

# Fall 2016 Campus Climate Results

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## Campus Climate Survey Background

New York State passed Education Law Article 129B on July 7, 2015. This law, commonly referred to as “Enough is Enough”, is aggressive legislation designed to take a stand against sexual violence on college campuses. In accordance with Enough is Enough, Hilbert College conducted a campus climate survey during the Fall 2016 semester. The survey was conducted to ascertain general awareness and knowledge of the provisions of Enough is Enough, including student experience with and knowledge of reporting and college adjudicatory processes.

The Title IX Coordinator and the Director of Residence Life & Judicial Affairs developed the survey. A team of faculty and staff including the Dean of Students, Director of Campus Safety, Director of Counseling, and Vice Provost for Student Engagement were consulted on the survey content and design.

The survey was approved by the Hilbert College Institutional Review Board and distributed via Survey Monkey to **867** students between November 14 and December 14, 2016. **867** is the total number of enrolled undergraduate and graduate students during the Fall 2016 semester. There were a total of **127** responses yielding a response rate of **14.6%**. All responses were anonymous and voluntary. An incentive was not provided for completing the survey.

## Demographic Characteristics of Participants

Survey participants were asked basic demographic questions at the end of the survey as to not turn off participants with seemingly intrusive and identifiable questions before they had answered the main questions of the survey. Table 1 displays demographics of the 127 survey participants compared to enrollment statistics for the Fall 2016 semester.

- *Age range* – 78.58% of participants indicated their age as between 18 and 21 year old.
- *Sexual orientation* – Most students (79.52%) reported their sexual orientation as heterosexual.
- *Marriage status* - An overwhelming majority of survey participants (96.39%) indicated that they were not currently married.
- *Degree pursuit* - Most students (94.05%) reported that they were pursuing a Bachelor’s degree.
- *Special populations* – 45% of participants identify as varsity athletes, 36.25% as student leaders, 28.75% as first generation college students, 12.5% as an individual with a disability, and 2.5% as military veterans.

Table 1: Demographics		
	Survey Participants*	Actual Enrollment (Fall 2016)
<b>Living Arrangements</b>		
Live on campus	45.23%	29.07%
Live off campus	54.75%	70.93%
<b>Gender Identity</b>		
Female	61.45%	56%
Male	30.12%	44%
Prefer not to respond	4.82%	
A gender identity not listed	3.61	
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
White	83.33%	74.3%
Black or African America	8.33%	6.5%
Hispanic or Latino/a	3.57%	3.75
Asian or Asian American	2.38%	0.2%
Multiracial	2.38%	6.7%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.19%	1.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1.19%	0.2%
	*Percentages do not add to 100% due to participants' decision not to disclose this information.	

### Campus Climate

How students experience their campus environment influences student success. Sexual misconduct has the power to create discriminatory environments resulting in a negative effect on a student’s ability to be successful. Periodic assessment of the climate at Hilbert College provides insight into the experiences and perceptions of the student body. This information will be used to enhance services for students, trainings for the entire campus community, and awareness of sexual misconduct in our community. Knowing the climate of our campus is essential in creating an environment where everyone feels safe, welcomed, respected, and valued.

### Resources

The survey indicated that Hilbert College students are aware of resources available to them and feel protected by the institution. Tables 2 and 3 display the percentage of students who feel protected by and are confident in Hilbert College’s response to incidents of sexual violence.

Table 2: Hilbert College students feel protected by and confident in the institution's response to incidents	
<i>Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements with respect to sexual violence:</i>	<i>Strongly Agree/Agree</i>
College Administration (VPs, President) does enough to protect students from harm.	84.34%
College Staff (office staff) does enough to protect students from harm.	91.3%
College Faculty (professors) does enough to protect students from harm.	93.04%
College Campus Safety Officers do enough to protect students from harm.	85.21%
If a crisis happened on my campus, my college would handle it well.	79.13%
The College handles incidents in a fair and responsible manner.	79.13%
My college does enough to protect the safety of students.	84.21%
There is a good support system on campus for students going through difficult times.	87.82%

Table 3: Students are confident that Hilbert would respond appropriately to reports of sexual violence	
<i>If you reported to someone in authority at Hilbert College that you had experienced sexual violence on campus, do you think your college would . . .</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Take your report seriously	83.04%
Conduct a fair investigation	72.32%
Provide you with necessary supports during the investigation	74.11%
Take steps to protect you from further harm by the perpetrator	75.00%
Take appropriate action against the perpetrator	67.86%

## Training

In accordance with Enough is Enough all incoming students, student leaders, and athletes are trained annually by the Title IX Coordinator on sexual misconduct prevention, response, and Hilbert College policy. Table 4 displays how students received information on sexual assault from the College.

- Of those who indicated that they received training in sexual assault prevention, 94.74% indicated that the training was useful.
- 83.16% of students indicate that they know how to report sexual misconduct to the College.
- 88.12% of students report being aware of the legal definition of Affirmative Consent prior to completing the climate survey.
- When asked if a person who has been drinking excessively can provide consent, 91.00% of students answered "No".
- In regards to amnesty, 71.72% of students indicated knowing that a bystander acting in good faith or a victim/survivor who reports sexual violence will not be disciplined for violating campus alcohol policy if they have been drinking at or near the time of the sexual violence.

**Table 4: Students know about sexual assault from College provided trainings**

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Verbal (e.g., presentations, trainings)</i>	<i>Written (e.g., brochures, emails)</i>
The definition of sexual assault	94.17%	82.98%
How to report a sexual assault	81.55%	73.40%
Where to go to get help if you or someone you know is sexually assaulted	83.50%	76.60%
Who you can go to talk to confidentially about a sexual assault	83.50%	81.28%
Title IX protections against sexual assault	89.32%	85.11%

**Title IX Coordinator’s Role**

Students were asked to identify the Title IX Coordinator and if they knew how to find the Title IX Coordinator. Table 5 displays student awareness of the role of the Title IX Coordinator.

- A slight majority (52.08%) of survey participants indicated that they know how to find the Title IX Coordinator.
- 80.49% of responses to the question “Who is the Hilbert College Title IX Coordinator” accurately identified Katie Martoche, MS as the Title IX Coordinator.

**Table 5: Students are aware of the role of the Title IX Coordinator**

<i>Role</i>	<i>Aware</i>
Receiving reports for sexual discrimination/sexual assault/sexual misconduct complaints	98.88%
Coordinating campus responses to complaints	79.78%
Ensuring training/education is provided to the campus community	93.26%
Providing complainants with accommodations and services during an investigation	84.27%

**Other Resources**

Table 6 displays how aware students were of the function of the Title IX Coordinator and other on campus resources specifically related to sexual misconduct response at Hilbert College.

**Table 6: Students are aware of the resource’s function related to Sexual Misconduct Response**

<i>Resource</i>	<i>Very Aware/Aware</i>
<i>On Campus -</i>	
Campus Safety	90.00%
Counseling Center	78.89%
Title IX Coordinator	74.45%
Wellness Center	71.11%
Resident Assistants	71.11%
Campus Clergy	71.11%
Residence Life & Judicial Affairs	70.00%
Student Life	67.78%

<i>Off Campus -</i>	
New York State Police	78.89%
Local Police/Sheriff	76.67%
Local Crisis Services Center	58.89%

### Bystander Behaviors

When asked to identify active bystander behaviors and to rate how certain they are that they could do these behaviors, students overwhelmingly indicated that they will intervene in situations where sexual misconduct is occurring or may occur.

- 95.18% would ask a friend if they needed to be walked home from a party.
- 92.69% would get help and resources for a friend who disclosed that they have been assaulted.
- 91.56% would talk to a friend who they suspect is in a sexually abusive relationship.
- 89.03% would report to a Resident Assistant or other campus authority information regarding sexual assault even if pressured by peers not to.
- 87.95% would do something if they saw someone surrounded by a group at a party who looked uncomfortable.

### Reporting

While students are aware of how to formally report sexual misconduct to Hilbert College (see Tables 4-6) , more often than not sexual misconduct goes unreported. Table 7 shows the number and percentage of those students who indicated experiencing sexual misconduct in the last 12 months who reported the misconduct to Hilbert College.

<i>Report to Hilbert College using formal procedures</i>	<i>Yes</i>		<i>No</i>	
	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
Sexual Assault	0	0.00%	2	100.00%
Dating or Domestic Violence	3	100.00%	0	0.00%
Stalking	1	16.67%	5	83.33%

When asked if using the College’s formal procedures to report the sexual misconduct that they experienced helped them to deal with the incident all students indicated that:

- Yes, the College’s formal procedures completely resolved the incident, and
- Yes, the College’s procedures helped me a lot.

It is not uncommon for students to have mixed feelings when deciding whether or not the share their experience with someone else. Table 8 displays the thoughts/concerns that students indicated were factors when deciding **not** to report their experience.

<b>Table 8: Why students did not report the sexual misconduct they experienced</b>			
<i>Concern</i>	<i>Sexual Assault</i>	<i>Dating / Domestic Violence</i>	<i>Stalking</i>
I didn't recognize it as sexual misconduct at the time.	✓	✓	
Afraid I might be punished for other things I was doing at the time (e.g. drinking underage, using drugs, etc.).		✓	
I was concerned that others would find out (e.g. friends, faculty, family, etc.).	✓	✓	✓
Worried that if I told someone at my campus, the administration would take action on their own without my permission.	✓	✓	✓
I did not think it was important enough.	✓	✓	✓
I worried that it was partly my fault.		✓	✓
I was ashamed or embarrassed.	✓	✓	✓
I did not think I would be believed.	✓	✓	✓
I thought I would be blamed for what happened.	✓	✓	✓
I feared the person who did it would try to hurt me again in some way.	✓	✓	✓
I did not know the reporting procedure on campus.			✓
I did not trust the college to take appropriate action.		✓	✓
I did not trust the police to take appropriate action.	✓		✓
Someone told me not to report.	✓	✓	✓

For those students who did report the sexual misconduct that they experienced, they indicated the following reasons for choosing to report. This question was structured as open-ended allowing students to type in anything they wanted.

- “Because I didn’t want it to get worse.”
- “For my family’s safety.”
- “Because I was scared when the incident occurred and it was obvious they were following me.”

### **Student Experiences with Sexual Misconduct**

This survey asked students about their personal experiences with sexual misconduct. Specifically, students were asked about their experiences with sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. Table 9 indicates the number and percentage of students who experienced each type of sexual misconduct during the last 12 months.

	Total # of Responses	Yes		Unsure	
		N	%	N	%
Sexual Assault	88	4	4.55%	0	0.00%
Dating or Domestic Violence	88	6	6.82%	4	4.55%
Stalking	87	7	8.05%	3	3.45%

**Sexual Assault**

Consistent with federal law, sexual assault is defined by the Hilbert College Sexual Misconduct Policy as:

**Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse**

*Rape: the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, forcibly or without affirmative consent or where the victim is incapable of giving affirmative consent due to incapacitation.*

*Statutory rape: non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.*

**Non-Consensual Sexual Contact** – *intentionally having any physical contact, however slight, for purposes of sexual gratification or with sexual intent, with another person’s private body parts without his/her affirmative consent. Acts of non-consensual sexual contact may include, but are not limited to, the touching of a person’s buttocks, penis, vagina, breasts; and/or touching of another person with said body parts; and/or making another touch you in such a manner.*

Four students indicated that they had experienced sexual assault in the last 12 months. These students were asked to elaborate on their experiences. Table 10 shows that students knew their attacker and that alcohol and/or illicit drugs did not play a role in these incidents.

Question	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Did you know the person who sexually assaulted you?	4	100.00%	0	0.00%
Was the perpetrator affiliated with the campus community?	2	50.00%*	2	50.00%
Did this incident occur while the person(s) who did this to you was under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs?*	0	0.00%	3	75.00%
Did this incident occur while you were under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs?	0	0.00%	4	100.00%

\*Responses to the follow-up question reveal that the perpetrator(s) indicated here are identified as students.

\*\*1 student preferred not to answer this question.

Additionally, students were asked to identify the location of the most recent incident of sexual assault that they had experienced.

- 1 student indicated that the most recent incident occurred in the residence halls;
- 3 students reported that it happened at home with family.

### Dating/Domestic Violence

Dating and domestic violence are defined by the Hilbert College Sexual Misconduct policy as:

**Dating Violence** – refers to a pattern of violent behavior (including, but not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse) committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

- the length of the relationship
- the type of relationship
- the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship

**Domestic Violence** – refers to a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence between spouses, former spouses, or intimate partners, cohabitating romantic partners or individuals who were formerly cohabitating romantic partners, individuals who share a child in common or individuals who are similarly situated to spouses and/or individuals who are protected from the other person’s acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the acts of violence occurs.

Six students indicated that they had experienced and four indicated that they were unsure of if they had experienced dating or domestic violence in the last 12 months. These students were asked to elaborate on their experiences in Table 11.

Question	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Was the perpetrator affiliated with the campus community? **	3	42.76%*	4	57.14%
Did this incident occur while the person(s) who did this to you was under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs? ***	3	50.00%	3	33.33%

\*Responses to the follow-up question reveal that the perpetrator(s) indicated here are identified as students.

\*\*3 of the 10 students did not answer this question.

\*\*\*4 of the 10 students did not answer this question

Additionally, students were asked to identify the location of the most recent incident of dating/domestic violence that they had experienced.

- 3 students indicated that the most recent incident occurred in the residence halls;
- 2 students reported the incident taking place in off-campus housing (not at home with family);
- 1 student indicated the location as “other”.

## Stalking

Stalking is defined by the Hilbert College Sexual Misconduct policy as:

**Stalking** – engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others, or suffer substantial emotional distress.

Seven students reported experiencing stalking behaviors in the last 12 months. These students were asked to elaborate on their experiences. Table 12 shows that for the most part students knew their stalker.

Question	Yes		No	
	N	%	N	%
Did you know the person who stalked you?	5	71.43%	2	28.57%
Was the perpetrator affiliated with the campus community? **	1	16.67%*	5	83.33%

\*Responses to the follow-up question reveal that the perpetrator(s) indicated here are identified as students.

\*\*1 student preferred not to answer this question.

Additionally, students were asked to identify the location of the most recent incident of stalking that they had experienced.

- Only one of the seven students who revealed that they had been stalked answered this question. This person identified the non-residential areas of the Hilbert Campus as the location of this stalking incident.

## Key Takeaways

### Best Practices

- Hilbert College students feel protected by and confident in the institution's response to incidents. 87.82%, the equivalent of 101 out of 155 respondents, agreed that there is a good support system on campus for students going through difficult times.
- Students who utilize the formal campus procedures for addressing sexual misconduct are satisfied with this experience.
- Hilbert students are active bystanders. Our students overwhelmingly indicated that they would intervene in situations where sexual misconduct is occurring or may occur.

### Opportunities for Improvement

- We were distressed to learn that seven of our students had experienced stalking within the 12 months leading up to the survey. As a result of this information the orientation, athletics, and student leader trainings conducted by the Title IX Coordinator for the 2017-2018 academic year included detailed information on stalking using a myths vs. facts format. Additionally, educational programming on healthy relationships with a focus on stalking behaviors was

implemented in the Fall 2017 semester by the Counseling Center in partnership with Crisis Services.

- Only 67.86%, the equivalent of 76 out of 112 respondents, are confident that Hilbert College would take appropriate action against perpetrators. This statistic is disheartening as all members of the Hilbert College faculty, staff, and administration are dedicated to responding appropriately, with our Franciscan values in mind, to all incidents of sexual misconduct within our community. In order to improve this perception the Title IX Coordinator and Director of Judicial Affairs continue to educate students on the Hilbert College Sexual Misconduct policy and procedures.
- Only 58.89%, the equivalent of 53 out of 90 respondents, indicated being aware of the role of the local Crisis Services center within our community. In August 2017, the College entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Crisis Services to host a Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Advocate on our campus on a part-time basis. This relationship has benefited Hilbert College in many ways including student awareness about the services that Crisis Service provides in Erie County.
- A slight majority, 52.08%, the equivalent of 50 out of 96 respondents, knew how to find the Title IX Coordinator. At the time of the survey the Title IX Coordinator's office had been recently moved into the Student Life Suite to accommodate the need to have confidential conversations. As of the Fall 2017 semester the Title IX Coordinator's office was moved again to a more visible, yet still private location within Franciscan Hall. This new office is directly accessed from the hallway eliminating the need for students to "check in" with an administrative assistant and providing direct access to the Title IX Coordinator.

## Moving Forward

Per New York State law, this Campus Climate Survey will be conducted on a bi-annual basis. In the Fall 2018 semester the survey will be expanded to include responses from Hilbert faculty, staff, and administration. In addition, the next climate survey will assess the student experience with sexual harassment.