find a clear-cut solution to prevent these acts from occurring. However, this does not mean that there are no steps that can be taken in order to mitigate the risks and roots of the problem as a whole. Penn State currently requires incoming students to complete a short online-course detailing what sexual violence looks like and why it is a problem before they come to campus. The issue with this lies in the fact that students are not really retaining the material being presented, nor do they really care about what they are learning as much as they just wish to check this off of their pre-arrival checklist. With that being said, I think PSU could look at implementing a sexual violence seminar either within or separate from New Student Orientation activities. Seeing the information presented in-person elevates the seriousness of what is being discussed, and this would be a way to make sure that students are actually engaged with the material. This in-person seminar would help students know what to look for both in their own relationships and relationships of those around them. By creating more advocates against sexual violence, we could be protecting those who do not know that they are victims and those who are too afraid to speak out against what is happening to them.

1. **Do you plan to advocate for the aforementioned changes? If so, how?**

Yes, I would absolutely plan to advocate for these changes. It is simple to say that one will “meet with administrators'' regarding discussing an action plan for the issues. Instead, I would first meet with other student groups and organizations, especially the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, to create a presentation to show both to other students and faculty members. Working directly with the OFSL would help bridge the gap between student government and Greek Life, thus showing students that this is an issue demanding the attention of everyone. I think current administration tends to “turn a blind eye” towards the vast amount of sexual violence which occurs at this school. It is understandable why a school would not want “bad press”, but it is more important to realize that the safety of students is much more important than the media reporting on these issues. I would directly ask administrators what their rationale behind not doing more in terms of preventing sexual violence is, and hopefully, we would get to the root of the issue this way.

1. **What steps have you taken to bring anti-sexual-violence and/or social justice work into your education, workplace, and/or an organization that you have been involved with and/or personally become a better advocate?**

I have witnessed sexual violence firsthand and have had many friends who have been victims themselves. With that being said, this issue is incredibly important to me, and I plan to make it a key part mentioned within my platform. As a woman, it is important that I address this issue with the utmost seriousness and importance considering the fact that the majority of sexually violent crimes are committed towards females. However, I would be an advocate for ALL students, and I plan on being as approachable as possible when dealing with such a serious topic. I am a member of Greek Life, and whenever there are events discussing sexual violence/harassment, I make sure to attend and encourage my fellow Greek Life members to attend as well. Additionally, I am not afraid to ask administrators about what they have done, and what they have failed to do, regarding alleviating this issue, and if elected, I plan on being a devoted advocate for all of those affected by this issue.

1. **If elected, what organizations will you maintain relationships with? Will you start or maintain a relationship with anti-sexual violence organizations? If so, how?**

I plan on working with a number of student organizations to help mitigate this issue. What sets ma apart from other candidates in my direct connection with Greek Life since I am a member, and my desire to work with the OFSL, Panhellenic Council, and Interfraternity Council in order to create a well-rounded group of Greek Life-related students to enter the conversation regarding sexual violence. I would then work with other student organizations, including minority groups and organizations, to make sure there is diversity in representation and that we are hearing the opinions of all students. This would create a powerful group of students coming from all backgrounds, thus strengthening our presentations to administration and making it known that the current ways in which sexual violence is being handled are far from adequate.