

## DRAFT: Perspectives on Sexual Assault Responses Questionnaire (V4)

[Note: The final questionnaire will be administered online. In the online version, questions not relevant based on gating will not appear.]

### Instructions

- This questionnaire will:
  - Invite your thoughts about a variety of responses to sexual assault.
  - Ask demographic questions to help the researchers understand your background.
- After reading each question, please choose one answer that seems best to you.
- When we refer to sexual assault, we mean any non-consensual sexual activity.
  - Some examples are “forced unwanted kissing, touching, vaginal penetration, or oral sex.”<sup>1</sup>
- Some questions will ask about resources you think you would or would not prefer to access if you ever experienced a sexual assault. You will not be asked any questions about whether you have actually experienced sexual assault.
- Thinking about this topic might be emotional for some participants. A list of sexual assault and psychological support resources are attached to your copy of the consent form.

### Cultural Community Identification

**Q1:** Please select the **one** cultural community below that you most identify with.

- **Please note:** If you identify equally with more than one cultural community listed, please select just **one** of these communities.
  - Although many people hold multiple cultural identities, we ask that you select only one because we are only able to consider one cultural identity per respondent during data analysis.
- When questions later in the survey ask about your cultural community, please respond with the one you have selected below in mind.

#### African (Continental)

- North African
- West African
- Central African
- East African
- Southern African

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<sup>1</sup> Shaw, M. (2023, March 19). Just the facts – Sexual Assault. *RCMP Gazette*. <https://rcmp.ca/en/gazette/just-facts-sexual-assault>

(More on next page)

### **African Diaspora**

- African Canadian
- African American

### **Asian**

- East Asian
- Southeast Asian
- South Asian
- Central Asian
- West Asian / Middle Eastern

### **Caribbean, Bahamian, Bermudian**

### **European**

- European Canadian
- Western European
- Eastern European
- Northern European
- Southern European

### **Indigenous – within Canada**

- First Nations (Status and/or Non-Status)

Please specify First Nations community: \_\_\_\_\_

- Métis
- Inuit

### **Indigenous – outside of Canada**

- Please specify Indigenous Community: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Latin American**

- Mexican
- Central American
- South American

### **Pacific / Oceania**

- Pacific Islander
- Australian
- New Zealander

- Other not listed above (please specify):** \_\_\_\_\_

### Section 1: Education and Prevention

- **Questions in this section will ask** you to reflect on education and prevention initiatives in postsecondary institutions.
- **Your answers will help researchers** learn about what approaches might engage students best.

**Q2:** When deciding which university/college to attend, did information about sexual violence or assault policies or reported rates of sexual assault play any role in your decision or your family's decision?

- No role
- Minor role
- Moderate role
- Major role

**Q3:** How aware are you of sexual assault support services available at your university/college (or the university/college you attended most recently)?

- Very aware
- Somewhat aware
- Slightly aware
- Not aware at all

**Q4:** Do you feel that universities/colleges should provide an information session about sexuality and sexual violence to first year students?

- Mandatory information sessions should be provided.
- Optional information sessions should be provided.
- Information sessions should not be provided.

**Q5:** As a first-year student, would you have attended an optional information session about sexuality and sexual violence if one was offered at your university/college?

- Definitely
- Probably
- Possibly
- Probably not
- Definitely not

**Q6:** If you were to attend an optional information session about sexuality and sexual violence at your university/college, what would your preferred method of delivery be?

- In-person seminar
- Online seminar
- Pre-recorded video or audio seminar

### Section 2: Disclosures and Supports

- **This section includes more sensitive questions.** Please feel free to skip any that cause discomfort. A list of support resources are attached to your consent form.
- **Questions in this section will ask** you to imagine the choices you think you would make following an experience of sexual assault.
- **Your answers will help researchers** learn about the responses to sexual violence postsecondary institutions should consider in order to support all members of their campus communities.

**Q7:** How likely would you be to tell each of the following people about a personal experience of sexual assault?

	<i>Very likely</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Somewhat likely</i>	<i>Somewhat unlikely</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Very unlikely</i>
At least one family member	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one friend	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one medical professional	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one counsellor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one religious or spiritual leader	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q8:** How likely would you be, or would you have been in your time as a student, to tell each of the following people about a personal experience of sexual assault?

	<i>Very likely</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Somewhat likely</i>	<i>Somewhat unlikely</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Very unlikely</i>
At least one professor or instructor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one residence advisor (RA)/Don	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
At least one counsellor at your university / college	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q9:** How likely would you be to tell a romantic partner about a personal experience of sexual assault if it occurred:

	<i>Very likely</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Somewhat likely</i>	<i>Somewhat unlikely</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Very unlikely</i>
Before the relationship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
During the relationship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q10:** In general, do you think that potential intimate partners are less likely to enter committed relationships with people who have experienced sexual assault?

- Always or almost always
- In most cases
- In many cases
- In some cases
- In a few cases
- Never or almost never

**Q11:** How comfortable do you think you would feel speaking to a counsellor from your cultural community about a personal experience of sexual assault?

- Very comfortable
- Comfortable
- Somewhat comfortable
- Somewhat uncomfortable
- Uncomfortable
- Very uncomfortable

**Q12:** If you spoke to a counsellor from your cultural community about a personal experience of sexual assault, would you want them to raise the topic of how race and/or ethnicity might have been a factor in your experience?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q13:** How comfortable would you feel speaking to a counsellor who does not share your cultural background about a personal experience of sexual assault?

- Very comfortable
- Comfortable
- Somewhat comfortable
- Somewhat uncomfortable
- Uncomfortable
- Very uncomfortable

**Q14:** If you spoke to a counsellor who does not share your cultural background about a personal experience of sexual assault, would you want them to raise the topic of how race and/or ethnicity might have been a factor in your experience?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q15:** If you were going to talk to a counsellor about a personal experience of sexual assault, how comfortable would you be with each of the following methods for talking to that person?

	<i>Very comfortable</i>	<i>Comfortable</i>	<i>Somewhat comfortable</i>	<i>Somewhat uncomfortable</i>	<i>Uncomfortable</i>	<i>Very uncomfortable</i>
Face-to-face	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Over the phone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q16:** If you were going to talk to a counsellor about a personal experience of sexual assault, would you rather that person live close to you or some distance away?

- I would strongly prefer the person live close to me.
- I would somewhat prefer the person live close to me.
- I would have no preference regarding whether the person would live close to me or some distance away.
- I would somewhat prefer the person live some distance away.
- I would strongly prefer the person live some distance away.

**Q17:** Following an experience of sexual assault, which type of social support do you think would be most helpful in the short term?

- Being with other people at all times.
- Being with other people most of the time.
- Being with other people some of the time.
- Being mostly left alone.
- Being completely left alone.

**Q18:** If a friend shared an experience that sounded like a sexual assault, do you think it would be helpful or harmful to label their experience 'sexual assault' when talking with them?

- Very helpful
- Somewhat helpful
- It would not make a difference
- Somewhat harmful
- Very harmful

**Q19:** How confident are you that credentialed counsellors and health professionals keep information about people's sexual assault experiences confidential?

- Very confident
- Confident
- Somewhat confident
- Somewhat unconfident
- Unconfident
- Very unconfident

**Q20:** How confident would you feel explaining an experience of sexual assault to English-speaking university/college staff?

- Very confident
- Confident
- Somewhat confident
- Somewhat unconfident
- Unconfident
- Very unconfident

### **Section 3: Reporting and Investigations**

- Many postsecondary institutions in Canada have processes for investigating reports of sexual violence made by members of their campus communities. Sexual violence can also be investigated by police.
- **Questions in this section will** ask for your thoughts and opinions related to how investigations of sexual assault should work.
- **Your answers will help researchers** learn how students make decisions about engaging with formal sexual assault reporting processes.

**Q21:** Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements:

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Somewhat agree</i>	<i>Somewhat disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
I think Canadian postsecondary institutions are likely to respond effectively to sexual assault within their campus communities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think Canadian police are likely to respond effectively to sexual assault.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I think it is safe for people who experience sexual assault to tell authorities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q22:** Would you say authorities investigating a sexual assault case should be mindful of the culture of the person who experienced the assault?

- Definitely
- Probably
- It makes no difference
- Probably not
- Definitely not

**Q23:** When someone reports a sexual assault to an authority, to what extent do you think their report should be assumed true by those responsible for investigating?

- The report should be fully believed immediately.
- There should be a general tendency to believe the report.
- No opinion should be formed about the report before investigation.
- There should be a general tendency to doubt the report until it is proven.
- The report should not be believed until proven beyond reasonable doubt.

**Q24:** Generally speaking, do you think that a student accused of a sexual assault is likely to be treated fairly in a Canadian university/college?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q25:** Do you think that a student from your cultural community accused of sexual assault is likely to be treated fairly in a Canadian university/college?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q26:** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: During a sexual assault investigation, the accused person should be restricted from spaces shared with the person who reported the assault (such as work or classes).

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q27:** If someone reports a sexual assault, do you think retaliation from the person accused of committing the assault is likely?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q28:** When you think about sexual assault reporting, do you think it is likely that people will be wrongfully accused?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q29:** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: Sexual assault policies and laws should include consequences for false allegations.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q30:** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: The cultural background of an individual found to have committed sexual assault should be considered when deciding on consequences.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q31:** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: Financial considerations (such as legal or medical expenses) probably play a role in decisions about reporting sexual assault.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q32:** Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: Concerns about immigration status probably discourage non-citizens from reporting sexual assault.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**Q33:** If you had to guess, how do you think racial and/or ethnic bias influences sexual assault investigations in Canadian universities/colleges?

- Bias against racial and/or ethnic minorities probably has a strong influence on sexual assault investigations in Canadian universities/colleges.
- Bias against racial and/or ethnic minorities probably has a moderate influence on sexual assault investigations in Canadian universities/colleges.
- Racial and/or ethnic bias probably has little or no influence on sexual assault investigations in Canadian universities/colleges.
- Bias in favour of racial and/or ethnic minorities probably has a moderate influence on sexual assault investigations in Canadian universities/colleges.
- Bias in favour of racial and/or ethnic minorities probably has a strong influence on sexual assault investigations in Canadian universities/colleges.

#### **Section 4: Perspectives**

- **Questions in this section will ask you** to share some thoughts and opinions about sexual violence.
- **Your answers will help researchers** learn about the variety of perspectives students have on this topic.

**Q34:** How likely do you think it is that people who share your gender identity will experience sexual assault at some point in their lives?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

**Q35:** To what extent do you feel that the following people who report sexual assault are believed?

	<i>Always believed</i>	<i>Often believed</i>	<i>Somewhat more often believed than not</i>	<i>Somewhat more often disbelieved than believed</i>	<i>Rarely believed</i>	<i>Never believed</i>	<i>I don't know</i>
Women	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Men	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-binary individuals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Transgender individuals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q36:** Which statement best reflects your perspective on your personal risk of experiencing sexual assault as compared to your risk of being wrongfully accused?

- I am much more concerned about the possibility of experiencing sexual assault.
- I am somewhat more concerned about the possibility of experiencing sexual assault.
- I am equally concerned about the possibility of experiencing sexual assault and the possibility of being wrongfully accused.
- I am somewhat more concerned about the possibility of being wrongfully accused.
- I am much more concerned about the possibility of being wrongfully accused.
- I am not at all concerned about the possibility of experiencing sexual assault or about the possibility of being wrongfully accused.

**Q37:** People have different views about the causes of sexual assault. Which statement is closest to your perspective?

- Decisions made by individuals who are sexually assaulted are never part of the reason assault occurs.
- Decisions made by individuals who are sexually assaulted are rarely part of the reason assault occurs.
- Decisions made by individuals who are sexually assaulted may sometimes be part of the reason assault occurs.
- Decisions made by individuals who are sexually assaulted are often part of the reason assault occurs.
- Decisions made by individuals who are sexually assaulted are always part of the reason assault occurs.

**Q38:** Would you say that it is common for authority figures in schools to expect sexual favours in exchange for benefits such as grades?

- Very common
- Common
- Somewhat common
- Somewhat uncommon
- Uncommon
- Very uncommon

**Q39:** Would you say that it is common for authority figures in workplaces to expect sexual favours in exchange for benefits such as promotions?

- Very common
- Common
- Somewhat Common
- Somewhat Uncommon
- Uncommon
- Very uncommon

**Q40:** If someone told you that they had experienced sexual assault, would risk of that person engaging in self-harm come to mind?

- Definitely
- Probably
- Possibly
- Probably not
- Definitely not

**Q41:** To what extent do you think concerns related to personal reputation impact people's likelihood of reporting sexual assault?

- To a large extent.
- To a moderate extent.
- To a small extent.
- Not at all.

**Q42:** To what extent do you think concerns related to family reputation impact people's likelihood of reporting sexual assault?

- To a large extent.
- To a moderate extent.
- To a small extent.
- Not at all.

**Q43:** Based on what you have heard or seen, do people you know personally assume sexual consent is always present in romantic relationships?

- Most assume consent is always present in romantic relationships.
- Many assume consent is always present in romantic relationships.
- Some assume consent is always present in romantic relationships.
- Almost none assume consent is always present in romantic relationships.
- None assume consent is always present in romantic relationships.

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### Section 5: Cultural Community

- **Questions in this section will** ask you to reflect on typical responses to sexual violence in your cultural community. Your overall impressions may not apply to everyone in your community. Please respond with the cultural community you selected at the beginning of the survey in mind.
- **Your answers will help researchers** learn about whether postsecondary approaches to sexual violence might work better for members of some cultural communities than for members of other cultural communities and to learn about how postsecondary institutions can better serve all students.

**Q44:** In your view, how accepted is it within your cultural community for women to talk about their experiences of sexual assault?

- Completely accepted
- Quite accepted
- Somewhat accepted
- Somewhat unaccepted
- Quite unaccepted
- Completely unaccepted

**Q45:** In your view, how accepted is it within your cultural community for men to talk about their experiences of sexual assault?

- Completely accepted
- Quite accepted
- Somewhat accepted
- Somewhat unaccepted
- Quite unaccepted
- Completely unaccepted

**Q46:** Do young adults in your cultural community today tend to blame the person who has committed a sexual assault?

- Always
- Almost always
- Usually
- Usually not
- Almost never
- Never

**Q47:** Do older adults in your cultural community today tend to blame the person who has committed a sexual assault?

- Always
- Almost always
- Usually
- Usually not
- Almost never
- Never

**Q48:** Do young adults in your cultural community today tend to blame the person who has experienced a sexual assault?

- Always
- Almost always
- Usually
- Usually not
- Almost never
- Never

**Q49:** Do older adults in your cultural community today tend to blame the person who has experienced a sexual assault?

- Always
- Almost always
- Usually
- Usually not
- Almost never
- Never

**IF YOU SELECTED “EUROPEAN CANADIAN” AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SURVEY, PLEASE SKIP Q50 AND Q51.**

**Q50:** Based on your experience, do you think behaviours considered friendly in your cultural community might be misunderstood as sexual by European Canadians?

- Definitely by many European Canadians.
- Probably by many European Canadians.
- Probably by some European Canadians.
- Maybe by a few European Canadians.
- Probably not.
- Definitely not.

**Q51:** Based on your experience, do you think behaviours considered friendly in European Canadian culture might be misunderstood as sexual by members of your cultural community?

- Definitely by many members of my cultural community.
- Probably by many members of my cultural community.
- Probably by some members of my cultural community.
- Maybe by a few members of my cultural community.
- Probably not.
- Definitely not.

### Section 6: Demographics

- **Questions in this section will ask** about your demographic characteristics.
- **Your answers will help researchers** learn how students' thoughts and feelings about sexual violence policies and services might be shaped by their personal backgrounds.

**Q52:** What is your age?

- 18–20
- 21–23
- 24–26
- 27–30
- 31–35
- 36+
- Prefer not to answer

**Q53:** What is your gender identity? (Please select whichever term you are most comfortable with, or self-describe in the text box).

- Woman
- Man
- Non-binary
- Gender-fluid
- Transgender woman
- Transgender man
- Two-Spirit
- Agender
- Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- Prefer not to answer

**Q54:** What is your sexual orientation? (Please select whichever term you are most comfortable with, or self-describe in the text box).

- Heterosexual (straight)
- Gay
- Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Pansexual
- Asexual
- Queer
- Questioning
- Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- Prefer not to answer

**Q55:** What is your Canadian citizenship status?

- Canadian citizen
- Permanent resident
- Temporary resident (e.g., study permit, work permit)
- Other
- Don't know / prefer not to answer

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**Q56:** How long have you resided in Canada?

- Less than 1 year
- 1–5 years
- 6–10 years
- 11–20 years
- More than 20 years, but not my entire life.
- My entire life

**Q57:** What is your current postsecondary status? (Select one)

- Completed a credential (please indicate the highest credential completed)
  - Certificate
  - Diploma
  - Bachelor's (undergraduate) degree
  - Master's degree
  - Doctoral degree
- Currently enrolled in a program (please indicate your current level)
  - Undergraduate – 1st year
  - Undergraduate – 2nd year
  - Undergraduate – 3rd year
  - Undergraduate – 4th year or higher
  - Graduate program
  - Diploma program
  - Certificate program

**Q58:** What academic discipline or major are you currently studying or did you most recently study? (If more than one, select the most recent).

- Arts & Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Business & Management
- Science / Engineering / Technology / Mathematics
- Health & Allied Professions
- Education
- Fine & Performing Arts
- Trades / Applied Programs
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Q59:** How comfortable are you using English and/or French in the following areas?

*Please rate your level of comfort for each.*

	<b>English</b>	<b>French</b>
<b>Speaking</b>	<input type="radio"/> Very Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Very uncomfortable	<input type="radio"/> Very Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Very uncomfortable
<b>Reading</b>	<input type="radio"/> Very Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Very uncomfortable	<input type="radio"/> Very Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Very uncomfortable
<b>Writing</b>	<input type="radio"/> Very Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Very uncomfortable	<input type="radio"/> Very Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat comfortable <input type="radio"/> Somewhat uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Uncomfortable <input type="radio"/> Very uncomfortable

**Thank you for completing this survey!**

**If any of the topics in this survey caused discomfort, we encourage you to access the support resources provided. A list of sexual assault and psychological support resources are attached to your copy of the consent form.**