

RESEARCH SHOWS:

Worldwide:

In Bangladesh, where 80% of women are factory workers, 60% of them use rags from the factory as menstrual cloths.

In the UK tampons are taxed, but men's razors are not.

In the US:

70% of menstruating women use tampons.

Women will use up to 60,000 tampons over the course of their life.

In South Carolina:

SC is one of the 10 states in the nation that taxes tampons as a luxury item while candy and sodas are not taxed.

Facts from:
<https://www.girlshelpinggirlsperiod.org/the-facts--period->
<http://www.thestate.com/news/state/south-carolina/article66808727.html>

FREE THE TAMPONS

The goal of the project is to advocate for the normalization of tampons and inclusion of free, readily available tampons in bathrooms on Furman University's campus.

LUXURY TAXES ON SANITARY PRODUCTS:

On average women in California pay about \$7 per month for 40 years of tampons and sanitary napkins. Statewide, it adds up over \$20 million annually in taxes
Tampons (and similar products) are tax-exempt in only a handful of states, including Maryland and New Jersey.
Women have no choice but to buy these products, so the economic effect is only felt by woman and women of color are particularly hard hit by this tax.
Government is taxing women for something that is totally out of their control, Feminine hygiene is not a choice and should not be taxed.

HOW? A CONVERSATION WITH FURMAN'S HEAD OF MAINTENANCE:

We sat down with Furman University's Director of Maintenance and Facilities Operations, Rick Schosky, who was open and understanding to the idea of free tampons and pads in the restrooms in the academic buildings on campus. His main questions were: the success/failure rate of other like-University's pilot programs, the demand and interest that Furman students are showing for this program, and finally, given the answers to the previous two questions, the budgeting necessary for the implementation of such a program. At the conclusion of our initial meeting, Rick Schosky said he would speak with Jeff Redderson, the Assistant VP of Facilities and Campus Services about room in the budget for these items along with replacing outdated receptacle, which there is no plan for currently.

WHY CONDOMS BUT NOT TAMPONS? HEALTH SERVICES:

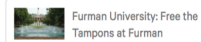
Furman received a grant for the education and distribution of condoms, but why not tampons? Although Furman is not where we would like for it to be in terms of supplying these sanitary products, change is visible through the shift in attitude towards the supply of condoms for students.
Tampons are available by request at the Infirmary.

a petition:

Free the Tampons at Furman



130 have signed. Let's get to 200!



Add a personal message (optional)

Post to Facebook

Send a Facebook message

130+ signatures

The Walk of Shame Conversations with Faculty:

- "It seems like a human rights issue to me."
—Philosophy department
- "I think free tampons/pads in the women's restrooms is a great idea - Furman should do it."
- English department
- "What a great idea for your project! Hard to believe that free tampons aren't already in the public bathrooms."
— Education department

PILOT PROGRAMS ON OTHER COLLEGE CAMPUSES:

As far as the success rate of other like-University pilot programs, Emory University is a great example. Emory University had a pilot program that launched in September of 2016 after an online petition went viral. The program has been a large success for the past year and a half. Emory, Brown, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and the University of Minnesota all have programs in place for free tampons and pads in their restrooms and Furman needs to ask itself if it wants to get out in front of this movement or be left playing catch-up as the public interests begin to progress.