

# **Stop Our Silence Constitution**

Drafted in January 2013

## **Article I: Purpose**

Stop Our Silence is a student group created to promote initiatives for rape awareness and prevention. Our main event on campus is running the Vagina Monologues every year. V-DAY is a global movement to end violence against women and girls that raises funds and awareness through benefit productions of Playwright/Founder Eve Ensler's award winning play The Vagina Monologues. Stop Our Silence puts on a production of The Vagina Monologues every year to raise money and awareness to stop violence against women and girls. The proceeds from this event are donated directly to Emerge Global, an organization begun by an MIT alum targeted to help Sri Lankan girls who have survived abuse and sexual violence to become jewelry designers through a comprehensive curriculum that emphasizes personal discovery, leadership, and business knowledge.

## **Article II: Membership**

1. Any member of the MIT community is eligible to become a member of this organization. One is considered a member of this organization in any given academic term if she has attended at least one club activity and one meeting in the preceding or current term.
2. The organization's membership will at all times consist of at least 5 MIT students and be more than half MIT students.
3. This organization will not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in MIT's Nondiscrimination Statement.
4. If this organization charges any monetary dues, there will be exceptions made for students that cannot afford these dues.
5. Though anyone may be a member of SOS, only female-identified people may act in the production of the Vagina Monologues, as required by the V-Day organizations. People not identifying as female are welcome to help the production in other ways, including but not limited to directing, lighting, publicizing, and managing our website.

## **Article III: Officers**

1. This organization will have [*at a minimum*] two officers:
  - a. President/Producer (generally 1-2 people will share this position)
    1. The president shall be the official representative of the group to any other organization and to MIT.
    2. The president will preside over all meetings.
    3. The president is responsible for determining when meetings are and publicizing this to the group.
    4. The president is responsible for finding directors for the production, determining audition and production dates, reserving

rooms and tables, and moderating a number of other activities within the group.

- b. Treasurer (generally 1 person, but can be more as needed)
  1. The treasurer shall be responsible for the finances of the group.
  2. The treasurer is required to sign all checks/vouchers of the group.
2. All officers of this organization must be distinct persons and MIT students.
3. Elections:
  - a. Elections of officers shall occur within two months after the Vagina Monologues production. Potential officers should volunteer. If more than two people want to be producers or more than two people want to be treasurer, the matter will be put to a vote open to the entire production team and cast of the last year's production.
  - b. Any member of this organization is eligible to run for office.
  - c. Quorum for elections is two-thirds of the group.
  - d. Any member is elected if he or she wins a majority of the voting members.
  - e. The term of office runs from the election date (within two months after the production) until the next election cycle (once again, within two months after the production).
4. Removal: Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members.

#### **Article IV: Meetings**

1. Meetings shall be held at least a month after auditions and the cast list is decided, and once over IAP, and several times leading up to the production for rehearsals.
2. Meetings shall be presided over by at least one of the producers. If neither is available the meeting date will be moved.
3. All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of all members present.
4. Quorum for a meeting shall be one-quarter of the members of the organization.

#### **Article V: Amendments**

1. Amendments shall be presented by any member of the organization.
2. Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds voted of the members present.
3. Quorum for amending this constitution shall be two-thirds of all members of the organization.

#### **Article VI: ASA Governance Clause**

Stop Our Silence agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities, and its executive board. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to insure that they are in accordance with the aforementioned rules and regulations.