



SHENANDOAH™ UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Sciences

March 11, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Shenandoah University's Women's Studies Program has collaborated with the local women's shelter for years to not only raise awareness about sexual assault and violence against women, but to empower students and community members to take the issue as their own. It was not until we brought Kimleigh Smith's *T-O-T-A-L-L-Y!* to campus for the first time in April 2010 that we realized the power one night and one woman could hold. Kimleigh Smith became a legend on and off campus in 2010 that grew larger in 2012 and larger again in 2013

Kimleigh performed *T-O-T-A-L-L-Y!* to sold out audiences year after year at Shenandoah University's annual Take Back the Night. Audiences laughed, cried, cheered for Kimleigh's journey from victim to survivor to super woman – and most importantly, felt as if they knew that victim/survivor/super woman. *T-O-T-A-L-L-Y!* uses humor and raw honesty to break through taboos and shame associated with rape. Kimleigh got the audience to talk with an uninhibited openness that I have never experienced. I have been teaching Women's Studies for over 15 years and Kimleigh and *T-O-T-A-L-L-Y!* accomplished in one hour what I have strived to achieve in my classroom semester after semester.

Kimleigh literally shaped the future of our sexual assault awareness and prevention programming at Shenandoah University. Students across campus felt transformed, inspired and this inspiration grew after each visit. The conversation that Kimleigh started in 2010 transformed into action by 2013 when Shenandoah University opened its first [Not Just] Women's Center. The Center is run completely by student peer mentors – students who credit Kimleigh as their motivation. This show, this woman instigates change. There is no better way to stimulate a University to take action on issues so vital than to bring Kimleigh and *T-O-T-A-L-L-Y!* to campus.

I would be so thrilled to discuss Kimleigh Smith and her talents further. Please feel free to email me (asarch@su.edu) or call (540-398-7308).

Sincerely,

Amy Sarch, Ph.D.
Director of Women's Studies
Director of General Education