

KAVANAUGH-PROTEST

Attn: Local editors

Kavanaugh protesters call for his impeachment on the one-year anniversary of his confirmation

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WASHINGTON – Protesters lined up in front of the Supreme Court on Sunday to mark the one-year anniversary of Brett Kavanaugh being confirmed to the Supreme Court.

The protest, organized by Women’s March, Demand Justice, Center for Popular Democracy and more, was organized to “reclaim the court.” The premise of the event was to show that the Kavanaugh allegations were not going to be forgotten and that people are still trying to hold him accountable.

The protest was organized to include a series of speakers, including leaders from organizations such as Planned Parenthood and various representatives, who spoke to the masses in front of the steps of the Supreme Court.

Kavanaugh was elected on Oct. 6, 2018, after several women came forward with sexual assault allegations against him. One of the accusers, Christine Blasey Ford, was questioned in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The hearing, broadcasted across the country, was viewed by millions of citizens and caused outraged and protests.

Despite this, Kavanaugh was still appointed in a 50-48 vote. This sparked multiple protests on Capitol Hill in the days leading up to the confirmation, resulting in many protesters getting arrested.

The protest on Sunday honored those who protested a year ago, and also honored those that have experienced sexual assault, chanting, “We believe you!” in between speakers.

Among the speakers at the protest was U.S. Representative Ayanna Pressley, D. Mass., who spoke to the crowd and brought up the question of whether or not Kavanaugh lied under oath.

Pressley also made it clear that even while Kavanaugh is already confirmed, the allegations that Ford and others brought forward are still relevant and even called for Kavanaugh’s impeachment.

Among the protesters was Sage Levy, University of Maryland student. “I think Kavanaugh being confirmed sets a precedent that men who commit sexual assault are still fit to lead,” Levy said.

Levy continued to talk about how empowering it was for sexual assault victims to see protests like these still happening a year later, especially as a survivor of sexual assault herself.

“It upsets me that people are allowed to call out celebrities when sexual assault occurs but politicians and people in power are not called out,” Michael Purdie, a journalism student at the University of Maryland, said.

Purdie continued to question why politicians are not held accountable when events like these happen, especially as they are the ones creating the laws regarding sexual assault. Purdie was also angered by the fact that said politicians aren't enforcing the laws that they are creating on themselves.

"It's heartbreaking to watch women not be listened to or heard, or even trusted," Sophia Rubin, 18, said when talking about why she attended the Kavanaugh protest.

The Reclaim the Court protest against Kavanaugh spanned the majority of Sunday afternoon. Protestors, who eventually swarmed into the street and blocked traffic, continued to shout and chant into the evening, calling for Kavanaugh to step down or be impeached.