

BARNARD COLLEGE CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY

2021 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Sensitivity Warning: the following summary includes information regarding students' reported experience of incidents of harassment and sexual violence.

INTRODUCTION

During February 2021, all first-year and sophomores enrolled (N=1,447) were invited to respond to the Barnard Student Campus Climate Survey. The survey was designed to gather information about student knowledge and experience related to discrimination and harassment, to raise awareness about student experiences and campus resources, and to expand the conversation and engagement opportunities related to these important issues. 447 students responded to the survey, 333 of whom completed the survey to the end. The overall response rate was 23%. 2020 was a unique year in light of the challenges that arose from the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, there are several limitations associated with the data collected from the 2021 climate survey. Due to reduced occupancy on campus as a result of distance and hybrid learning at the College, many students surveyed had spent limited (or no) time on campus at the time of response. Further, in Fall 2020, Barnard piloted the National Assessment of Collegiate Campus Climates survey (NACCC). In order to mitigate survey fatigue and maximize response, Institutional Research made the decision to survey junior and senior students using the NACCC and first-year and sophomore students using the Campus Climate Survey: a departure from previous years.

BARNARD RESOURCES AND EDUCATION

Resources are not effective unless students are familiar with what is available and how to access support options. A strong majority of Barnard students indicate familiarity with a range of medical and mental health resources, as well as campus programs. We continue to seek to increase student awareness of all programs and resources, as well as staff and faculty awareness, so they can refer students accordingly.

Detailed resource information can be found on Barnard's website at

<https://barnard.edu/title-ix-equity/support/resources/students>

Students can seek support at Furman Counseling Center at 212-854-2092. Any student seeking support or resources related to sexual violence/intimate partner violence can access the SVR Rape Crisis/AntiViolence Support Center by calling 212-854-4357 (HELP); off-campus support at St. Luke's Crime Victim's Treatment Center (CVTC) at 212-523-4728 or New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project at 212-714-1141; or online support and information at www.rainn.org. During the 2020-21 academic year, all Barnard incoming first-year and transfer students received policy education and sexual violence and bystander intervention introduction workshops during the New Student Orientation Program. The Barnard-Columbia committee of staff continued to offer Step Up! bystander intervention training throughout the year. Some staff and more than 21 Peer Educators (Well Woman and Barnard SVR volunteers) completed 'train the trainer' education to assist in providing bystander intervention workshops and discussions across our community. Barnard staff in Public Safety, Residential Life & Housing, Health Services, Student Life, and across student services, also receive an introduction to bystander intervention training at least once a year.

Survey Results

This discussion of survey results is organized as follows:

- student perceptions of Barnard's campus climate;
- student experiences of harassment and sexual violence;
- student awareness of policy, procedures, and resources;

- student perceptions of Barnard's response to harassment and sexual violence; and
- student participation in prevention education and willingness to help.

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF CAMPUS CLIMATE

Students were asked the following questions about the general campus climate and their sense of belonging at Barnard and at Columbia. Responses are most positive about other students, feeling safe on campus, feeling valued in the classroom, and faculty, staff, and administrators. Opinions about feeling a part of the Barnard or Columbia community are less positive (see following table).

LGBTQIA students are less likely to agree that they feel safe on campus or that students are concerned about the welfare of other students.

Below are statements about the general climate at Barnard.
Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each.

| Behavior | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Barnard students are genuinely concerned about the welfare of other students | 45% | 41% | 12% | 1% | 0% |
| I feel safe on this campus | 41% | 38% | 16% | 4% | 1% |
| I feel valued in the classroom/learning environment | 40% | 45% | 11% | 3% | 1% |
| Faculty, staff, and administrators at Barnard are genuinely concerned about students' welfare | 39% | 49% | 6% | 6% | 1% |
| Faculty, staff, and administrators at Barnard treat students fairly | 37% | 48% | 10% | 4% | 1% |
| I feel like I am a part of the Barnard community | 28% | 39% | 17% | 13% | 2% |
| I feel like I am a part of the Columbia community | 9% | 39% | 23% | 21% | 7% |

STUDENT EXPERIENCES OF HARRASSMENT AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

79% of responding students reported that they know someone who has been sexually assaulted. When broken down by sexuality, 82% LGBTQIA (vs. 65% heterosexual students) know someone who has been sexually assaulted. The following table shows the overall percentages who reported experiencing each behavior in the previous twelve months and results for on campus¹ and off-campus locations for each behavior. The most prevalent experience was receiving unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, or looks (much more heavily off-campus at 48%). Next most common was hearing derogatory comments, jokes, or gestures regarding race or ethnicity, experienced by almost 36% of respondents. Most, but not all, behaviors were experienced by more students off campus than on campus.

Reported experience of harassment and sexual violence in the past 12 months Overall and by location

| Behavior experienced | Where experienced | | |
|--|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| | Overall | On campus | Off campus |
| Made unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, or looks | 60% | 13% | 48% |
| Made derogatory comments, jokes, or gestures regarding race or ethnicity | 36% | 14% | 22% |

¹ On campus includes the following: at a college event, on Barnard campus, on Columbia campus, in a residence hall, in a Barnard class, in a Columbia class, and at an on-campus job. Off campus includes the following: at an off campus job, on the street surrounding campus, in the subway, and other non-campus locations.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Expressed derogatory comments, jokes, or names regarding a person's religion or cultural beliefs | 29% | 13% | 16% |
| Blocked your path, cornered you, or followed you in an unwelcome sexual way | 21% | 3% | 18% |
| Touched, grabbed, or pinched you in an unwelcome sexual way | 21% | 5% | 16% |
| Showed, gave, or left sexual pictures, web pages, illustrations, or messages you didn't want to see | 16% | 2% | 13% |
| A course of conduct sufficient to cause you to fear for your personal safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress (stalking behavior) | 15% | 3% | 12% |
| Called you a homophobic name (faggot, dyke, etc.) | 13% | 3% | 10% |
| Forced you to do something sexual, other than kissing | 7% | 2% | 4% |
| Forced you to kiss him or her | 5% | 2% | 3% |
| Violence toward you, when you are or have been in a romantic or intimate relationship with that individual (dating violence) | 3% | 1% | 2% |
| Asked you to do something sexual in exchange for something (e.g., a better grade, a recommendation, class notes) | 2% | 0% | 2% |

Persons identifying as LGBTQIA were more likely than straight students to experience all twelve behaviors. The following table shows data for these behaviors by sexuality, both overall and by location.

Reported experience of harassment and sexual violence in the past 12 months
Differences by Sexuality

| Behavior experienced | LGBTQIA+ | Straight |
|---|----------|----------|
| Made unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, or looks | 74% | 57% |
| On campus | 29% | 22% |
| Off campus | 44% | 35% |
| Made derogatory comments, jokes, or gestures regarding race or ethnicity | 47% | 35% |
| On campus | 24% | 18% |
| Off campus | 23% | 17% |
| Expressed derogatory comments, jokes, or names regarding a person's religion or cultural beliefs | 38% | 29% |
| On campus | 21% | 18% |
| Off campus | 18% | 11% |
| Blocked your path, cornered you, or followed you in an unwelcome sexual way | 32% | 21% |
| On campus | 13% | 7% |
| Off campus | 19% | 15% |
| Touched, grabbed, or pinched you in an unwelcome sexual way | 39% | 15% |
| On campus | 20% | 6% |
| Off campus | 19% | 9% |
| Showed, gave, or left sexual pictures, web pages, illustrations, or messages you didn't want to see | 29% | 17% |
| On campus | 15% | 7% |
| Off campus | 14% | 10% |

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| A course of conduct sufficient to cause you to fear for your personal safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress (stalking behavior) | 28% | 12% |
| On campus | 14% | 5% |
| Off campus | 14% | 7% |
| Called you a homophobic name (faggot, dyke, etc.) | 31% | 2% |
| On campus | 14% | 1% |
| Off campus | 16% | 1% |
| Forced you to do something sexual, other than kissing | 15% | 5% |
| On campus | 9% | 3% |
| Off campus | 6% | 2% |
| Forced you to kiss him or her | 11% | 4% |
| On campus | 7% | 2% |
| Off campus | 4% | 2% |
| Violence toward you, when you are or have been in a romantic or intimate relationship with that individual (dating violence) | 9% | 0% |
| On campus | 5% | 0% |
| Off campus | 3% | 0% |
| Asked you to do something sexual in exchange for something (e.g., a better grade, a recommendation, class notes) | 5% | 2% |
| On campus | 2% | 1% |
| Off campus | 2% | 1% |

The following table shows the percentages of respondents reporting that they witnessed each behavior in the previous twelve months and results for on-campus and off-campus locations for each behavior.

Reported witnessing of harrassment and sexual violence in the last 12 months
Overall and by location

| | Where witnessed | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| | Overall | On campus | Off campus |
| Made derogatory comments, jokes, or gestures regarding a person's race or ethnicity | 51% | 26% | 25% |
| Made unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, or looks | 49% | 19% | 30% |
| Expressed derogatory comments, jokes, or names regarding a person's religion or cultural beliefs | 43% | 22% | 21% |
| Called another person a homophobic name (faggot, dyke, etc.) | 41% | 19% | 21% |
| Blocked another person's way, cornered, or followed another person in a sexual way | 16% | 6% | 10% |
| Touched, grabbed, or pinched someone in an unwelcome sexual way | 16% | 7% | 9% |
| A course of conduct directed toward a specific individual, sufficient to cause a reasonable person to fear for personal safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional | 10% | 5% | 5% |
| Forced another person to do something sexual, other than kissing | 5% | 3% | 2% |
| Violence by a person toward another individual, when they are or have been in a romantic or intimate relationship (dating violence) | 4% | 2% | 2% |
| Asked another person to do something sexual in exchange for something | 3% | 2% | 2% |

| | | | |
|---|----|----|----|
| (e.g., a better grade, a recommendation, class notes) | | | |
| Forced another person to kiss him or her | 3% | 2% | 2% |

14% of respondents experienced at least one type of sexual assault in the past 12 months (see the following table). The most common circumstance was being overwhelmed by pressure to have sex play (experienced by 16% of respondents), followed by unwanted sex play or intercourse while under the influence of alcohol or other substances (9%).

LGBTQIA respondents were twice as likely to have experienced sexual assault overall (19% vs. 10%). They were also more likely to have experienced each specific type of assault, except for sex play because the other person used their position of authority.

Reported experience of sexual assault in previous 12 months

| Behavior experienced | % experienced | | |
|---|---------------|------------|------------|
| | Everyone | LGBTQIA | Straight |
| Sex play when you were overwhelmed by the other person's arguments and/or pressure | 16% | 19% | 9% |
| Sex play or intercourse when under the influence of alcohol or other substances | 9% | 10% | 6% |
| Intercourse when you were pressured, forced or otherwise did not provide consent | 7% | 9% | 3% |
| Sex play or intercourse when you were given alcohol or other substances | 5% | 7% | 2% |
| Sex play because the other person threatened or used some degree of physical force (twisting your arm, holding you down etc.) to make you | 2% | 3% | 1% |
| Sex play because the other person used their position of authority (boss, teacher, supervisor) to make you | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Experienced any of the above in the previous 12 months | 14% | 19% | 10% |

Students reporting any experience of sexual assault were asked who the perpetrators were. This question was not linked to the specific experiences, and students could identify more than one category to account for multiple assaults. The most commonly mentioned perpetrators were acquaintances not affiliated with the College or University (44%), followed by students from other colleges or universities (31%) and Columbia University students (27%). No respondents selected Columbia or Barnard faculty or staff.

Reported perpetrators of unwanted sexual contact (among the 48 students reporting assault)

| Relationship | % experienced |
|---|---------------|
| An acquaintance not affiliated with the College or University | 44% |
| A student from another college or university | 31% |
| A Columbia University student | 27% |
| Unknown / a stranger | 8% |
| A Barnard student | 6% |
| A family member or close family friend | 4% |
| A visitor to Barnard | 2% |
| Other (did not specify) | 2% |

Students reporting sexual assault were also asked whether and to whom they reported the assaults. Fourteen percent (13%) of respondents who reported assault said they had not reported or disclosed

the assault to anyone.

79% of respondents who were assaulted disclosed to friends or roommates. A quarter of respondents disclosed their assault to their intimate partner and 21% reported to their off campus counselor/treatment provider.

Respondents reporting assault reported/disclosed to...
(among the 48 students reporting assault and responding to this question)

| Relationship | % disclosed |
|---|--------------------|
| No one, I have not told anyone | 13% |
| Friend(s) or roommate(s) | 79% |
| Intimate partner | 25% |
| Off campus counselor/treatment provider | 21% |
| Family member(s) | 4% |
| Campus authorities (Director of Nondiscrimination & Title IX or Community Safety) | 4% |
| College staff member (e.g., RA, Res Life staff, Dean, Professor) | 4% |
| On campus counselor (confidential resource) | 4% |
| On campus survivor advocate (confidential resource) | 4% |
| Law enforcement | 2% |
| Off campus survivor advocate | 4% |
| Other (please specify) | 0% |

In a more general question, students were asked about their likelihood of reporting harassment or discrimination (including sexual harassment, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking), should they experience it. Ninety-two percent (92%) of respondents indicated at least some willingness to report and 51% indicated they were very likely to report.

Following are the percentages of respondents indicating they were very or somewhat likely to report by various mechanisms:

- 65% to the Title IX Coordinator
- 64% via electronic form
- 59% to a Residential Life staff member (RA, HD, Associate Director, Office Staff)
- 53% to a staff or faculty member
- 48% to Barnard Public Safety
- 37% to a Class Dean
- 32% to a Student Life Advisor

Students who expressed no willingness to report discrimination or harassment were then asked why they were reluctant to do so. Note that there was no connection between answers to these questions and the specific roles they were uncomfortable with. In fact, 75% of respondents who expressed reluctance were also somewhat or very willing to report in at least one way.

Following are the percentages of respondents who selected each reason for any reluctance to report harassment or discrimination:

| Reason for expressed reluctance to report | % selecting |
|---|--------------------|
| Don't know the procedure | 36% |
| Concern that matter will not being taken seriously | 33% |
| Fear of not being believed | 31% |
| Concern related to my own reputation | 30% |
| Knowing these staff are not completely confidential | 28% |
| Feeling responsible/blaming self | 25% |
| Other (mostly personal anecdotes) | 23% |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Fear of retaliation | 22% |
| Concern related to the reputation of another involved party | 13% |

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF BARNARD'S RESPONSE TO MISCONDUCT

Students were asked whether Barnard proactively informs students of their rights and responsibilities as they pertain to sexual discrimination, harassment, and violence. Forty-six percent (47%) of respondents agreed, 37% were unsure, and 16% disagreed.

At least 50% of respondents agreed that Barnard would follow-through with the following responses to misconduct.

Student Perceptions of Barnard's Response to Misconduct (N ~ 333)

| If a student were to report sexual misconduct, Barnard would... | Strongly agree | Somewhat agree | Somewhat disagree | Strongly disagree |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Keep knowledge of the report limited to those who need to know in order for the College to respond properly. | 41% | 36% | 2% | 1% |
| Take steps to protect the safety of the person making the report. | 36% | 37% | 5% | 1% |
| Provide support for the person making the report. | 34% | 41% | 4% | 1% |
| Take steps to protect the person making the report from retaliation. | 30% | 34% | 5% | 2% |
| Investigate the report promptly. | 28% | 34% | 5% | 2% |
| Take action to remedy any underlying factors on campus that may have led to sexual misconduct. | 25% | 29% | 8% | 5% |

STUDENT AWARENESS OF POLICY, PROCEDURES, AND RESOURCES

A series of questions asked about students' awareness of Barnard's procedures for addressing complaints of sexual discrimination or harassment and sexual violence. About 85% of respondents were confident they could locate contact information for Barnard's Title IX Coordinator.

Most students are at least somewhat familiar with a range of campus programs and resources, as shown in the following table. Being Barnard and the Rape Crisis /Anti-Violence Support Center are the programs least known to Barnard students

Familiarity With Campus Programs and Resources (n ~ 333)

| Resource | Completely familiar | Somewhat familiar | Not familiar |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Furman Counseling Center | 26% | 56% | 17% |
| Primary Care Health Service | 25% | 51% | 24% |
| Residential Life Programs | 20% | 57% | 23% |
| Barnard Student Life-sponsored events (such as Barnard Blue, heritage month events, etc.) | 17% | 48% | 35% |
| Barnard recognized organization events (such as McAC, Skip Stop, etc.) | 15% | 39% | 47% |
| Barnard Student Government Association meetings | 13% | 46% | 41% |
| Columbia recognized events (such as Inter-Greek Council organization, cultural organization, etc.) | 12% | 34% | 54% |

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Well Woman | 10% | 53% | 37% |
| ASAP (Alcohol and Substance Awareness Program) | 7% | 38% | 56% |
| Being Barnard | 5% | 31% | 63% |
| Rape Crisis /Anti - Violence Support Center (SVR, RC/AVSC) | 3% | 29% | 68% |

Fifty-seven percent (51%) of respondents were not aware that the campus definition of affirmative consent differs from criminal definitions of consent in New York State. Students were then asked if they believed these definitions **should** differ. Following are responses to this question:

| Should Barnard and NY State definitions of consent differ? | % responding |
|--|--------------|
| Yes, it makes sense that these definitions would differ | 34% |
| No, I do not think these definitions should differ | 13% |
| I am unsure | 53% |

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN PREVENTION EDUCATION AND WILLINGNESS TO HELP

Students were asked about participation/attendance at prevention education opportunities during the 2020-2021 academic year. Following are the responses. Overall, only 45% reported attending at least one of these prevention education events

| % of respondents reporting attendance at the following during AY21 | |
|---|-----|
| A workshop speaker discussion or campus event related to sexual violence prevention (including discussion of relationship violence stalking rape culture) | 17% |
| A Being Barnard presentation event or training | 12% |
| A Step Up! Bystander Intervention presentation or training | 10% |

Most students feel confident that they could be supportive if someone disclosed to them that they had been sexually assaulted. Only 15% said that they don't feel prepared.

If someone you know were to disclose to you that they have recently been sexually assaulted, do you feel prepared (sufficiently aware of resources) to provide a supportive response?

| | % responding |
|---|--------------|
| Yes, I have some information and feel I could be supportive and could help locate information about reporting options and support resources | 64% |
| Yes, I'm aware of a range of resources on and off campus and am confident I could offer options and support | 20% |
| No, I don't feel prepared | 15% |

In response to a series of ten questions about likelihood to help in a series of circumstances (the "bystander willingness to help scale"), the vast majority of students (91% or more) indicated at least some likelihood to help in each situation (see following table). Students expressed the least comfort with helping in situations of possible relationship abuse. Consistent with research, when there is less ambiguity there is greater likelihood to intervene,

with 92% of students indicating they would be extremely likely to “Tell someone if I think their drink was spiked with a drug.”

| For each of the following statements, please indicate how likely you would be to engage in the stated behavior to help someone familiar to you (as in, someone within the campus community) | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Extremely Likely | Somewhat Likely | Somewhat Unlikely | Very Unlikely |
| I would tell someone if I think their drink was spiked with a drug. | 92% | 6% | 1% | 0% |
| If someone said they had an unwanted sexual experience, but don't call it rape, I would express concern or offer to help. | 82% | 16% | 1% | 0% |
| I would let someone who I suspect has been sexually assaulted know I'm available for help and support. | 74% | 21% | 4% | 0% |
| If I were to see someone sitting close to a woman I know, and by the look on the woman's face I can tell she is uncomfortable, I would ask the woman if she is okay or try to start a conversation with her. | 69% | 26% | 4% | 1% |
| I would stop and check in on someone who looks intoxicated when they are being taken upstairs at a party. | 67% | 27% | 4% | 0% |
| I would ask someone who seems upset if they are okay or need help. | 66% | 26% | 6% | 1% |
| I would express concern to someone I know who has unexplained bruises that may be signs of abuse in the relationship. | 66% | 29% | 4% | 0% |
| I would approach someone I know if I think they are in an abusive relationship and let them know I'm here to help. | 64% | 32% | 4% | 0% |
| I would ask someone who is being shoved or yelled at by their partner if they need help. | 62% | 30% | 6% | 1% |
| If I were to see a person and their partner's fist was clenched around their arm and the person looked upset, I would ask if everything is okay. | 54% | 37% | 7% | 1% |