

STUDENT CAMPUS CLIMATE SURVEY

BRIEF 3: INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

INTRODUCTION

In fall 2014 the University of North Alabama (UNA) administered a Student Campus Climate Survey. The purpose of the survey was to provide UNA with critical information regarding our campus climate, campus resources, and experiences of our students. Based on the findings of the survey, the UNA Title IX Education and Prevention Advisory Board developed and implemented a series of recommendations.

Beginning in fall 2015, all freshman and transfer students were required to take a First-Year Experience (FYE) course that contained a mandatory Title IX/Bystander Intervention training. In addition to requiring the Title IX/Bystander Intervention training in all FYE courses, the training was also made available on request to all campus entities (e.g., registered student organizations). The Title IX portion of the training included information about Title IX policies and procedures regarding incidents of power-based violence (e.g. what is power-based violence, how to report an incident, confidential resources, procedures for investigating). The Bystander Intervention portion of the training included information about how to engage in active bystander behaviors, specifically behaviors that would prevent power-based violence in risky situations.

In fall 2016, UNA administered a second Student Campus Climate Survey to examine the impact of the Title IX/Bystander Intervention trainings on campus climate. This is the third brief in a series of four that presents key findings from the 2016 survey. The focus of this brief is on data pertaining to UNA students' experiences with intimate partner violence. The full report is available at una.edu/titleix

SAMPLE

A total of 1,457 surveys were completed. The median age of participants was 22 years old. Seventy-four percent (74%) of the sample identified as female, 24% identified as male, and approximately 2% identified as transgender or other. The class standing of participants was as follows: 37% freshman, 18% sophomore, 17%

junior, 21% senior, 6% graduate student, and 1% special student. The racial composition approximated the racial makeup of the University.

MEASURE: CONTROLLING AND ABUSIVE TACTICS

Based on recommendations from the UNA Title IX Education and Prevention Advisory Board, the New Controlling and Abusive Tactics Scale (CAT 2-C) was added to the 2016 survey to measure non-physical intimate partner violence (IPV). The CAT 2-C lists 37 controlling and abusive acts (e.g., partner calls you names, attempts to control who you are with, verbally threatens to hurt you) and asks participants to indicate how frequently an intimate partner has perpetrated that act against them during the last year on a scale of 0 – 4 (0 = never; 4 = frequently).

INCIDENCE OF CONTROLLING AND ABUSIVE TACTICS

Incidence refers to a count of how many unique incidents of a particular act, in this case controlling and abusive tactics, occur during a given period of time (i.e., during the past year). Table 1 is a breakdown of the most common controlling and abusive tactics reported by our sample. N represents the number of students indicating they experienced that act from an intimate partner at least once during the last year.

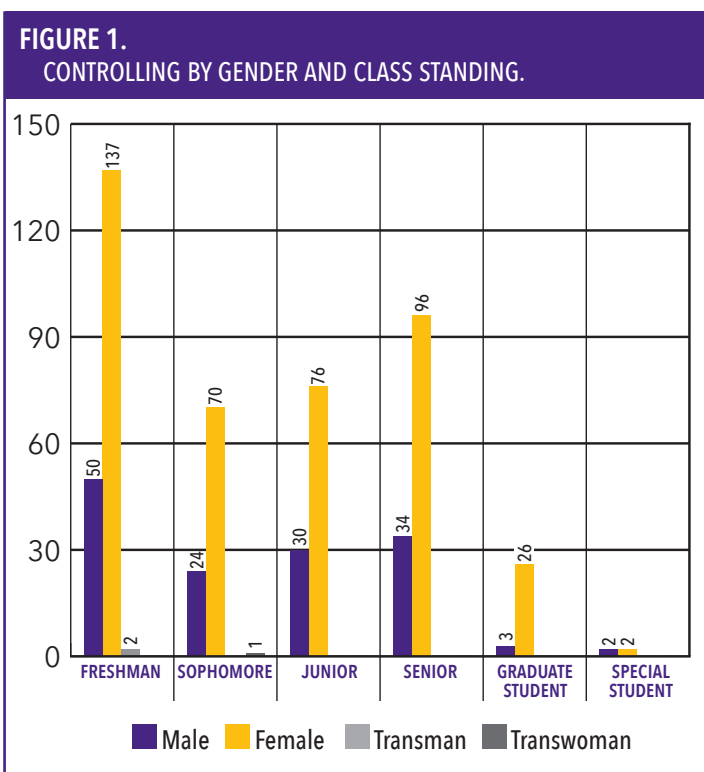
	N
NAGGED YOU	376
TREATED YOU LIKE YOU WERE STUPID	339
DELIBERATELY IGNORED YOU	322
BLAMED YOU FOR ALL OF THE PROBLEMS IN THE RELATIONSHIP	319
CALLED OR TEXT MESSAGED YOU CONSTANTLY	310
RIDICULED YOU	307
CALLED YOU NAMES (e.g., bitch, loser)	305

PREVALENCE OF CONTROLLING AND ABUSIVE TACTICS

Prevalence rates are a count of how many unique people experience a particular act, in this case controlling and abusive tactics, during a given period of time (i.e., during the last year). A total of 616 individuals in our sample of 1,457 reported experiencing at least one controlling and abusive tactic from an intimate partner during the last year. Therefore, the prevalence rate for controlling and abusive tactics in our sample was 42%.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS REPORTING CONTROLLING AND ABUSIVE TACTICS

Prevalence of controlling and abusive tactics was higher among women. Seventy-three percent (73%) of the individuals who reported experiencing controlling and abusive tactics were women while 26% were men. Figure 1 is a breakdown of the gender and class standing of the 616 individuals who reported experiencing at least one controlling and abusive tactic from an intimate partner during the last year and provided demographic information.



MEASURE: PHYSICAL IPV

Physical intimate partner violence (IPV) was measured using the Safe Dates Physical Violence Victimization Scale, which lists sixteen acts of physical violence (e.g., slapped, pushed, kicked) and asks participants to indicate the number of times during the past year that an intimate partner committed that act of physical violence toward them.

INCIDENCE OF PHYSICAL IPV

Incidence refers to a count of how many unique incidents of intimate partner violence occur during a given period of time (i.e., during the past year). Table 2 is a breakdown of the acts of physical violence most commonly reported in our sample. N represents the number of students indicating they had experienced that act of violence from an intimate partner at least once during the last year.

TABLE 2.
MOST COMMON ACTS OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE REPORTED.

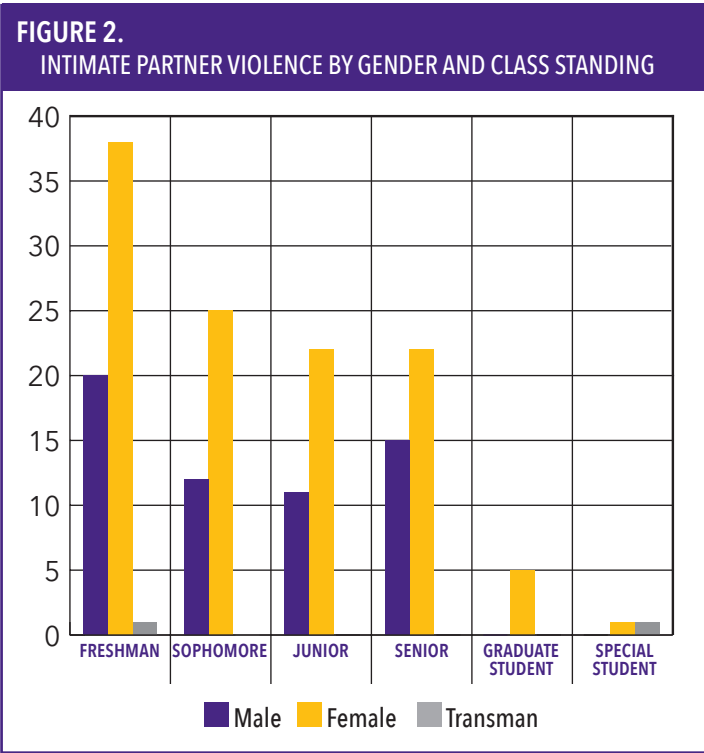
Act of Physical Violence	N
PUSHED, GRABBED, OR SHOVED ME	111
SLAMMED OR HELD ME AGAINST A WALL	79
THREW SOMETHING AT ME THAT HIT ME	79
BIT ME	79
SCRATCHED ME	78
SLAPPED ME	71

PREVALENCE OF PHYSICAL IPV

Prevalence rates are a count of how many unique people experience a particular act, in this case physical violence, during a given period of time (i.e., during the last year). A total of 189 individuals in our sample of 1,457 reported experiencing at least one act of physical violence during the last year. Therefore, the prevalence rate of physical violence in our sample was 13%. There was not a significant difference in the prevalence of physical violence between the 2014 and 2016 survey.

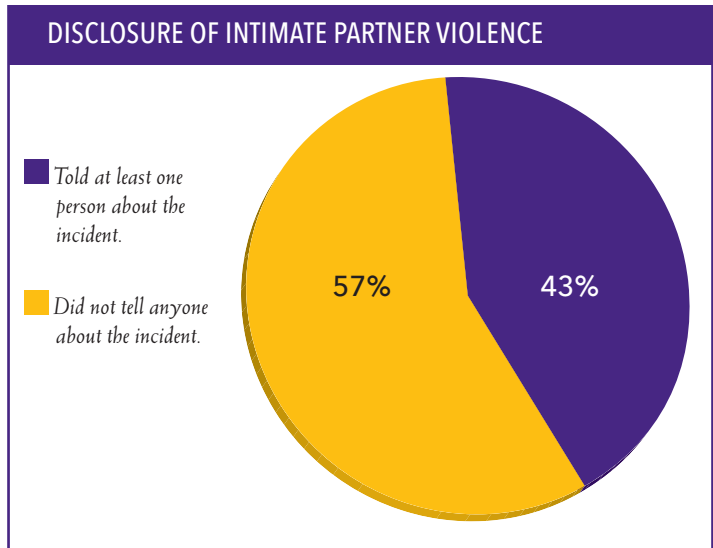
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS REPORTING PHYSICAL IPV

Prevalence of physical intimate partner violence was higher among women. Sixty-four percent (64%) of the individuals who reported experiencing intimate partner violence were women while 33% were men. Figure 2 is a breakdown of the gender and class standing of the 189 individuals who reported experiencing at least one act of physical violence during the last year and provided demographic information.



DISCLOSURE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Participants who reported experiencing intimate partner violence (i.e., controlling or abusive tactics and/or physical acts of violence) were asked a series of follow-up questions. Of the 143 victims who participated in the follow-up questions, 43% said they had told at least one person about the incident, while 57% said they did not tell anyone about the incident.



Victims who said they had told at least one person about their experience with intimate partner violence were asked to identify who they told and were allowed to indicate multiple individuals if they had told more than one person. Victims were approximately twice as likely to disclose to a close friend than to any other group listed, including roommates, romantic partners, parents, counselors, faculty, staff, police, or victim support services.

If victims indicated they did not tell at least one person about the incident, they were asked to indicate why and were allowed to indicate multiple reasons. Table 3 is a break down of the most common reasons listed by victims for why they chose not to disclose.

TABLE 3.
MOST COMMON REASONS FOR NON-DISCLOSURE REPORTED.

Reason	N
FELT IT WAS A PRIVATE MATTER	41
ASHAMED/EMBARRASSED	28
DIDN'T WANT OTHERS TO WORRY ABOUT ME	19
DIDN'T THINK IT WAS THAT SERIOUS	18
DIDN'T THINK OTHERS WOULD UNDERSTAND	17
DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO DEAL WITH IT	17

REPORTING OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Participants who reported experiencing intimate partner violence (i.e., controlling or abusive tactics and/or physical acts of violence) were asked a series of follow-up questions. When asked if they were aware of UNA's formal procedures to report their experience(s) with intimate partner violence, 62% of victims reported yes and 38% said no. Only 9% of victims (N=7) who participated in the IPV follow-up questions reported that they chose to use UNA's formal procedures to report the incident.

These 7 individuals were asked to indicate how much they were helped by UNA's formal procedures on a scale of 1 – 4 (1=didn't help me at all; 4=helped me a lot). The average rating of UNA's formal procedures by those who utilized them was a 3.25 (SD=1.04) with 63% of those who utilized the services reporting that they were helped a lot by them.

CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

The findings indicate some potential areas of concern.

- There was no significant difference between the 2014 and 2016 samples in the incidence and prevalence of physical intimate partner violence.
- The 2016 survey included a measure of non-physical forms of intimate partner violence and over 40% of the sample reported experiencing at least one controlling and abusive tactic from an intimate partner during the last year.

Based on these findings, it is strongly recommended that UNA continue its Title IX programming and initiatives on campus. Specifically, UNA should continue (1) the mandatory requirement of providing Title IX/Bystander Intervention education in all First-Year Experience (FYE) courses, (2) the mandatory online training program, Haven, in all FYE courses, and (3) provide several campus-wide education events throughout each academic year that focus on the prevention of power-based violence and increasing awareness of campus resources for victims.

It is recommended that the Title IX Education and Prevention Advisory Board review the Title IX/Bystander Intervention presentation that is given in FYE courses to include information about non-

physical forms of intimate partner violence. It is also recommended that other campus-wide education events focus on non-physical forms of intimate partner violence.

PROJECT COLLABORATORS

The principal investigator for the Student Campus Climate Survey was UNA faculty member, Dr. Amber Paulk from the Department of Sociology and Family Studies. Her co-principal investigators were UNA faculty members Drs. Andrea Hunt and Yaschica Williams, also from the Department of Sociology and Family Studies. The UNA Title IX Education and Prevention Advisory Board reviewed both the 2014 and 2016 surveys and subsequent technical reports. The advisory board includes UNA's Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Tammy Jacques; UNA faculty, staff, and students; representatives from UNA Student Counseling Services; the UNA Police Department; and local community partners. Both the 2014 and 2016 surveys were approved by UNA's Human Subjects Review Committee.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact UNA's Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Tammy Jacques, at tmwells@una.edu or **256.765.4223**.