

ARC3 SURVEY OF CAMPUS CLIMATE REGARDING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Some basic information, April 2015

This document contains some information about the campus climate survey developed by the Administrator-Researcher Campus Climate Collaborative (ARC3). This survey is the result of ongoing efforts by student and legal affairs professionals, campus advocates, students, campus law enforcement, and sexual assault and harassment researchers, groups of whom met in Atlanta, Georgia in October 2014 for the Georgia State University Forum on Campus Sexual Assault and in February 2015 in Madison, Wisconsin for the Madison Summit on Campus Climate and Sexual Misconduct.

The survey is organized into modules that will provide campuses with the flexibility in survey length and content they have indicated they need. The module order is intentional, and is based on our collective experience with survey and institutional research. Several campuses have agreed to pilot the survey this spring. We plan to release an updated draft this fall based on the results and lessons learned during piloting. At that time we will also provide additional background information on the modules, best practices for administering the survey (including, for example, strategies for collecting complete, high-quality responses), and scoring recommendations. The draft was based upon a set of guiding principles that emerged from the Georgia State Forum and the Madison Summit which we share with you below.

MODULE	TOPIC	ITEMS	TIME TO COMPLETE*
1	POSSIBLE OUTCOMES	22	1:45
2	ALCOHOL USE	2-5	0:30
3	PEER NORMS	12	1:00
4	PERCEPTIONS OF CAMPUS CLIMATE REGARDING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT	26	2:45
5	SEXUAL HARASSMENT BY FACULTY/STAFF	19-23	2:00
6	SEXUAL HARASSMENT BY STUDENTS	19-23	2:00
7	STALKING VICTIMIZATION	10-16	1:00
8	STALKING PERPETRATION	10-16	1:00
9	DATING VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION	6-12	0:45
10	DATING VIOLENCE PERPETRATION	6-12	0:45
11	SEXUAL VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION	25-35	4:00
12	SEXUAL VIOLENCE PERPETRATION	25-32	4:00
13	INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES	28-34	2:45
14	PEER RESPONSES	10	0:45
15	CONSENT	13	1:05
16	BYSTANDER INTERVENTION	7	0:35
17	CAMPUS SAFETY	8	0:40
18	DEMOGRAPHICS	9	1:00
19	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	4	0:30

Guiding Principles for Development of Student-Focused Climate Surveys

Note: A module-based structure makes this instrument flexible to campus needs and legislative mandates moving forward, while maintaining validity of measurement. Module timing estimates are based upon preliminary tests conducted by undergraduate research assistants (*minutes:seconds).

Student-focused campus climate surveys related to sexual misconduct¹ should serve multiple purposes. They should go beyond assessing the incidence and prevalence of sexual misconduct, but also serve across time as a barometer of the success of policies, procedures, services, and prevention programs. Participation in a campus climate survey can serve as an educational opportunity and as an intervention; therefore, the survey should be framed to educate students regarding the full range of experiences that constitute sexual misconduct and sexual assault and should be structured so that students know that their own unwanted experiences matter.

Additionally, meaningful prevention rests on identifying the reasons sexual misconduct is perpetrated and the environments that foster it. Our goal is create a “living document,” along with recommended best practices—something that will be useful to improve the safety and well-being of all students, but is amendable to modifications based on data and lessons learned.

When crafting this survey, we were guided by the following principles:

- **Inclusiveness, mutual respect, and collaboration**
 - Where the voices of researchers, college and university administrators, and students will all be heard
- **Engaging in an iterative and transparent drafting process**
 - The authors invite and encourage peer review and revision of the survey.
 - Administrators should give support, feedback and consultation to researchers so that the survey will be as useful and relevant as possible. The scientists in turn should consider the feedback in developing a survey that meets institutional needs
- **Ensuring independence and integrity in research**
 - Guided by the ethics of science and recognizing and taking steps to remove the influence of bias
- **A commitment to use of the best scientific evidence as the foundation of the survey**
 - There is a scientific knowledge base and a *transparent* scientific process *must* guide this work if the research is to have integrity and accuracy
 - Peer reviewed studies are the basis for determining survey content
- **Equal focus on surveying victimization and perpetration**
 - Meaningful prevention rests on identifying the reasons sexual misconduct is perpetrated and the environments that foster it. Data that are focused on both victimization and perpetration creates a scientific foundation for administrative work
- **The adoption of a civil rights approach grounded in Title IX**
 - Our work focuses on the range of acts that constitute the incidents an institution must respond to and process under guidelines of Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act, the Clery Law and other applicable local, state, and federal law and guidelines
- **Framing our efforts with the principles of The Belmont Report²**
 - *Respect for persons*: Ensure that students are informed and participate voluntarily;
 - *Beneficence*: Participation in a campus climate survey is an educational opportunity and an intervention;

¹ *Sexual Misconduct* refers to a range of behaviors that includes sexual assault, intimate partner violence/dating violence, stalking, and sexual harassment.

² “Ethical Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of Human Subjects of Research,” HHS, 1979

- *Justice*: As stated in the Belmont report, address “Who ought to receive the benefits of research and bear its burdens?”
- **A sensitivity to the unique issues faced by various diverse populations and higher education institutional types**
 - Addressing the intersectionality of identities and the multiple contextual factors affecting risk for sexual misconduct

Madison Summit for Campus Climate and Sexual Misconduct collaborators who collectively designed the survey:

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