

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

Spring 2014 Barnard Campus Climate Survey Results

INTRODUCTION

During the spring of 2014 students were invited to respond to the Barnard Student Campus Climate Survey. The survey, conducted under the supervision of Amy Zavadil, Associate Dean for Equity and Title IX Coordinator, intended to gather information about student knowledge and experience related to discrimination and harassment, particularly the spectrum of sexual violence, and general perception of campus climate. Results are used to inform education and response, and sharing this information with the campus community is intended to raise awareness about student experiences and campus resources and to expand the conversation and engagement opportunities related to these important issues. Barnard students are invited to provide feedback, comments, or questions as we continue to utilize this information to inform ongoing assessment of and additions to prevention efforts and training.

WHAT IS A CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY?

A student campus climate survey is a tool to identify student perception of campus experience at a given time. Seeking to understand how students experience the campus community is important to supporting students' learning and development.

The purpose of gathering (and sharing) this information is to better understand Barnard students' perceptions and experiences and to gather a sense of campus climate, particularly related to sexual and gender-based misconduct. The results are being used to further campus conversation and prevention efforts, as well as to inform future training and outreach (for faculty, staff and students) to support a healthy and inclusive campus environment.

BACKGROUND

This campus climate survey was developed based on a report from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) titled *Drawing the Line* (Hill & Silva, 2005) and a National Institute of Justice report on Sexual Victimization of College Women (Fisher, Cullen & Turner, 2000) as well as measurement tools from the Centers for Disease Control.

This 2014 data is from the third annual administration of the Barnard Student Campus Climate survey. Barnard first administered the survey in 2012. For that first pilot survey, the results were used to inform training and outreach efforts as well as identifying improvements to the survey instrument. For the second year of the survey, data collected in Spring 2013 was discussed at a Town Hall meeting hosted by the Student Government Association in Fall 2013. For this third year of the survey, Barnard is issuing this report to the full community.

It is important to note that this survey was tailored to the Barnard campus. As a result, any comparison of the Barnard survey results to other published data is not practical because there is not a uniform measure currently in use. Rather, the Barnard results can be helpful for benchmarking Barnard student experiences across years here at the College, such as assessing awareness of resources and likelihood to report information.

The Association of American Universities will be conducting a uniform climate survey in 2015-16 at as many as 60 U.S. research universities (including Columbia), with the ability for schools to only add up to five campus specific questions, if they choose. The details of this survey have not yet been released. However, the current AAU President states: “as our institutions consider what steps they may need to take with respect to safety, law enforcement, adjudication, and other policies, we hope that this survey will provide solid information on the incidence of sexual assault and sexual harassment on their campuses and on attitudes on the issue among their students”

HOW AND FROM WHOM WAS THIS INFORMATION GATHERED?

Data reported here was collected in late March of 2014. All enrolled students aged 18 or older received an email invitation from the Dean of the College with a unique link to insure each student can respond only once. The survey asked students to anonymously answer a series of multiple choice questions about their experience ‘in the past twelve months,’ so the information here reflects student experiences during the 2013-14 academic year, though it could also include experiences from summer 2013. Reminder messages as well as a message of support from the Student Government Association were provided to encourage response.

The total response rate was 34% (892 students), with the following distribution by year in school.

Year in School	# of Responses	% of total responses
First Year	169	27%
Second Year	194	31%
Third Year	109	17%
Fourth Year or later	163	26%

Students were asked to identify their race and had the option to select all that apply among the following list: American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian or Asian American; Black or African American; Hispanic or Latina; Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander; White; Other; or Prefer not to answer. The numbers for some options were small and students could select more than one option, as they identify. In this report, for items where responses showed statistically significant differences in reported experience, results have been broken out by white (57%) and students of color (43%); or by year in school.

SURVEY TOPIC AREAS

This report is organized in three content areas:

- student awareness of resources & campus participation;

- reported experience of harassment& reported witnessing of harassment; and
- reported experience of sexual misconduct.

CAMPUS PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS OF RESOURCES

There is research and national media reports indicating that some group settings may present greater risk for experiences of sexual violence. There is also evidence that bystander intervention, or pro-social helping behavior, is influenced by group dynamics and a sense of belonging. By gathering information about students' participation with campus organizations, sports, jobs, etc., we can better understand these dynamics and more effectively tailor outreach and prevention efforts to students and student groups. It is noteworthy that more than two thirds of Barnard students are involved in some type of campus organization. In an effort to reach students through their group involvement, an overview of the five decision making steps of Bystander Intervention was provided to all student organizations at the 2014 Club ReFuel, with an invitation for clubs and organizations to request training for their group.

It is important to assess student awareness of resources, as merely offering resources is not effective if students are unfamiliar with what is available or how to access support. A strong majority of Barnard students indicated 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.

REPORTED EXPERIENCE OF HARRASSMENT AND WITNESSING OF HARRASSMENT

Identifying student experience of harassment both on and off campus is an essential element of beginning to understand student perception of campus climate. Students reported witnessing as many or more harassing remarks and behaviors than they reported experiencing personally. This reinforces the importance of bystander skills, as each member of the community can contribute to shifting culture by speaking up or otherwise intervening when they are aware of behaviors that are not consistent with community expectations.

REPORTED EXPERIENCE OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

It is commonly reported that approximately 20% of college women experience attempted or completed rape (Fisher, Cullen & Turner, 2000). The 2014 response from Barnard students also reports approximately 20% of respondents experienced some type of sexual assault (non-consensual sexual contact) during the prior twelve months. It is important to note that this data does not indicate that these experiences occurred on campus or whether they involved other members of the community. However, regardless of where or by whom, the potential adverse impact of such experience on each individual is a real concern warranting our attention. For this reason, it is essential to continue developing prevention efforts as well as making available to our community resources and channels for support.

SURVEY RESULTS

Student Awareness of Campus Resources

Students were asked about awareness of policy

50% of students report awareness of the Policy Against Discrimination and Harassment ($n=828$)

70% of students report they could find policy information and contact information for Title IX Coordinator on the web or portal ($n=775$)

Students were asked “if you or someone you know experiences harassment or discrimination (including sexual harassment), how likely would you be to report your concern to:

with the following office options: Title IX Coordinator (Associate Dean for Equity); Res Life Staff; Barnard Public Safety; Class Dean; Another staff or faculty member; via electronic form; Office of Diversity Initiatives (Student Life)”

response options: prefer not to answer; very likely; somewhat likely; somewhat unlikely; and very unlikely as possible response for each office.

95% of students indicated at least some likelihood to report to at least one office, with 65% of participants indicating some likelihood to report to three or more of these offices. This seems to indicate that students are likely to seek support or assistance (all possible reporting options in this question are private, but not confidential).

An important note: this question was related to disclosure of experience (would you report to someone), not necessarily formal reporting or disclosure of identifiable information that could lead to disciplinary investigation. Any type of disclosure is important to insuring individuals know about and can access available rights and resources, as they choose.

Students indicated being somewhat or completely familiar with the following ($n=688$):

Offices/Programs	% of responses
Primary Care Health Services	93%
Res Life Programs	90%
Furman Counseling Center	89%
Well Woman	87%
Rape Crisis/Anti-Violence Support Center	53%
Barnard Student Government Assoc. Meetings	68%

Preparedness to help

Students were asked “If someone you know disclosed to you that they have recently been sexually assaulted do you feel prepared (sufficiently aware of resources) to provide a supportive response.” Of 637 responses:

36%	indicated they have some information and feel they could be supportive and help locate information and resources
27%	Indicated they feel somewhat prepared and would be supportive
15%	indicated they are aware of resources on and off campus
15%	indicated they would like to learn more to be of support
7%	Indicated they do not feel prepared

In 2013-14, a Columbia-Barnard committee of staff across the University began offering Step Up! bystander intervention training. In the current academic year at Barnard, 2014-15, all first year and transfer students were offered a one-hour introduction workshop during New Student Orientation Programs. Some staff and more than 30 Peer Educators (Well Woman and SVR) have completed ‘train the trainer’ education to assist in providing bystander intervention workshops and discussion across our community. Workshops have been completed and are continuing for student groups, organizations, and in Residential Life training, among other areas. Barnard staff in Public Safety, Facilities Services, Residential Life & Housing, and across student services have also received at least an introduction to bystander intervention training during the 2014 calendar year.

Student Report of Campus Participation

By gathering information about students’ participation with campus organizations, sports, jobs, etc., we can better understand student experience and more effectively tailor outreach and prevention efforts, such as tailoring prevention programs to reach students as part of their organization’s regular programming or member education.

Students were asked to respond to the statement “I feel a sense of community and like I belong at Barnard College”:

82% of students indicate a sense of community (10% neither agree/disagree; only 8% disagree/strongly disagree)

Students were asked “Please indicate your extra-curricular participation during the current academic year” (select all that apply): n=616

# of responses	I am ...
282	an active member of one recognized student organization
282	a member of two or more recognized student organization
259	working an on-campus job
97	a member of a recognized fraternity or sorority
62	a participant in club sports
25	a peer educator
17	a student athlete

36% of students report participation in multiple groups
 33% of students report participation in one group/activity.
 31% of students did not report participation in group activities

The following pages include data related to student report of sexual harassment and sexual assault experiences.

Student Experiences of Sexual Harassment

Students were asked “Do you know anyone who has ever been sexually assaulted?”:

60% of students reported that they know someone who has been sexually assaulted ($n=637$). Fewer students of color report knowing a survivor (51% as compared to 63% of white students).

Students were asked to report if they had experienced the following behaviors within the last twelve months with on campus

(Specific response options were offered – response to any one of these was collapsed into “On Campus” - On Barnard Campus, On Columbia Campus, In Residence Halls, At a College event, In a Barnard Class, in a CU Class, On campus job). $n=892$

Students were asked to report if they had witnessed the following behaviors directed toward another within the last twelve months on campus

(Same location response options as above).

$n=892$ (In both experiencing and witnessing this total n includes all respondents, regardless of whether race was reported; where statistically significant, reporting by race category - white students $n=355$; students of color $n=263$. The percentages reported are the percentage of the reporting n)

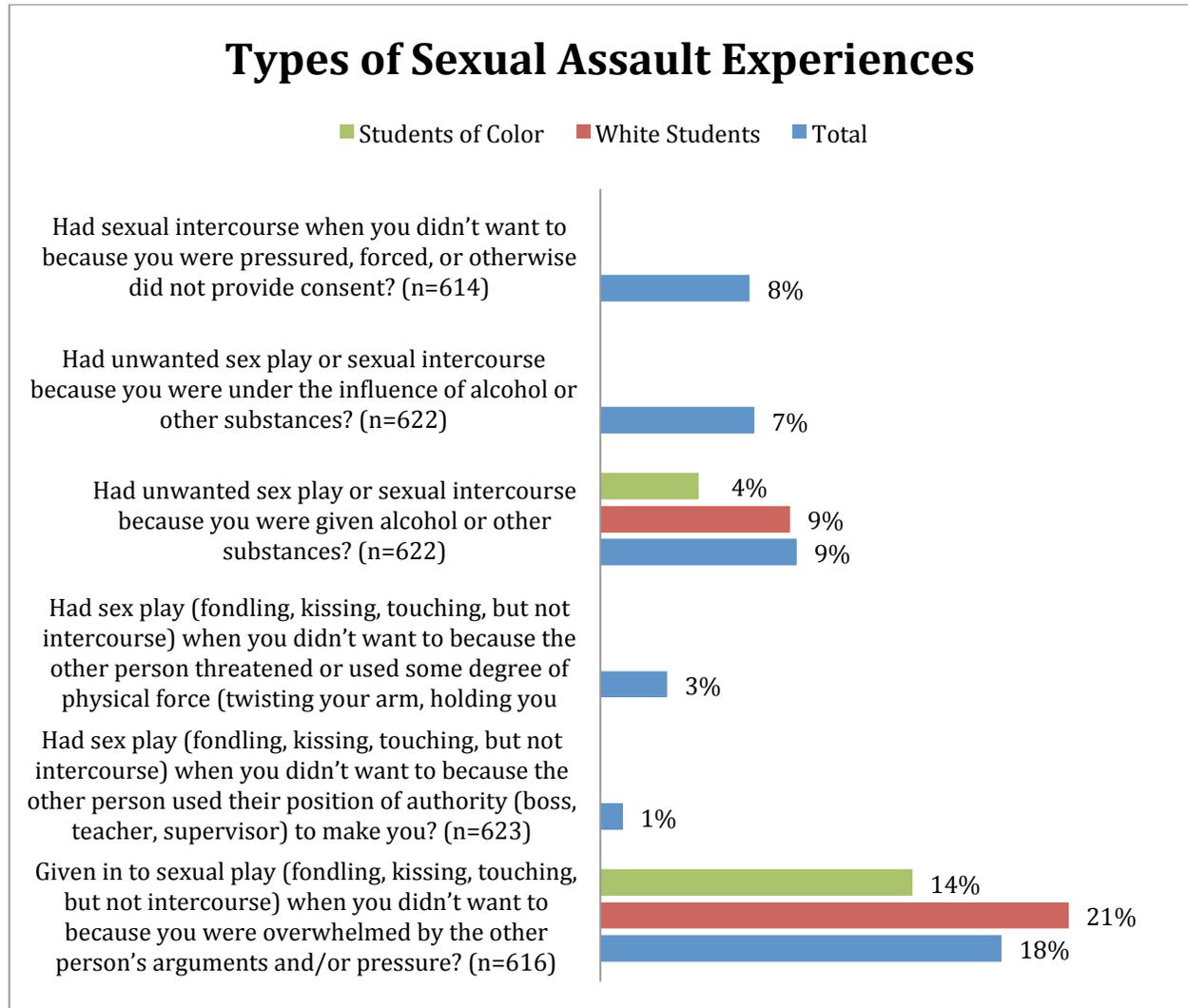
Students of color were more likely to have experienced and witnessed derogatory comments regarding race or ethnicity.

EXPERIENCED:	Total	Students of Color	White Students
someone made derogatory comments, jokes, or gestures regarding race or ethnicity	15%	26%	15%
called you a homophobic name (such as faggot, dyke, etc.)	2%		
Made unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, or looks	16%		
Touched, grabbed, or pinched you in an unwelcome sexual way	6%		
Blocked your path, cornered you, or followed you in an unwelcome sexual way	4%		
WITNESSED:	Total	Students of Color	White Students
someone made derogatory comments, jokes, or gestures regarding race or ethnicity	21%	34%	24%
called you a homophobic name (such as faggot, dyke, etc.)	11%		
Made unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, gestures, or looks	16%		
Touched, grabbed, or pinched you in an unwelcome sexual way	6%		
Blocked your path, cornered you, or followed you in an unwelcome sexual way	3%		

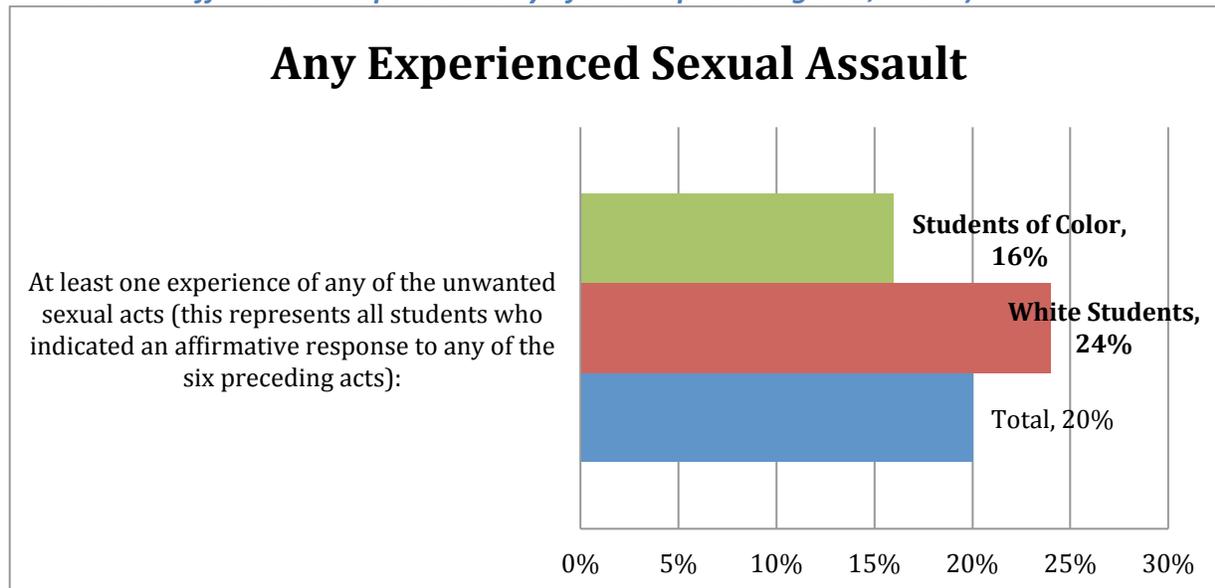
Student Experiences of Sexual Assault

Students were asked “During the past twelve months have you...”

For each of the following behaviors the reported percentages are affirmative response to the stated experience. (These statements did not make reference to location where occurred or relationship to the perpetrator)



At least one experience of any of the unwanted sexual acts (this represents all students who indicated an affirmative response to any of the six preceding acts, n=614):



Reported sexual assault while under the influence indicated differences across year in school

Of the students who reported experience of “unwanted sex play or sexual intercourse because you were under the influence of alcohol or other substances” ($n=622$), there was a statistically significant difference between experiences of first year students and fourth year students. The total response was 7% of students who reported this experience. Among first year students, 12% reported this experience, among fourth year (or later) students 3% reported this experience.

Beginning to identify how and where differences in student perception and experience may exist will continue to inform proactive efforts as well as continuing to develop support and response.

RESOURCES AND NEXT STEPS

There will be a 2015 Campus Climate survey available for student response, anticipated to be available for student response following spring break. All Barnard students are also encouraged to provide feedback to continue to inform education, prevention, and response efforts. Visit the Campus Life main page bulletin board on the [Barnard portal](#) to find the link to provide feedback and/or to express interest in participating in future discussions.

As a reminder, students can seek counseling support at Furman Counseling Center (212-854-2092);

Any student seeking support or resources related to sexual violence/intimate partner violence can access the Rape Crisis/Anti-Violence 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 Online support & information at www.rainn.org.

Questions about this summary, the climate survey, or campus resources related to discrimination & harassment (including the spectrum of sexual violence), please contact Associate Dean for Equity, Amy Zavadil, at azavadil@barnard.edu or visit www.barnard.edu/doc/titleix.