

IDENTIFYING CULTURALLY-SAFE SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE RESPONSE SERVICES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



- How is sexualized violence culturally defined?
- What kind of support do victim/survivors of sexualized violence receive in different cultural contexts?
- Where do international students feel safe and supported while living in Canada?
- What kind of barriers impede international students from receiving support after experiencing sexualized violence?
- How can higher education institutions provide culturally-safe sexualized violence response services to international students?

MIXED METHODS

SURVEY

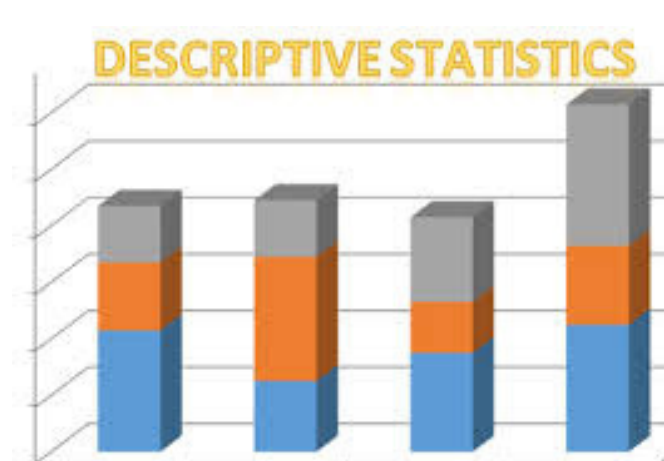
- confidential, anonymous 10-minute online survey emailed to all international students enrolled at TRU
- qualitative and quantitative questions
- probability convenience sampling

FOCUS GROUPS

- three confidential focus groups
- 18 female and/or LGBTQ+ international students
- semi-structured interview guide
- probability convenience sampling
- two-hour discussion.
- Participants collaboratively identify themes and solutions
- audio recorded
- note-taker to document participant responses and observations



Source: www.mcmanewsandviews.blogspot.com



Source: www.swiftutors.com

ANALYSIS

- Quantitative results --> descriptive statistics
- Quantitative portions --> thematic analysis
- Significant findings from the survey data will be used to inform the semi-structured interview guide for the focus groups and contribute to generalizable findings.
- Focus group participants will identify themes and solutions collaboratively during the focus groups
- Recorded discussion will be thematically analyzed using Nvivo 11 technology.

Organize, query and visualize your data to discover patterns, connections and themes.

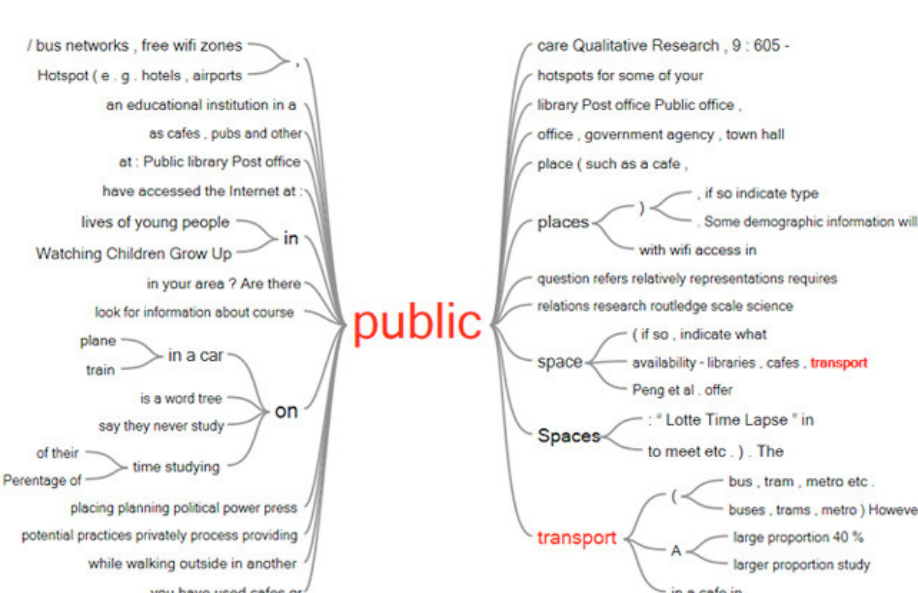


Image source: www.appcenter.evernote.com



WHY IS THIS RESEARCH IMPORTANT?

International students, especially female and/or LGBTQ+ international students, are at increased risk of sexualized violence due to intersections of race, class, and gender, and face many barriers to help-seeking.



Source: www.hercampus.com

RISK FACTORS

- Isolation; separation from usual family and social supports in home country
- Unfamiliar with navigating North American cultural dating norms
- Language barriers
- Social/Cultural taboos on talking about sex
- Consent is not a concept that is taught in many countries
- Patriarchal social/cultural gender norms, ie: women should be passive, submissive, polite, are responsible for protecting their own virginity, etc.
- Unfamiliar with their rights in Canada
- First time exposure to more liberal drug/alcohol scene than in home country; drug/alcohol experimentation
- Unaware of supports that are available, or available supports are culturally inappropriate
- Insufficient financial resources may limit options and ability to leave abusive relationships
- Power imbalances as a student; may fear that reporting sexualized violence will put their status as an international student at risk
- Fear of social stigma & exclusion from their cultural group on campus

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Topic may be triggering/emotionally distressing
- Informed consent explained prior to participation
- Resources for support
- Confidentiality
- Anonymity

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