

For Immediate Release

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National Alliance to End Sexual Violence Advocacy Director Ebony Tucker Provides Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee in Support of Dr. Ford

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Washington, DC — Today, Dr. Christine Blasey Ford bravely testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee about how Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh sexually assaulted and attempted to rape her in high school. Ebony Tucker, Advocacy Director at the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, provided testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee in support of Dr. Ford. Below are excerpts from Tucker's testimony and the full text is available <u>HERE</u>:

"My experience as an advocate, our collective experiences as advocates, is why we've consistently reiterated that Dr. Ford is not on trial. It is why we've insisted there be a comprehensive investigation. It's why we can't believe the Senate Judiciary Committee is not calling expert witnesses and eyewitnesses to testify. What more do we need as a society, in the era of the #MeToo movement, to do the right thing about sexual violence?"

"This past week has been very painful for survivors. Every time we question, ridicule and demean a survivor that comes forward, we hurt those who are living with the trauma of sexual abuse and discourage even more people from coming forward."

"We want all Senators and the nation to understand that this is much bigger than a single Supreme Court nominee. This is about the 15-year-old girl who finds herself hiding in the bathroom, terrified. She is thinking "Is this how I will be treated if I come forward?" And the 17-year old boy who finds himself emboldened to take without consent? He too is watching, and learning. What are we teaching them both?"

For more information or interviews, contact Terri Poore, terri@endsexualviolence.org.

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The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence is the voice in Washington for state coalitions and local programs working to end sexual violence and support survivors.