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Please *EDIT* the template below to get your voice heard and

campaign for menstrual equity at universities

Unsure about who your MP is or the name of your constituency? Find out [here](https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP)

*Please DELETE this section before sending*

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(Your Address and Constituency)

*Make sure to include this, as strict Parliamentary*

*rules will not allow your MP to take up your*

*issue if you do not live in their constituency*

Dear MP/Vice Chancellor,

It is with great displeasure that we are contacting you to highlight the increase in requests Bloody Good Period have received in recent weeks, regarding university students’ lack of access to menstrual products. Having access to these items is essential for anyone who menstruates - not having them means that students are effectively held back in their studies. We believe that universities should provide menstrual products for students, especially in the current Covid climate - mirroring the government initiative for period product provision in primary and secondary schools, introduced in January 2020.

The current pandemic has brought to light both glaring inequalities and the fragilities of so many people’s lives. The pandemic, associated restrictions and their ongoing, long-term implications mean that Bloody Good Period, like so many voluntary organisations, have been operating at maximum capacity - we have now provided over 50,000 packs of menstrual products all over the UK since the start of lockdown, which is over 5x our usual capacity.

Our main focus is usually providing products to refugees and asylum-seekers. Since the start of lockdown, we have expanded our support to food banks, community groups, and other organisations supporting the homeless, ex-offenders, those fleeing domestic violence, and other vulnerable groups. In the early days of the pandemic we even supported frontline NHS staff who could not access the products they needed. We simply do not have the resources to further expand our support to university students - but moreover, this gap should not be filled by a small charity.

Students have already been through incredible stress as a result of Covid19 - from the chaos of results and clearing, to the limitations on usual student life and of course the collapse of the job market. We know from our work with our other groups that ongoing stress tends to lead to irregular and heavy periods, meaning a sustainable supply of products is even more vital. We also know that in times of financial scarcity, people are forced to make tough choices - between food and other essentials, and period products.

Your students should not be forced to make choices like this.

We believe that universities simply have a greater responsibility to ensure that all students are fully supported during this difficult time.

Periods don’t stop in a pandemic, or because you are in lockdown, or because you have run out of money. We implore you to listen to the needs of your students and provide adequate resources for those who need them.

Yours sincerely,

(Your Name)

**A very frustrated university student who menstruates**, **A very frustrated individual who supports a university student who menstruates** and **The Bloody Good Period Team** [choose an option which suits you]