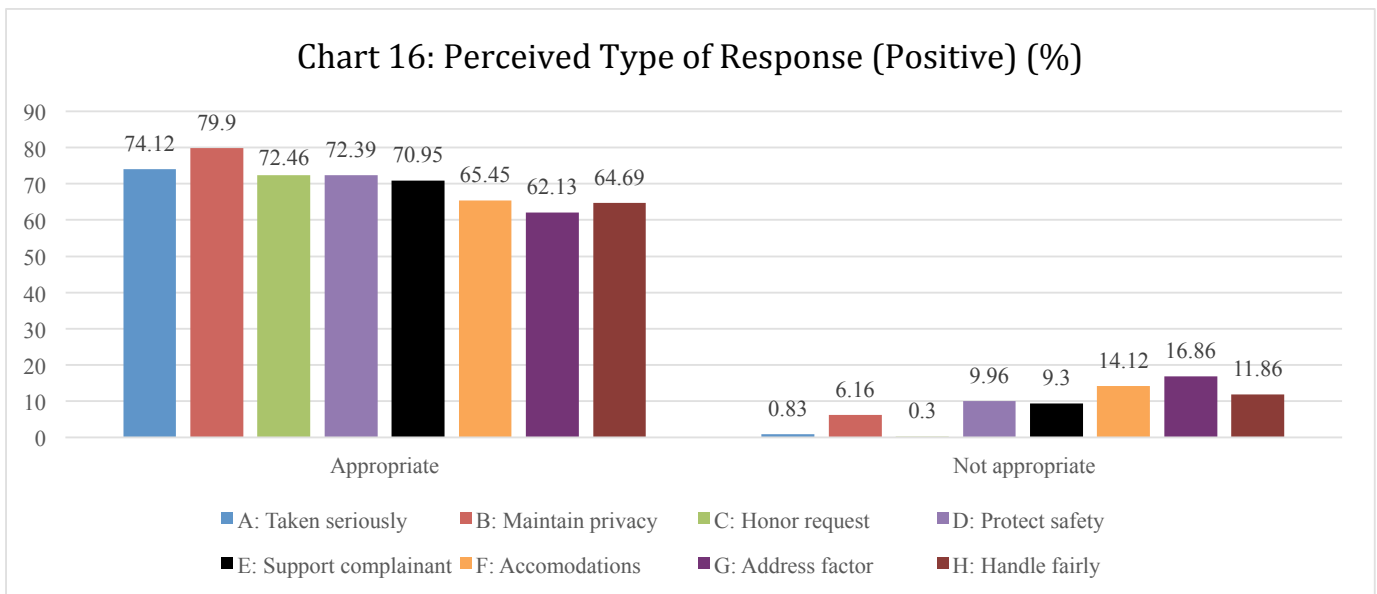


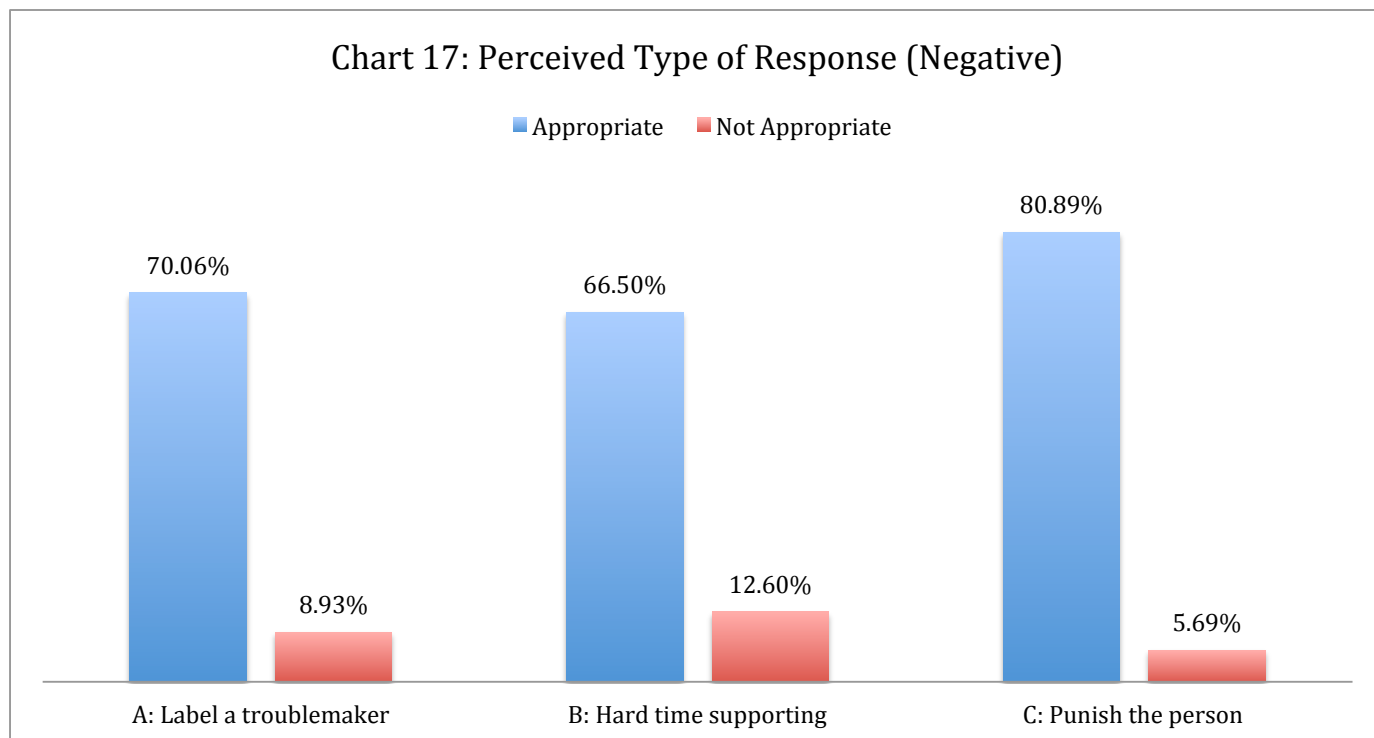
Perceptions of Institutional Response to Interpersonal Violence

Survey participants were asked to describe how they thought UMW *might* handle a report of sexual misconduct. Examples of sexual misconduct include sexual assault, rape, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, stalking, sexual or gender-based harassment or retaliation. In general, the majority of respondents reported that they believed UMW would respond appropriately in each category such as likely or very likely taking the report seriously (see in chart: A; 74%), maintaining privacy of the person making the report (see in chart: B; 80%), and taking steps to protect the safety of the person making the report (see in chart: D; 72%). However, it is important to note that students were less confident (unlikely or very unlikely) that the University would provide accommodations to the person (see in chart: F; 14%), take actions to address factors that may have led to the prohibited sexual conduct in the first place (see in chart: G; 17%), or handle the report fairly (see in chart: H; 12%). In addition to the aforementioned factors, participants were asked if they thought UMW would do its best to honor the request of the person about how to go forward with the case (see in chart: C; 73%) and if UMW would support the person making the report (see in chart: E; 71%).



Participants were also asked if they believed the University would take the following inappropriate measures:¹⁰

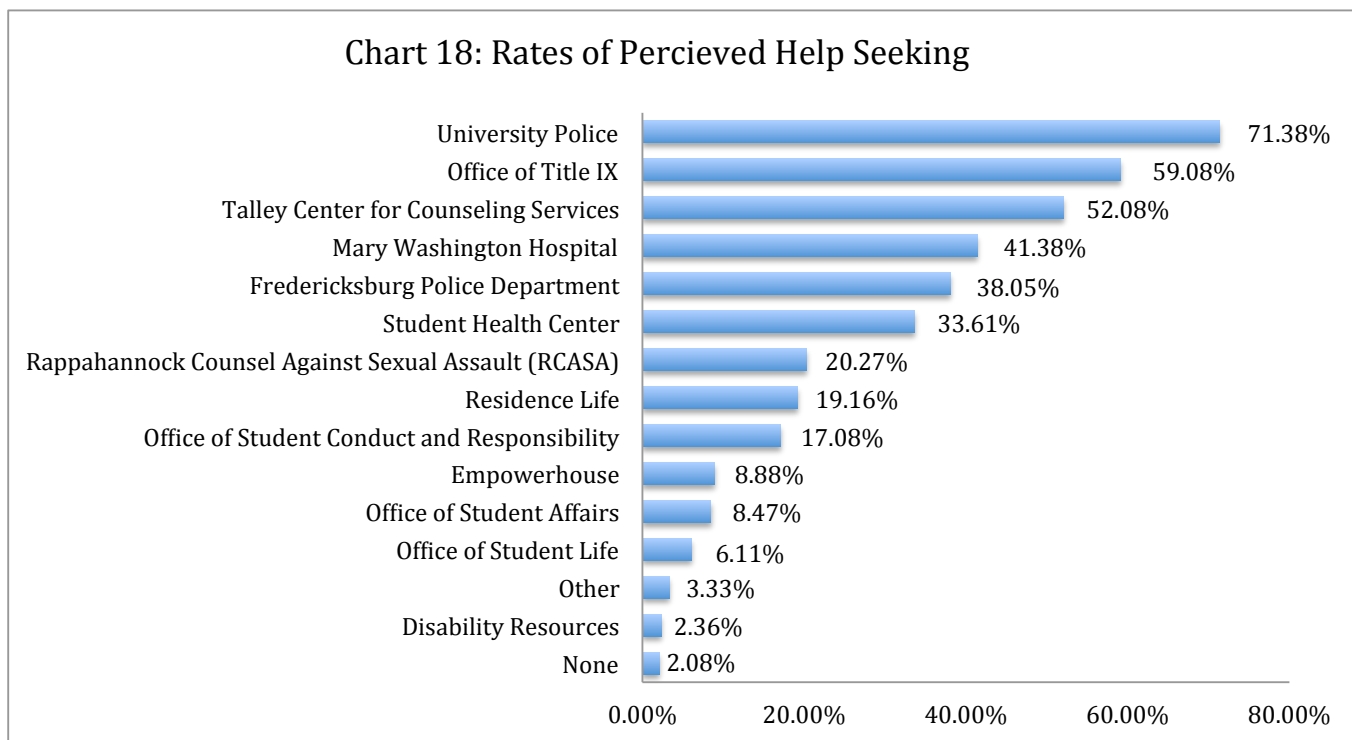
- Would label the person making the report a troublemaker (see in chart: A)
- Have a hard time supporting the person making the report (see in chart: B)
- Punish the person who made the report (see in chart: C)



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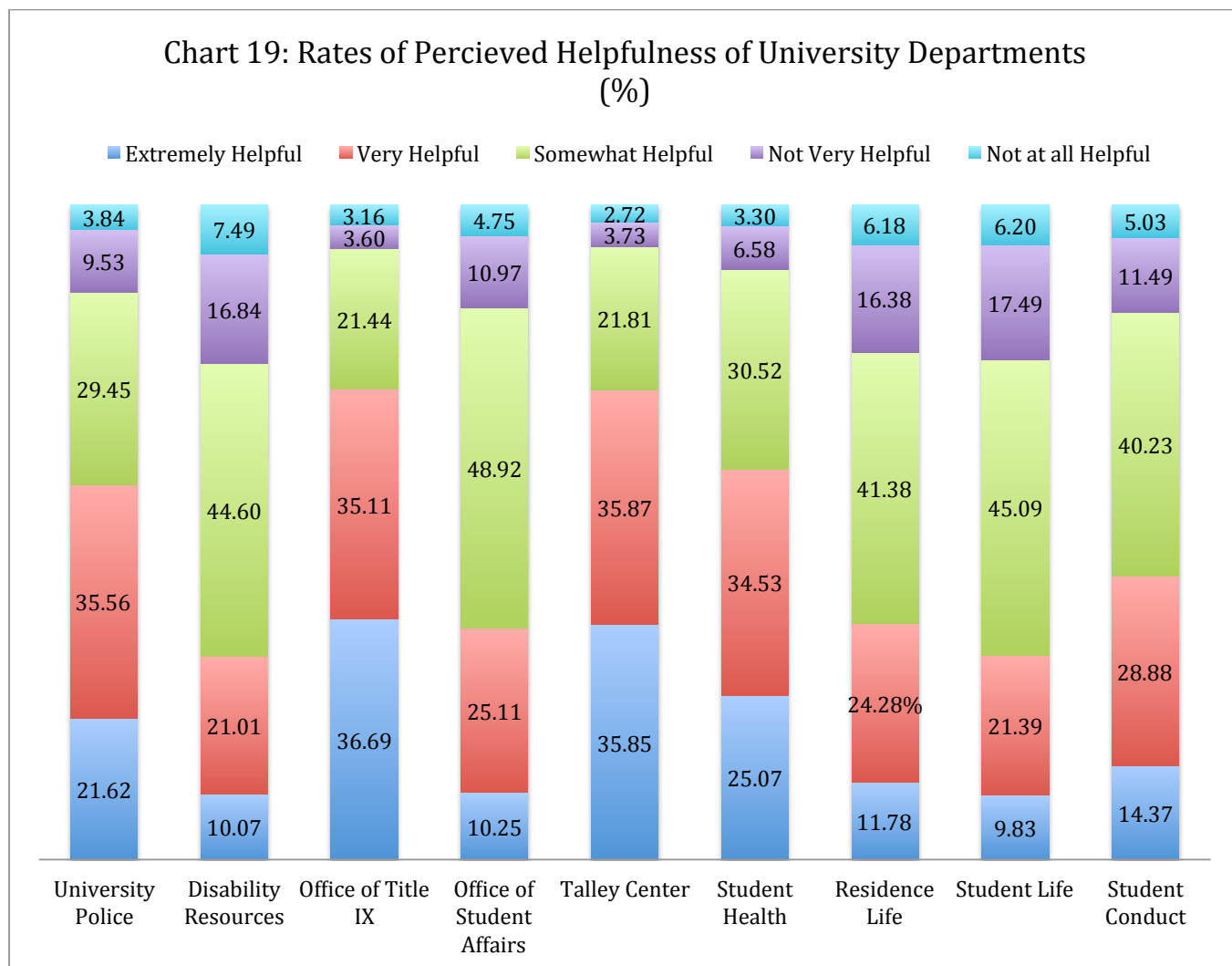
¹⁰ Rates do not total to 100% as the remaining rates indicate "neutral."

Survey participants were asked to indicate to whom they would turn for help if they experienced a *hypothetical* case of prohibited sexual conduct. As survivors are offered multiple reporting and assistance options, students were able to choose as many options they felt would apply. Most responded that they would seek help from University Police (71%), the Office of Title IX (59%), the Talley Center for Counseling Services (52%), and/or Mary Washington Hospital (41%). Of the 3% of students who said they would seek help elsewhere, most indicated they would confide in a roommate, friend, or family member. Additionally, 2% of students indicated they would not turn to anyone for help.



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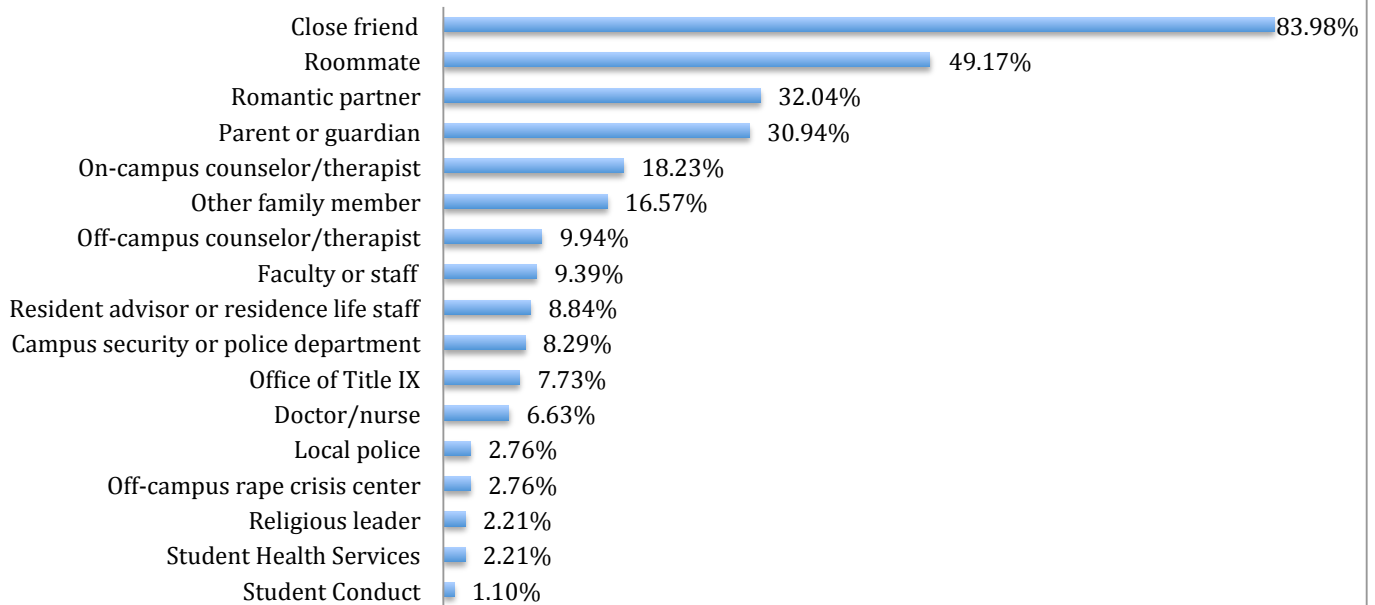
When asked how helpful a variety of University departments would be in responding to a *hypothetical* case of prohibited sexual conduct, departments primarily viewed as being the extremely helpful, helpful, or somewhat helpful were the Talley Center for Counseling Services (94%) and the Office of Title IX (93%), followed by the Student Health Center (90%) and University Police (87%).



Institutional and Personal Response to Interpersonal Violence

Respondents who shared that they experienced one or more forms of sexual violence while enrolled were asked whom they told about the incident. Of respondents who did tell somebody about their experience (42%), most chose to share with a close friend (84%), roommate (49%), partner (32%) or parent or guardian (30%). Only 8% of respondents who reported experiencing violence actually reported to Campus Police or the Office of Title IX, showing a difference between hypothetical and actual reporting behavior (see section: Perceptions of Institutional Response).

Chart 20: Departments or Organizations Told



Respondents who shared that they experienced one or more forms of interpersonal violence while enrolled at UMW were also asked to share if or how the institution played a role in their experience. The charts below provide a snapshot of how respondents believe the University responded. The question did not ask respondents to only report administrative responses; as such, the data may include how peers, faculty, staff and administration responded.

The majority of respondents who reported experiencing interpersonal violence in the survey indicated positive, but not overwhelmingly so, institutional responses. For instance, 54% reported that the institution met their needs for support and accommodations (see in chart: F), while 46% reported that the institution did not meet their needs (see in chart: F). The highest areas of dissatisfaction were respondents saying the institution did not do enough to prevent this type of experience (see in chart: I; 36%) or responded inadequately to their experience (see in chart: M; 39%). Survivors generally agreed that the institution did not make it difficult to report their experience (see in chart: L; 81%), did not create an environment in which this experience seemed more likely to occur (see in chart: K; 79%), and did not cover up the experience (see in chart: O; 74%). In addition, participants were asked:

In thinking about the events related to prohibited sexual conduct you described, did UMW play a role in your experiences by:

- Actively supporting you with either formal or informal resources (see in chart: A)
- Apologizing for what happened to you (see in chart: B)
- Believing your report (see in chart: C)
- Allowing you to have a say in how your report was handled (see in chart: D)
- Ensuring you were treated as an important member of the university (see in chart: E)
- Creating an environment where this type of experience was safe to discuss (see in chart: G)
- Creating an environment where this type of experience was recognized as a problem (see in chart: H)
- Creating an environment which this type of experience seemed common or normal (see in chart: J)
- Mishandling your case, if disciplinary action was requested (see in chart: N)
- Denying your experience in some way (see in chart: P)

Chart 21: Rates of Actual Institutional Responses (Positive) (%)

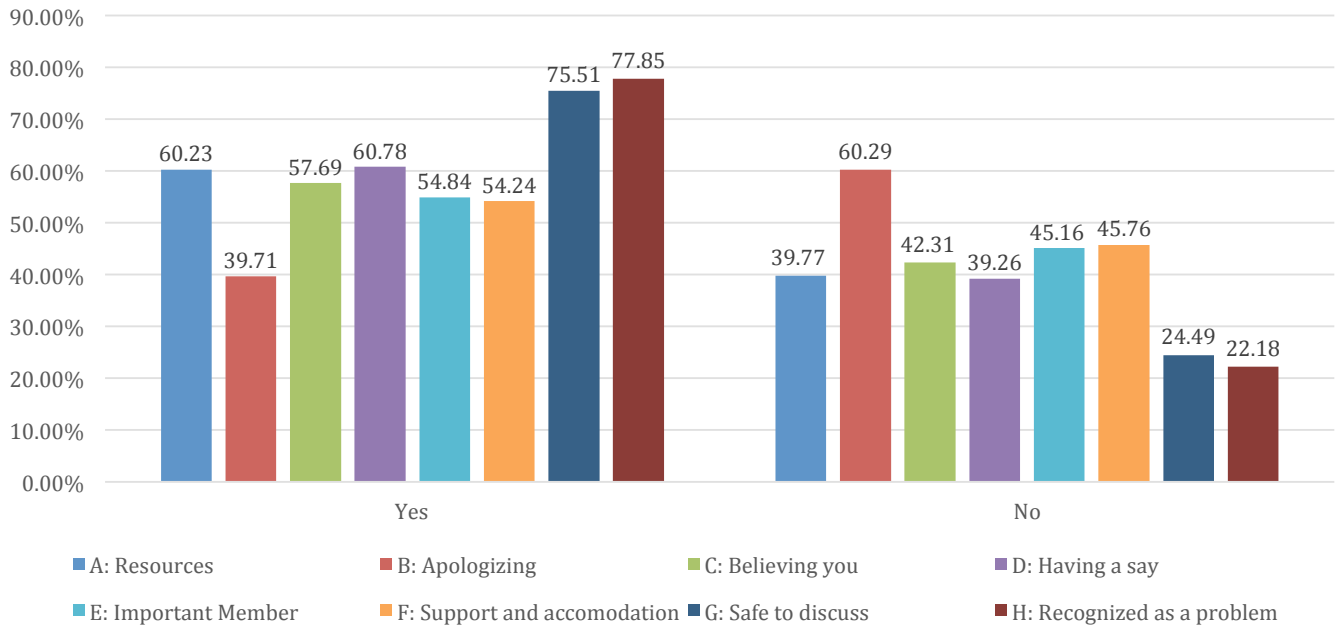
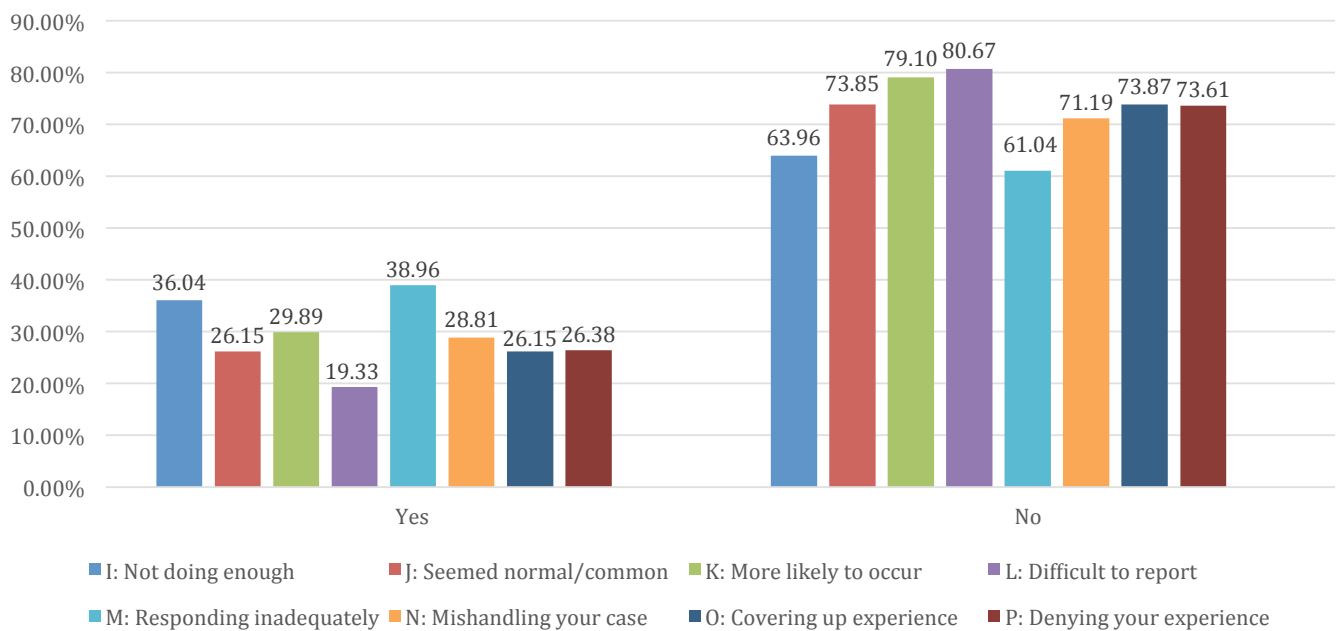


Chart 22: Rates of Actual Institutional Response (Negative) (%)

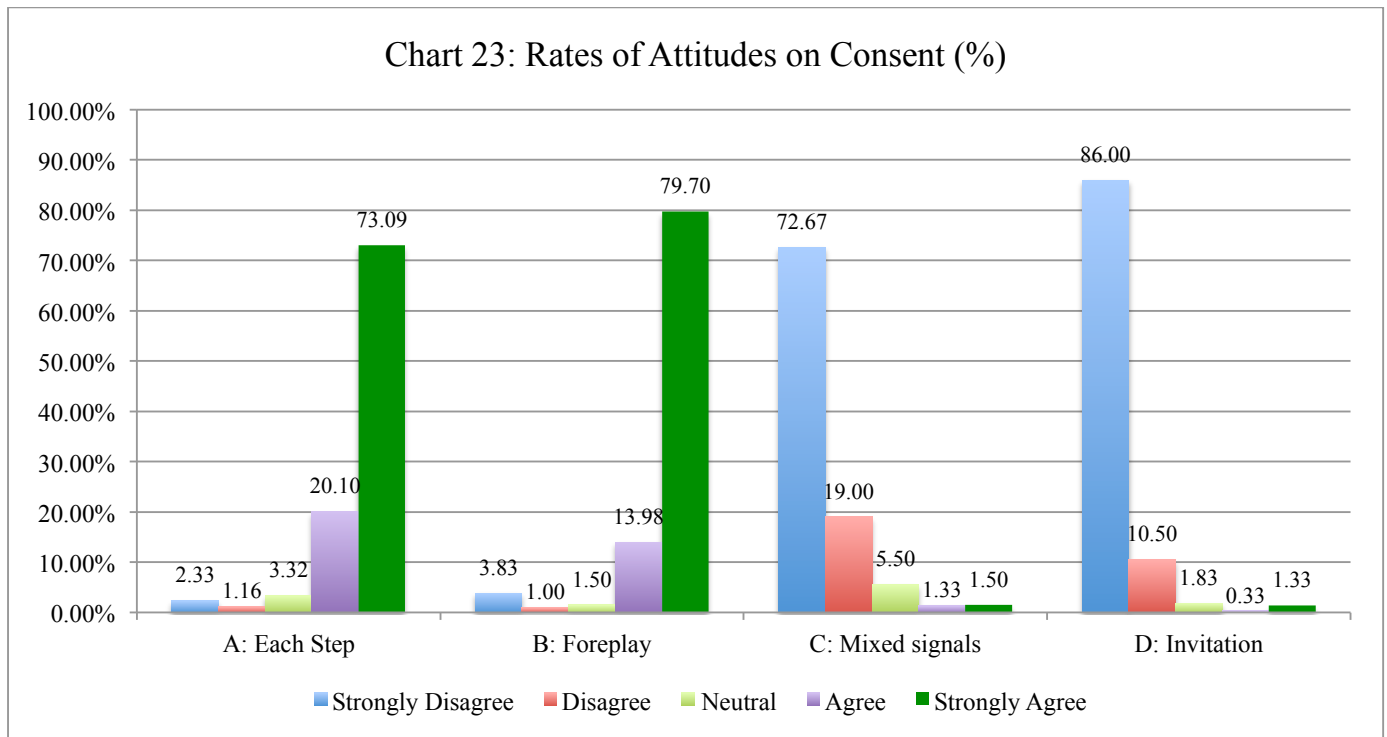


Attitudes on Consent

Survey participants were asked to indicate their attitudes regarding sexual consent. Overwhelmingly, 94% of the respondents indicate safe and appropriate understanding of the concept of sexual consent. The following measures were captured:

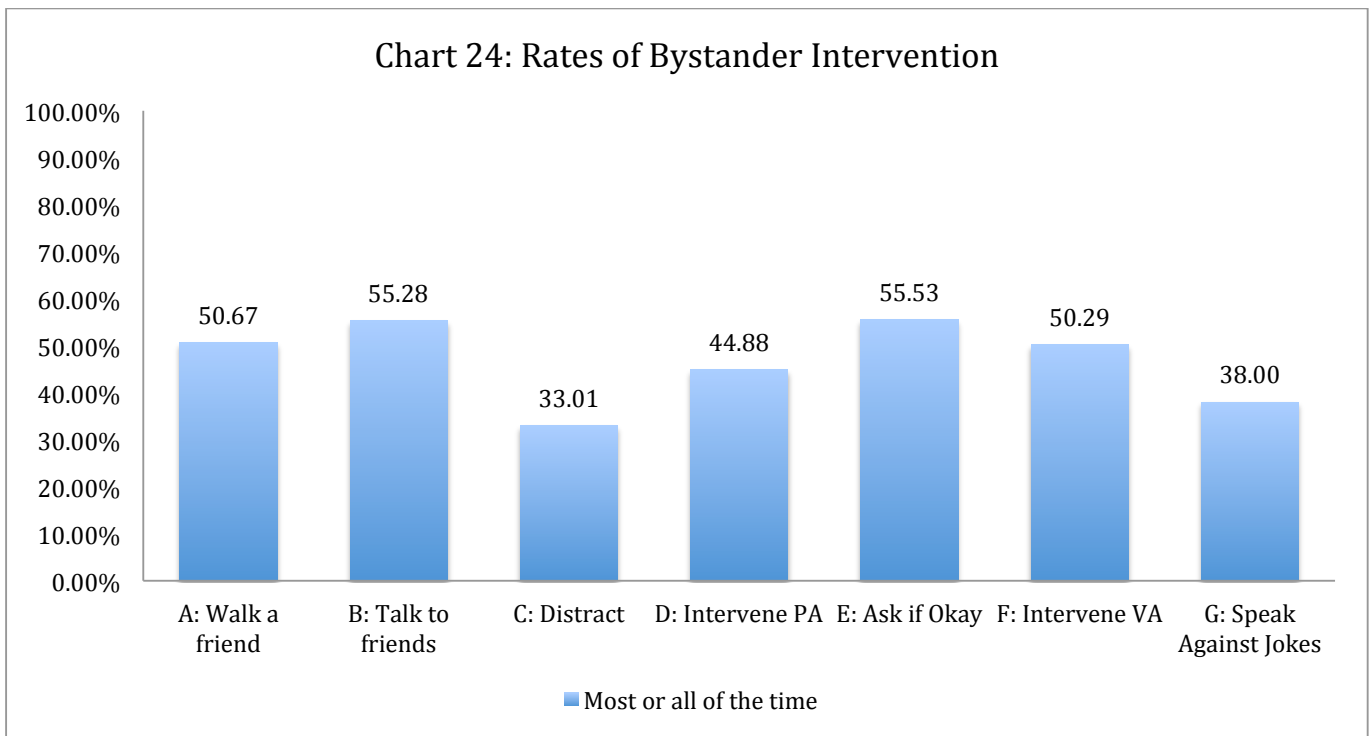
Indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following:

- Consent must be given at each step in a sexual encounter (See in Chart: A)
- If a person initiates sex, but during foreplay says they no longer want to, the person has not given consent to continue (See in Chart: B)
- Mixed signals can sometimes mean consent (See in Chart: C)
- If someone invites you to their place, they are giving consent for sex (See in Chart: D)



Engagement as a Bystander

The concept of bystander intervention promotes the idea that passersby, observers, strangers, and neighbors have a role to play in preventing dangerous situations. Respondents were asked if they typically intervened in a variety of potential risky situations. Most or all of the time, the majority of respondents ask if a person is okay or needs help if they look upset (see Chart E; 56%), talk with the friends of a drunk person to make sure they weren't left behind at a party (see Chart B; 55%) or walk a friend who has had too much to drink home from a party, bar or other social event (see in Chart: A; 51%). Respondents were less likely to distract someone from taking advantage of a drunk person (See Chart C; 33%) or to speak up against sexist jokes (see Chart G; 38%). And finally, respondents reported similar rates of intervening when a friend is physically (See in Chart: D; 45%) or verbally abusive (see in Chart F: 50%).



Next Steps

The findings of this survey show that rates of interpersonal violence at the University of Mary Washington are on par with national averages. The majority of respondents felt happy and safe during their time at UMW and reported a low tolerance level for harassment and moderate rates of bystander intervention. While the majority of respondents believe the University would respond appropriately to a report of interpersonal violence, this study indicates that the University can improve in garnering student trust and reducing barriers surrounding reporting, as well as increasing overall educational and awareness efforts, including a more robust bystander intervention training and awareness regarding resources available to survivors.

This is the second in a series of biennial campus climate surveys that will be used to track changes on perspective, attitudes, and prevalence of gender-based violence at the University over time. The University will use the findings from this study to complete a cross-comparison analysis with the 2016 Campus Climate Survey to improve its response and preventative education efforts with regard to interpersonal violence at UMW. Existing groups such as UMW's Coordinated Community Response Team, Sexual Assault Response Team and Review Committee, Office of Title IX, TEAL Peer Educators as well as the President's Committee on Sexual Assault have vested interests in reviewing these findings and using them to improve their prevention, intervention, and response efforts. Future climate surveys will be conducted in order to establish cross-comparative or longitudinal studies for analysis across time.