





WOMEN 08/30/2017 04:28 pm ET

White House Quietly Removes Sexual **Assault Report From Website**

The report was published in 2014 under the Obama administration.



By Alanna Vagianos



THE WASHINGTON POST VIA GETTY IMAGES

President Donald Trump glances back at the room as he departs after holding a joint press conference with President Sauli Niinistö of Finland on Aug. 28, 2017, in Washington, D.C.

The Trump administration recently removed a 2014 report on sexual violence from the White House website.

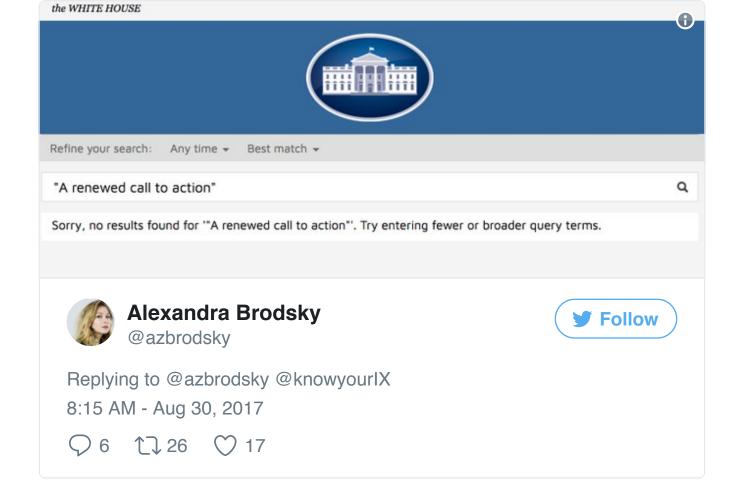
Alexandra Brodsky, a civil rights attorney and co-founder of anti-sexual violence organization KnowYourlX, noticed Wednesday morning that the "Rape And Sexual Assault: Renewed Call To Action" report had been taken down.

"I went looking for it because I'm working on briefing for a client who's a survivor and was looking for some literature about the impact of sexual violence and that's been a really helpful resource for that kind of research," Brodsky told HuffPost. "But it was no longer on the White House website. It's not *anywhere* on the White House website."

The report, which can <u>still be found on KnowYourlX's website</u>, was created under the Obama administration by the 2014 White House Council on Women and Girls in partnership with then-Vice President Joe Biden. The findings of the report consist mainly of nonpartisan facts about sexual violence including sexual assault statistics and different ways the criminal justice system and college campuses can improve in combatting sexual and gender violence.

Brodsky tweeted her discovery early Wednesday morning.



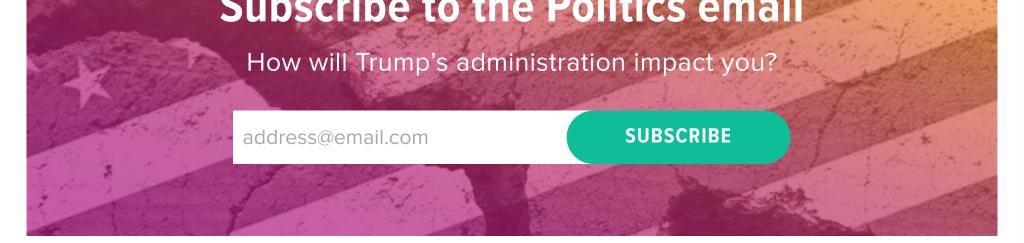


While Brodsky said she could only speculate on the Trump administration's motive to remove the report, she does believe it reaffirms the administration's blatant lack of concern to combat sexual violence.

"The report is titled 'A Renewed Call To Action' and taking it down is really a discouragement from action," Brodsky told HuffPost. "That's particularly troublesome when we know that the administration is actively considering <u>undermining important policies for survivors</u> like those reaffirmed by the Obama administration regarding Title IX."



HUFFPOST



HuffPost reached out to the White House for comment but did not hear back by the time of publication.

Brodsky likened the removal of the report to when the <u>climate change page disappeared</u> from the White House website a few days after Trump was elected.

"I think one of the reasons that that example comes to mind is because this is a report of facts and research," she said. "This is a summary of really important and, in some cases, government-funded work that was done to understand the causes and effects of sexual and gender violence. What does it mean that the Trump administration doesn't want the public to have that information?"

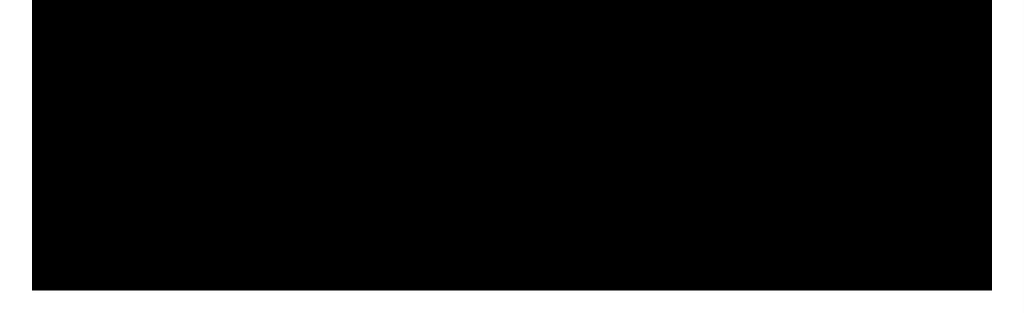
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