

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution in Support of IX Impacts Us Campaign

17-15/16-Pence—February 23, 2016

RESOLVED: That the Humboldt State University Senate supports the HSU Sexual Assault Prevention Committee's (SAPC) Staff and Faculty education campaign, which is paired with the student-led Title IX Outreach campaign, IX Impacts Us; and be it further

RESOLVED: That "support" in this context means urging our Faculty and Staff colleagues to understand our role as mandated reporters, and how to fulfill those obligations in the most survivor-centered way possible, recognizing that in so doing we will strive to protect a survivor's choice regarding whether or not to disclose, and will work to respond to disclosures in a manner that supports survivors and connects them with the appropriate campus and community resources; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Senate urge Faculty and Staff to review the educational materials provided by the SAPC via email, print material, department binders, and student engagement with Staff and Faculty, so that they may fully understand their role in creating a safe and supportive environment for survivors of sexualized violence.

RATIONALE: *Harm is occurring in our campus community. We are in a position as Faculty and Staff to promote a culture of support for survivors, a culture of consent for the entire community, and through our actions and words, make explicit that sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking are not acceptable.*

How do we know such a campaign is necessary?

Please note that this report contains explicit descriptions of violence.

In October 2012, Humboldt State University's Sexual Assault Prevention Committee (SAPC) launched a three year Department of Justice grant-funded project to prevent and respond to sexual assault, intimate partner violence and stalking at HSU. One of the committee's first priorities was to design and implement a survey on students' experiences of these forms of violence. In Fall 2013, all HSU students were invited to take the survey, and 1629 students completed it, resulting in a 20% response rate.

Key findings

Most incidents of violence reported in this survey were caused by acquaintances, friends, and/or partners in a relationship, and the majority of these incidents were not reported to the police or campus officials. Our data shows large disparities between women's and men's experiences of harm, and we also highlight harm experienced by trans students and students who chose not to*

identify their gender.¹ While the number of respondents changed from question to question, roughly 1,108 women, 510 men, and 51 trans* students, as well as 17 students who did not specify their gender identity, participated in the survey.

Sexual Assault

22% of women, **11%** of men, and **28%** of trans* students surveyed, as well as **33%** of students who did not specify their gender, reported experiences of sexual assault.

- **99** students (87 women; 5 men, 5 trans*, 2 unspecified) reported penetration without consent;
- **36** students (22 women; 11 men; 3 trans*) reported oral contact with genitals without consent;
- **187** students (148 women; 34 men; 4 trans*, 1 unspecified) reported someone committed sexual acts upon them while they were drunk, drugged, passed out or asleep.

Among first year student respondents, **22** women, **4** men, and **1** trans* student experienced a sexual assault incident in their first 2-3 months at HSU.

Intimate partner violence

26% of women, **18%** of men, and **43%** of trans* students surveyed, as well as **53%** of students who did not specify their gender, reported experiences and dynamics commonly found within intimate partner violence.

- **26** students (25 women, 1 man) reported being choked or strangled;
- **26** students (14 women, 9 men, 2 trans*, 1 unspecified) reported being kicked, bit, burned or hit;
- **97** students (74 women, 14 men, 8 trans*, 1 unspecified) reported that their partners made threats to physically harm them or someone they love;
- **87** students (69 women, 13 men, 4 trans*, 1 unspecified) reported their partner made them have sex when they did not want to;
- **167** students (117 women, 37 men, 10 trans*, 3 unspecified) reported their partner kept track of them and demanded to know where they were.
- Additional reports of harm include: pushing, slapping, shoving; insults and put downs; controlling budget, clothing, friends; keeping someone from leaving a space; destroying things; using a weapon against them.

Stalking

21% of women, **8%** of men, and **32%** of trans* students surveyed, as well as **35%** of students who did not specify their gender, reported experiencing stalking while at HSU.

- **103** students (80 women, 14 men, 7 trans*, 2 unspecified) reported that someone repeatedly followed them;
- **72** students (54 women, 11 men, 4 trans*, 3 unspecified) reported that someone tracked or monitored their location or actions;

* includes trans/transgender men, trans/transgender women, as well as those who identify as gender queer or otherwise outside the binary categories of men/women.

- **205** students (167 women, 26 men, 9 trans*, 3 unspecified) reported that someone engaged in repeated, unwanted communication (written, email, social media, texting, including hacking into personal sites, and leaving unwanted gifts).

Sexual Harassment

46% women, **16%** men, and **63%** trans* students surveyed, as well as **53%** of students who did not specify their gender, reported experiencing sexual harassment while at HSU.

Forms of harm included: kissing and touching without consent; whistles and cat calls; inappropriate questions about their sexual life; unwanted sexual phone calls, texts or social media posts; unwanted exposure of genitals, masturbation, sexual motions or gestures.