

Statement of Joan Horton, recanting her false public accusations against Eric Francis Coppolino

July 16, 2018 - transcribed from Facebook private message. Typing errors have been corrected for readability.

I need to say first of all that I have no personal knowledge that Eric has ever had a sexual encounter that did not involve positive consent.

I also have to say that my statements on these threads were mostly about refocusing from lynching people, like Eric, to developing a change in culture that involved understanding consent, and working towards sexual encounters that prioritize positive enthusiastic consent.

I feel it's really important that we change our attitudes about sex to prioritize not traumatizing people. I was in no way insinuating that I knew that Eric has not been careful or in integrity with his potential or actual sexual partners.

My personal direct knowledge is that Eric has been someone who has been very concerned with issues around feminism and sexuality and the environments and all that is good and positive in the world.

My personal understanding is that Eric has helped me out when I've needed help. My personal understanding is that Eric has treated me with respect in all of our dealings, and we have known each other for about 28 years.

My alluding to a culture that encourages sexual interactions the don't involve positive consent was not actually supposed to be referring to you having sexual interactions that didn't involve positive consent. At all.

I also believe that many people are carrying a lot of trauma around sex and that it's very easy for people to be left triggered around sex, and that many situations that fall very, very short of violations of consent can still be traumatizing and triggering to people, and that we really need to address that that is not the same thing as an interaction being in any way abusive.

Just because somebody is triggered doesn't mean you have done anything wrong. If you want to punish or get rid of everybody who's ever triggered anybody you'd have to get rid of every human being on the planet.