# Gender violence at the University?



## 1. Introduction

*SAFO CREA Women's Group*

RESEARCH LINES:

- Gender Violence
- Other women and women and interculturalism
- Overcoming the hegemonic model of masculinity
- Gender dimension in all of the research projects and functioning of CREA, Center of Research in Theories and Practices that Overcome Inequalities



## International research on gender violence at the University

These research show how gender violence is a phenomenon that also ocurrs at the University level

## A) Research evidences show that gender violence is also affecting women at universities.

**Straus, 2004**: The International Dating Violence Study (in process) carried out in 31 universities of 16 countries: 29% of students have committed aggressions in their relationships within the 12 months previous to the research.

**Gross, A. et al., 2006**: Developed an study to 903 female college students. 27.2% of women reported being suffered unwanted sexual experiences since enrolling in college, from kisses or strokes to sexual relationships, from the begining of their studies at the university. From 246 women, only 4 reported to the police.

**Kalof and colleagues, 2001:** also point out how women are victims of sexual harassment by college professors and instructors. From a sample of 525 undergraduates, they found that 40% of the women and 28.7 % of the men had been sexually harassed by a college professors or instructors.

**Benson & Thomson, 1982**: Developed a study in which participate 400 female students at Berkeley. 29.7% of them reported at least one incident of sexual harassment at some point during their college career.



## B) Existence of common constraints and barriers which hinder attempts of breaking the silence.

**Gross et al., 2006**: There are diffculties in the acknowledgment of sexual harassment situations which become bigger because of the impact of sexist stereotypes.

**Thomas, 2004**: Apparent under-reporting of harassment.

**Osborne, 1995**: *Chilly climate for women at universities:* Marginalization of women at curriculums, use of sexual stereotypes in debates, silence as a form of control over women.

**Dziech & Weiner, 1990:** Benson & Thomson, 1982; Fitzgerald et al., 1988: Adverse climate for women at universities.

**Grauerholz, 1996:** Vulnerability of women due to the diffused institutional authority at universities and to the temporality of many women holding academic positions.

**Eyre, 2000:** Development of statements which naturalise the situations of sexual harassment at universities.



## C) Hostile reactions from institutions or lack of support when women report

Different strategies within higher education institutions addressed to silence college women who have been victims of sexual harassment **(Wagner & Magnusson, 2005)**.

Lack of solidarity and support amongst female academics **(Benson, 1982)** and amongst female students **(Cowan, 2000)** which contribute to increase or perpetuate the climate of hostility against women.

Difficulties on denouncing for dominance of men in structures of power **(Grauerholz, 1996)**.

Silence around sexual harassment situations due to existing power relationships amongst male professors and female students or amongst male professors and female professors **(Benson & Thomson, 1982; Eyre, 2000; Reilly et al., 1986)**.

## 3. Impacts of gender violence at universities

A) Harmful effects of sexual harassment on women's intellectual and global self-esteem

B)Negative impacts on women's perceptions of the academia and of the academic staff

c) Repercussion on the academic and professional choices they make

## A)Harmful effects of sexual harassment on women intellectual and global self-esteem

**Benson & Thomson, 1982; Reilly et al., 1986; Eyre, 2000; Marcs & Nelson 1993; Toffey & Levesque, 1998**:

- Sense of shame
- Decrease of emotional stability
- Great tendency to blame themselves
- Extended belief that harassment is inevitable
- Reprisals of male peers or male supervisors
- Losing of quality of the own university work
- Fear to be considered as a trouble maker or to the potential costs of denouncing for their careers and for their reputation in the organisations.

## B) Negative impacts on women's perceptions of the academia and of the academic staff

- Strategies to reduce the options to coincide again with the perpetrators (which become extremely difficult when faculty men or professors are the agressors and college women are the victims) **(Benson & Thomson, 1982; Reilly et al., 1986)**.
- Mistrust and disappointment regarding the academia and male professors **(Marks & Nelson, 1993)**.
- Lack of confidence in sexual harassment policies **(Thomas, 2004)**.
- Avoiding further interaction with faculty men, hindering the creation of mentorships, which is often needed for the professional development **(Marks & Nelson, 1993)**.

## c) Repercussion on the academic and professional choices they make

- Stop attending classes
- Dropping out courses
- Changes in the educational programme followed
- Withdrawing from the university
- Giving up the development of careers in male dominated academic areas
- Leaving the job (female professors)
- Impacts on personal and professional lives of people supporting victims: *Second Order of Sexual Harassment Victims.*

**Reilly et al., 1986; Fitzgerald et al., 1988; Marks & Nelson, 1993; Farley, 1978; Dziech & Weiner, 1990;Toffey & Levesque, 1998).**

## Gender violence at the Spanish Universities?
## Proposals, programs and measures

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

*SAFO CREA Women's Group*
University of Barcelona

*R+D+I research Gender Violence at Spanish Universities*, directed by Dr. Rosa Valls, CREA, University of Barcelona (2006-2009).

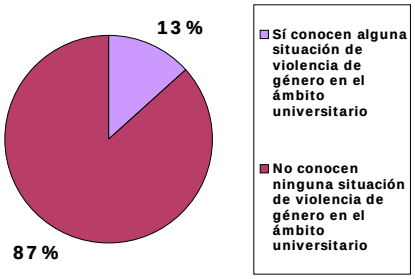
Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## IDENTIFICATION AND LEVEL OF RECOGNITION OF GENDER VIOLENCE

A **13%** of the surveyed people assert that **know certain situation of gender violence** at the university or between individuals at the university.

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas




2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## IDENTIFICATION AND LEVEL OF RECOGNITION OF GENDER VIOLENCE

A **52%** answered positively to know or to have suffered gender violence **when asked by specific situations** (that internationally are considered gender violence).

2013

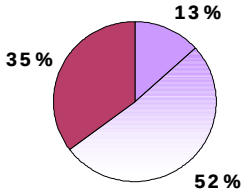
Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

**At least they have answered YES to some of the following situations:**

- **Physical assault**
- **Psychological violence**
- **Sexual assault**
- **Pressure for having afective-sexual relationships**
- **Kissing and/or caressing without consent**
- **Feeling uncomfortable and /or fear for comments, e-mails, messages, phone calls...**
- **Disseminating rumors about their sexual life**
- **Sexist comments on the intellectual capability of women or their role in society or comments with sexual connotations that humiliate**

2013

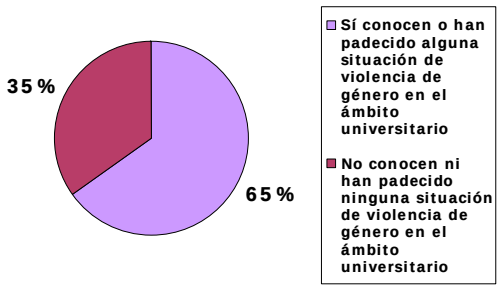
Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas




- **Afirman que sí conocen alguna situación de violencia de género en el ámbito universitario.**
- **Contestan que no a la pregunta anterior. En cambio al preguntarles si conocen o han padecido alguna de las situaciones concretas que internacionalmente se consideran violencia de género, contestan que sí.**
- **No conocen ni han padecido ninguna situación de violencia de género en el ámbito universitario.**

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas




2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## Measures based on:

- Contributions and conclusions of the **studied research.**

- Exploration of the **developed measures at internationally renowned universities** to fight gender violence at the university level.

- Analysis of the **valoration and perception** of the measures aimed to prevent and solve gender violence at the university through qualitative fieldwork with **individuals at the university**.

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Contributions and conclusions of the research

| Sources of information | Reviewed reserach on gender violence | Reviewed research on gender violence at the university | Used research on gender violence at the university |
|---|---|---|---|
| ISI on Women's Studies | | 56 | 56 |
| ERIC and Sociofile | | 137 | 12 |
| Research and development projects on the National Plan of Research | 8 | 0 | |
| Institute of Women (since 1983) | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total** | **43** | **193** | **68** |

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Measures at internationally renowned universities

| EEUU RANKING OF UNIVERSITIES US News | |
|---|---|
| Nº | University |
| 1 | Princeton University |
| 2 | Harvard University |
| 3 | Yale University |
| 4 | California Institute of Technology |
| 5 | Stanford University |
| 6 | Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| 7 | University of Pennsylvania |
| 8 | Duke University |
| 9 | Dartmouth College |
| 10 | Columbia University |

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Measures at internationally renowned universities

| RANKING OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES Academic Ranking of World Universities Shanghai Jiao Tong University | |
|---|---|
| Nº | University |
| 1 | University of Cambridge (Reino Unido) |
| 2 | University of Oxford (Reino Unido) |
| 3 | Imperial College London (Reino Unido) |
| 4 | University College London (Reino Unido) |
| 5 | Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich (Suiza) |
| 6 | Universiteit Utrecht (Holanda) |
| 7 | Universite Pierre & Marie Curie (Francia) |
| 8 | Karolinska Institutet (Suecia) |
| 9 | University of Manchester (Reino Unido) |
| 10 | Ludwig Maximiliano. Universität Manchen (Alemania) |

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Qualitative fieldwork

| Universidad | Entrevistas en profundidad | | Relatos comunicativos de vida cotidiana | TOTAL | Mujeres | Hombres |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Profesorado | PAS | Estudiantado | | | |
| U. de Barcelona | 1 | 1 | 3 | **5** | 2 | 3 |
| U. de Sevilla | 1 | 1 | 3 | **5** | 3 | 2 |
| U. del País Vasco | 2 | 1 | 3 | **6** | 4 | 2 |
| U. de Murcia | 2 | 0 | 3 | **5** | 4 | 1 |
| U. de Valladolid | 1 | 1 | 2 | **4** | 2 | 2 |
| U. Jaume I | 1 | 1 | 2 | **4** | 2 | 2 |
| **TOTAL** | **8** | **5** | **16** | **29** | **17** | **12** |

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## Proposals, programs and measures

1) **Institutional policies**
2) **Training and awareness rising**
3) **Reporting office**
4) **Counselors and advisors**
5) **Leaflet and informational documents**
6) **Web page**
7) **Participation of the university community**

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## Proposals, programs and measures

**Reporting office**

**Leaflet and informational documents**

**Web pages**

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Reporting offices, leaflets and web pages

-Facilitate the identification and reporting the problem

-Information, assitance, easy access

- Clarification, mediation and research of conflict

- Contribute to break the silence on gender violence

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Reporting offices, leaflets and web pages

Campus Sexual Assault: What you should know

…

**All forms of sexual assount and all attempts to commit sexual acts are regarded as serious University offenses which are likely to result in sanctions.**

Princeton University

2013

## ✓ Reporting offices, leaflets and web pages

**Universidad de Harvard:**

**Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR)**

2013

Harvard College

HUHS Mental Health | HU Police | Bureau of Study Counsel | Univ. Health Services

Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response

## The Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

compassion...strength...change...understanding

- Home
- Need Help?
- Events
- Get Involved
- Who We Are
- Publications
- Library
- SASH Advisors
- Resources
- Get the Facts
- Safety On Campus
- Educational Presentations

The Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response was established in 2003 to provide confidential support, information, and resource referrals to survivors of sexual violence.

The mission of the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response is to provide leadership in creating a Harvard community free from sexual and interpersonal violence and harassment. We are committed to supporting and empowering survivors of violence. We believe in preventing violence through education, personal and collective accountability, and social change.

You can call us, 24 hours a day **(617-495-9100)**, for information and resources. We are trained to listen and help, confidentially.

Sexual assault is a problem that affects everyone at the College. We also work to educate the College community about sexual assault, its prevention, and its impact.

We strive to provide empathic, supportive services to students of the College who have experienced sexual assault. Knowing that some students will prefer to seek services outside of Harvard's campus, The Office works closely to provide easy linkages to off-campus resources as well.

**Have you received unwanted advances** from an adviser, a teaching fellow, or a professor? Did you think that your grade in a course was at risk if you did not accept those advances?

**Has someone in a position of authority** (teaching fellow, professor, tutor, etc.) made inappropriate remarks about your appearance or clothing?

**Has someone from your dorm or House** insisted on many occasions that you go out with him/her even though you always respond with a "no," or has someone made you feel uncomfortable by asking you to come to his/her room or office late at night?

**Has a senior colleague** threatened to block your promotion if you don't comply with his/her sexual demands?

**Has someone you know—or even dated—**ignored your protests and forced you to have sex?

**Do you blame yourself** for being sexually assaulted or raped while you were under the influence of alcohol or drugs?

**Have you ever been coerced** to engage in sexual contact because you were being threatened or your life was in danger?

**Have you experienced** confusion, difficulty working or concentrating, depression or despair after having an unwanted sexual encounter?

If you answered **yes** to any of these questions, help is available.

Whether you are looking for information, someone to talk to, or someone with whom you can file a formal complaint, this brochure is designed to help you find the proper resources and give you the confidence to come forward.

**If you or a friend have been raped or sexually assaulted:**

1. Get to a safe place as soon as possible.
2. Ask a friend or someone else you trust to be with you.
3. Call one of these organizations for help and support:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Harvard Police (HHPD)** provides confidential transportation to Beth Israel Hospital or a hospital of your choice | 617-495-1212 |
| **Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR)** | 617-495-9100 |
| **University Health Services** | 617-495-5711 |
| **Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Rape Crisis Intervention Program** | 617-667-4645 |
| **Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC)** | 617-492-7273 |
| **Cambridge Police Department** | 617-349-3370 |

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## Proposals, programs and measures

**Institutional policies**
**Training and awareness rising**
**Counselors and advisors**
**Participation of the university community**

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Policies, training and awareness rising; counselors and advisors, participation of the university community

Research highlights:

- Need of training and awareness rising.
- Need of messages rejecting violence and not blaming the victims.
- Key role of the relationships among peers, solidarity networks, to reach the reporting stage of the violent situations.
- Need of systematic evaluation of the impact of the implmented policies.
- Need of organizational measures of support for women at the university.

Ayres and Spade, 1996; Banyard et al., 2005; Bondurant, 2001; Charkow and Nelson, 2000; Grauerholz et al., 1999; Gross et al., 2006; Lee et al., 2005; Nicholson, Osborne, 1995; 1998; Reilly, M. et al., 1992; Thomas, 2004.

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Policies, training and awareness rising; counselors and advisors, participation of the university community

- Promote a climate of zero tolerance for gender violence at the university
- Promote solidarity with the victim
- Often regulate procedures of action
- Compromise the university and collectives of the same

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

HARASSMENT MAY INVOLVE: PHYSICAL OR VERBAL HARASSMENT, HARASSMENT RELATING TO PEOPLE'S SEX, DISABILITY, RACE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR BULLYING.

The University condemns **harassment** as an unacceptable form of behaviour, and has **a service to help** people (staff and students) who think that they are being harassed in any way.

You can either talk to the advisers appointed by your college, faculty or department, listed below, or ring the University's confidential Harassment Hotline, 1235076, or email harassment.line@admin.ox.ac.uk and ask for referral to someone outside the college, department or faculty. The OUSU Student Advice Service can also provide confidential advice and support to students and can be contacted on 1241 850 271 or by emailing advice@ousu.org.

Harassment advisers are there to listen and advise. Any further action will be your choice.

Further advice on dealing with harassment, including the full Code of Practice, is on www.admin.ox.ac.uk/equ/har. A printed copy is also available from the Equality and Diversity Unit by telephoning 1270 8671.

| Department/College | |
|---|---|
| Adviser: | Tel: |
| Adviser: | Tel: |

HARASSMENT ADVISORY SERVICE University of Oxford Equal Opportunities

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

American Association of University Women (AAUW) have promoted a new initiative, "**Building a Campus free of Sexual Harrasment"**

They carry out specific **Projects** of action in **eleven campuses**.

**Stony Brook University**, Stony Brook, NY: *SBU Campus UNITED Against Harassment*

**Pennsylvania State University**, University Park, PA: *Changing the Campus Culture: A Multimedia Service Campaign to Stop Sexual Harassment*

2013

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

## ✓ Policies, training and awareness rising; counselors and advisors, participation of the university community

**"Voices, not victims"**

promote different campaigns at the university campuses

2013

Voices, not victims

Don't be only against violence. Help to prevent it.

Reporting sexist comments and ofering help to the women who has been harrassed.

You have the power to make the difference.

**I WANT ACTION**
**When it comes to preventing gender violence**

---

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

✓ Policies, training and awareness rising; counselors and advisors, participation of the university community

**Yale University**

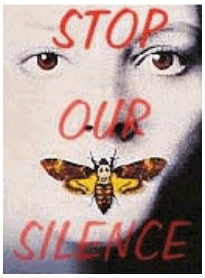
**R**ape and **S**exual **V**iolence **P**revention

**Students** with a specific training **offer information to victims of rape and sexual violence on the legal and health support.** Their website has a space to report the case if anyone has been victim of a sexual assault. Among others, develops reports on the state of the art of the university.

---

Violencia de género en las universidades Españolas

✓ Policies, training and awareness rising; counselors and advisors, participation of the university community




**Massachussets Institute of Tecnology**

***STOP OUR SILENCE*** **(SOS).**

**Students Association** to break the silence and end violence against women. Their task is to **rise awareness, prevention and support of all the university community**

---

## Program of Violence Prevention (California)

Their aim is to eliminate all the forms of violence whithin the campus, and ensuring that the services of support are available.

Activities: **workshops, classes, counseling, for students. Also offers training for university staff.**

The program starts from the impact of sexual assault and other incidents related to the climate of the campus.

2013

---

**Last campaign: "So, Why not ask?"**

2013

---

The progress in our country over the past years in this field (**Act on the Integral Protection against Gender Violence, Equality Plans** at the universities, etc.) and the transformations that finally are reaching our universities create in the short term developing of mechanisms inspired in the most prestigious universities of the world.

When the institutions set up the measures for women to loose their fear of reporting the suffered gender violence and when researching without fear on these topics could be possible we will have not only less sexist universities but also more scientific and human univeristies.

2013

Gender violence at the Spanish Universities?

**Proposals, programs and measures**

2013