

Executive Summary

During the Fall 2018 semester, Golden West College surveyed students with the primary purpose of understanding students' knowledge, opinions, and experiences with sexual assault. This included knowledge about GWC's policies and procedures for handling such incidents. This survey was modeled after the U.S. Department of Justice's survey on Violence Against Women. Below are summary findings based from 994 student respondents.

General Opinion of the College

- 84% of students strongly agreed or agreed that Golden West College is a safe place.
- 82% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they are happy to be at GWC.
- 77% of students identified feeling valued at the college.
- 62% of students strongly agreed or agreed that sexual assault is not a problem at GWC, while 33% remained neutral, and 5% believe that sexual assault is a problem at GWC.
- 85% of students believe GWC would take reporting of sexual assault seriously, 82% believe that the College would support the person making the report, and 79% believe GWC would take corrective action against the offender.

Student Knowledge and Perspectives on Consent and Sexual Assault

- 87% of students said they will ask for verbal consent when they are intimate with their partner, even if they are in a long-term relationship.
- 89% of students said they would check in on a friend who looks intoxicated (drunk) and went into a room with someone else at a party.
- With regards to responding to sexual assault, 93% of students said they would respond by getting help and resources for a friend who shared that they had been raped.

Student Experience with Stalking

- Of the 471 students who responded to the questions on stalking, 37 students (8%) shared that in the last 12 months they had been stalked.
- Primary mode of stalking was through social media or some type of electronic stalking.

Student Experience with Assault

- Of the 436 students who responded to the questions on sexual assault, 36 students (8%) indicated that they experienced a sexual incident/assault in the last 12 months.
- 35 out of the 36 students, shared that the incident was NOT on Golden West College campus.
- The top perpetrators of these sexual assaults were identified as an ex dating partner/ spouse, someone they had just met, and an acquaintance or friend of a friend.
- 28 students (85%), shared that they had told someone about the sexual assault.
- The tops individuals that students had talked to about the sexual assault were a close friend, romantic partner, parent or guardian, and other family members.
- As a result of the sexual assault, students identified having problems with personal issues (e.g. communication skills, personal/psychological issues, and physical issues), and with friends,

roommates, or peers (e.g. getting in more arguments or fights, not feeling they could trust others, not feeling as close to others as before).

Overall Recommendation

The findings from this report show that students overall feel safe and welcomed at Golden West College. A reoccurring theme throughout the report was students not knowing how to submit sexual assault reports or complaints on campus. A recommendation for the college, is to raise awareness of the reporting process and resources available to students who have experienced sexual assault. Another recommendation is to share the findings from this report with all members of Golden West College- students, staff, faculty, and administrators- so the campus is aware and may be able to support someone that reports having experienced sexual assault.