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Violence at University Pilot Project

Appendix: Full Questionnaire

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Violence at University pilot project – Full Questionnaire

The aim of this pilot study was to investigate the feasibility of measuring violence, in all of its forms, both within and beyond University Campuses. It was not a prevalence study, it was to test whether such a tool could be developed and potential prevalence work could be carried out. The core goals were to assess if:

- a) It is feasible to do this work
- b) It helps to continue the sector wide Universities UK Changing the Culture Initiative and support the development of strategies at institutional level
- c) It identifies any gaps with regard to tackling violence on campus

The ultimate aim is to feed into a bigger, collaborative research project which is sector led and that the methods are robust and can be used on a national level. The research team pledged that the initial pilot questionnaire would be available for other HEI's to use to measure Violence on their campuses and that is what this appendix to the report contains. All we would ask for is results to be fed back to us, including whether the questionnaire was useful.

Many thanks, the research team

Dr Carrie-Anne Myers, City, University of London

Dr Holly Powell-Jones City, University of London

Professor Helen Cowie, University of Surrey

Dr Emma Short, De Montfort University

Ms Fiona Waye, formerly Universities UK

Mr Nathan Hudson, NatCen (National Centre for Social Research)





Pre Survey

Welcome to the Violence at University research project

This survey investigates students' experiences of violence and victimisation while studying at a UK university. The aims of this research are to:

- Shine a light on students' lived experiences
- Highlight the scale and nature of the violence students encounter
- Develop evidence-led improvements to university policies and support.

What questions will be asked?

You will be asked some questions about your identity, plus any experiences you may have had of violence or victimisation - from everyday inappropriate conduct to criminal offences. Participation is voluntary. You can include as much or as little information as you want and skip questions you do not want to answer. All your responses will be **anonymous**, so we won't be able to identify you.

We understand that being asked to recall these experiences can be difficult. A list of **sources of support available** is provided should you wish to talk to someone about anything raised in

this survey.

What will happen to my answers?

Responses will be collected as you go - so be aware that clicking 'Next' will submit your answers. Results will be used to inform future research projects, including larger-scale surveys of a similar nature. Results may also be shared in the form of reports, publications or presentations to inform other work in this area. You can visit our [web pages](#) to view the results once analysis is complete.

How long will the survey take?

The survey is estimated to take between 15 - 20 minutes to complete.

Who can take part?

Any students currently enrolled at a UK university (and aged 18 or over) can take part.

Who is conducting the research?

The research is being conducted by City, University of London, with collaboration from the University of Surrey, De Montford, Universities UK and Nat Cen. For more information, contact: Carrie.Myers.1@city.ac.uk or Holly.Powell-Jones@city.ac.uk.

Thank you for taking part.

Your contribution is invaluable to raising awareness of students' experiences of violence and helps us advocate for a safer and more supportive university environment.

About you

How old are you? Tick ONE box

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18 – 25
- ☐ 26 – 35
- ☐ 36 – 45
- ☐ 46 – 55
- ☐ 56 – 65
- ☐ 66 – 75
- ☐ 76+

We are sorry, but only people aged 18 and above are able to participate in this research, due to our research ethics rules.

You can still visit our [web pages](#) to find out the survey results in a few weeks' time.

Thank you for your interest in this study.

For any further information, please contact a member of the research team:

Project lead / Principal Investigator: Carrie.Myers.l@city.ac.uk

Postdoctoral Researcher: Holly.Powell-Jones@city.ac.uk

Which of the following best describes your ethnic group? Tick ONE box

Asian or Asian British

- ☐ Bangladeshi
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Indian
- ☐ Pakistani
- ☐ Open text - please specify

Black, Black British, Caribbean or African

- ☐ African
- ☐ Black British
- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ Open text - please specify

Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups

- ☐ White and Asian
- ☐ White and Black African

- ☐ White and Black Caribbean
- ☐ Open text - please specify

Other ethnic group

- ☐ Arab
- ☐ Open text - please specify

White

- ☐ British
- ☐ Gypsy
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Irish Traveller
- ☐ Northern Irish
- ☐ Roma
- ☐ Open text - please specify

- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your religion? Tick ONE box

- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Sikh
- ☐ Open text - please specify
- ☐ No religion
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Which of these options best describes how you think of yourself? Tick all / ANY that apply:

- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male

- ☐ Intersex
- ☐ Transfeminine
- ☐ Transmasculine
- ☐ Trans woman
- ☐ Trans man
- ☐ Femme
- ☐ Agender
- ☐ Genderfluid
- ☐ Genderqueer
- ☐ Questioning
- ☐ Open text - please specify

- ☐ Prefer not to say

Which of these options also describes how you think about yourself? Tick all / ANY that apply:

- ☐ Asexual
- ☐ Bisexual
- ☐ Gay
- ☐ Lesbian

- ☐ Pansexual
- ☐ Queer
- ☐ Heterosexual
- ☐ Open text - please specify

- ☐ Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to be disabled or have a long-term condition of any kind? Tick ONE box

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Not sure

How would you describe your disability and/or condition(s)? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Being blind or having a visual impairment
- ☐ Being D/deaf or having hearing loss

- ☐ A long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy
- ☐ A mental health problem, such as depression, schizophrenia or an anxiety disorder
- ☐ A physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches
- ☐ A social/communication impairment such as speech and language impairment or autism
- ☐ A specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D
- ☐ An impairment, health condition or learning difference that is not listed above (please describe)

- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ None of these apply to me

Which (if any) of the following apply to you? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ I am the first in my family to go to university

- ☐ I am estranged from my family / without a family support network
- ☐ I am / have been in care
- ☐ I am / have been involved in the criminal justice system
- ☐ I am a refugee or asylum seeker
- ☐ I have caring responsibilities
- ☐ I have received free school meals
- ☐ I am mature student
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ None of these apply to me

Are you a home or international student? (Home students are those living in the UK or Republic of Ireland, and EU nationals with settled status in the UK. International student would be anyone else)

- ☐ UK student
- ☐ International student
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your current year of study?

- ☐ Foundation year
- ☐ 1st year
- ☐ 2nd year
- ☐ 3rd year
- ☐ 4th year
- ☐ 5th year
- ☐ Other - please specify

- ☐ Prefer not to say

What broad subject area are your studies in?

- ☐ Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- ☐ Maths, Engineering and Physical/Computer Sciences
- ☐ Business, Management, Law and Finance
- ☐ Health Sciences / Healthcare and Medicine
- ☐ Other - please specify

- ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your current living arrangement?

- ☐ In university accommodation
- ☐ At home/with family
- ☐ Other - please specify

Sexual Violence

Please note: These questions relate to sexual violence.

While you have been a student, have you experienced any of the following? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Unwelcome / inappropriate touching or physical contact, including kissing, hugging or cornering
- ☐ Inappropriate staring or leering that made you feel intimidated or uncomfortable
- ☐ Sexually suggestive comments, jokes or gestures that made you feel offended
- ☐ Indecent exposure (flashing) or inappropriate displays of the body

- ☐ Sexually explicit material (e.g. images, videos or posters) that made you feel offended
- ☐ Repeated or inappropriate invitations to meet or go out on dates, and/or inappropriate gifts
- ☐ Intrusive / inappropriate questions or comments about your private life or your physical appearance that offended you
- ☐ Sexual bullying or harassment (repeated behaviour)
- ☐ Requests or pressure for sex, or other sexual acts
- ☐ Rape or sexual assault
- ☐ Sexually explicit emails, text messages, or other communication
- ☐ Repeated or inappropriate advances over email, social media, text message, or other communication
- ☐ Inappropriate video, photos or commentary of you distributed digitally (via social media, email or messaging service) without your consent
- ☐ Any other inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature - please specify

- ☐ None of the above

☐ Prefer not to say

Where did these experiences take place? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Public transport
- ☐ On the street / in public
- ☐ Club, pub or other social space
- ☐ University teaching space (e.g., lab, seminar room, lecture hall, office)
- ☐ University social space (e.g., cafe, bar, refectory, shops, students union)
- ☐ Elsewhere on university premises / campus (including halls of residence)
- ☐ At your home / place of residence
- ☐ At someone else's home / place of residence
- ☐ At your workplace
- ☐ Digital environment (via mobile, messaging, social media etc.)
- ☐ Somewhere else - please specify

☐ Not sure

☐ Prefer not to say

Who displayed this behaviour towards you? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ A partner / someone I was intimate with
- ☐ A family member
- ☐ Someone known to me / in my community or social group
- ☐ A fellow student at the university
- ☐ A staff member at the university
- ☐ Someone at work (boss, colleague, employee, customer, etc.)
- ☐ Someone I did not know
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Someone else - please specify

☐ Prefer not to say

Are there any more details you'd like to tell us about your experiences? (Feel free to use your own words)

What has been the impact of these experiences on you? (Please tell us in your own words)

Identity-based violence

Please note: These questions relate to identity-based violence.

While you have been a student, have you experienced any of the following in relation to your identity (or perceptions of your identity)? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Being treated less favourably than others (i.e. direct discrimination)
- ☐ Being left at a disadvantage compared to others (i.e. indirect discrimination)
- ☐ Excluded or ignored in a social, work or group situation

- ☐ Negative treatment after raising concerns / speaking up (i.e. victimisation)
- ☐ Derogatory name-calling, insults or slurs (directly - i.e. at you)
- ☐ Derogatory name-calling, insults or slurs (indirectly)
- ☐ Exposure to offensive material, messages, comments, images or displays
- ☐ Insensitive / offensive comments, toxic 'jokes' or rhetoric (directly - i.e. at you)
- ☐ Insensitive / offensive comments, toxic 'jokes' or rhetoric (indirectly)
- ☐ Subtle or nuanced hostile behaviours, such as microaggressions
- ☐ A hostile, toxic or humiliating environment
- ☐ Abuse in any form (verbal, online, etc.)
- ☐ Threats (including against person, property, etc.)
- ☐ Bullying or harassment (repeated behaviour)
- ☐ Physical attacks or assault
- ☐ Other criminal acts - such as arson, property damage, graffiti etc.
- ☐ Hostile, hateful or offensive digital communications (via email, social media, text messages etc.)

- ☐ Sexual (i.e. intersectional) violence
- ☐ Any other hostile, offensive or discriminatory behaviour - please specify

- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Which identity characteristics (perceived or actual) relate to these experiences? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Race, ethnicity, nationality, skin colour (e.g. racism)
- ☐ Religion (e.g. Islamophobia)
- ☐ Trans identity (e.g. transphobia)
- ☐ Sexual orientation (e.g. homophobia)
- ☐ Disability (e.g. ableism)
- ☐ Gender (e.g. sexism / misogyny)
- ☐ Background or accent (e.g. classism)
- ☐ Age (e.g. ageism)
- ☐ Family status (e.g. civil partnership, parenthood, pregnancy)

- ☐ Something else - please specify

- ☐ Not sure / I don't know
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Where did these experiences take place? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Public transport
- ☐ On the street / in public
- ☐ Club, pub or other social space
- ☐ University teaching space (e.g., lab, seminar room, lecture hall, office)
- ☐ University social space (e.g., cafe, bar, refectory, shops, students union)
- ☐ Elsewhere on university premises / campus (including halls of residence)
- ☐ At your home / place of residence
- ☐ At someone else's home / place of residence
- ☐ At your workplace

- ☐ Digital environment (via mobile, messaging, social media etc.)
- ☐ Somewhere else - please specify
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Who displayed this behaviour towards you?

- ☐ A partner / someone I was intimate with
- ☐ A family member
- ☐ Someone known to me / in my community or social group
- ☐ A fellow student at the university
- ☐ A staff member at the university
- ☐ Someone at work (boss, colleague, employee, customer, etc.)
- ☐ Someone I did not know
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Someone else - please specify

☐ Prefer not to say

Are there any more details you'd like to tell us about your experiences? (Feel free to use your own words)

What has been the impact of these experiences on you? (Please tell us in your own words)

Bullying and other forms violence

Please note: These questions relate to broad experiences of violence, including online.

While you have been a student, have you experienced any of the following? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Physical attacks, assault or abuse
- ☐ Emotional or psychological abuse
- ☐ Bullying

- ☐ Persistent unwanted behaviour causing fear or distress (harassment/stalking)
- ☐ Tracking / monitoring or surveillance causing anxiety or stress (harassment/stalking)
- ☐ Verbal abuse
- ☐ Threats (including threats of violence)
- ☐ Degrading / dehumanising treatment or torture
- ☐ Blackmail or exploitation
- ☐ Other criminal acts (such as arson, property damage, graffiti etc.)
- ☐ Threatening or menacing messages / communications (digitally-enabled)
- ☐ Silent, hoax or abusive phone calls
- ☐ Upsetting online content or behaviour (such as trolling, flaming or abuse)
- ☐ Embarrassing or upsetting images or video of you being shared (online or digitally)
- ☐ Exclusion from online groups, games or activities
- ☐ Hate sites or groups being set up about you or abusive use of polls / apps
- ☐ Fake accounts or identities set up to embarrass, humiliate or cause distress

- ☐ Messages encouraging self-harm or suicide
- ☐ Revealing personal or private information about you (i.e. address) making you feel at risk (also known as 'doxxing')
- ☐ Online bullying or 'pile-ons'
- ☐ Any other forms of violence (including online or digital) - please specify

- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Where did these experiences take place? Tick ALL that apply

- ☐ Public transport
- ☐ On the street / in public
- ☐ Club, pub or other social space
- ☐ University teaching space (e.g., lab, seminar room, lecture hall, office)
- ☐ University social space (e.g., cafe, bar, refectory, shops, students union)

- ☐ Elsewhere on university premises / campus (including halls of residence)
- ☐ At your home / place of residence
- ☐ At someone else's home / place of residence
- ☐ At your workplace
- ☐ Digital environment (via mobile, messaging, social media etc.)
- ☐ Somewhere else - please specify
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Who displayed this behaviour towards you?

- ☐ A partner / someone I was intimate with
- ☐ A family member
- ☐ Someone known to me / in my community or social group
- ☐ A fellow student at the university
- ☐ A staff member at the university
- ☐ Someone at work (boss, colleague, employee, customer, etc.)

- ☐ Someone I did not know
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Someone else – please specify

- ☐ Prefer not to say

Are there any more details you'd like to tell us about your experiences? (Feel free to use your own words)

What has been the impact of these experiences on you? (Please tell us in your own words)

Seeking support

Have you spoken to anyone about the experiences you've highlighted here?

- ☐ Yes

- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Have you spoken to anyone **at your university** about these experiences?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

You say that you spoke to someone at the university about your experiences: Who did you speak to?
(Tick ANY that apply)

- ☐ A friend or fellow student
- ☐ A student representative (e.g. a course rep, Students Union rep)
- ☐ A member of teaching staff (e.g. lecturer, VL, module leader)
- ☐ A member of professional staff (e.g. student support or admin staff)
- ☐ Personal tutor
- ☐ Senior tutor

- ☐ I was referred through someone else (e.g. a charity or local service)
- ☐ Someone else - please specify
- ☐ Prefer not to say

What kind of support were you offered by the university?

- ☐ Student Centre
- ☐ Health Centre
- ☐ Counselling, Mental Health and Accessibility
- ☐ Chaplaincy Team
- ☐ Students Union
- ☐ Accommodation Team
- ☐ Disability or Neurodiversity Support
- ☐ Other - please specify
- ☐ None of the above

Overall, how positive or negative did you feel about the

support you received from the university?

- ☐ Very positive
- ☐ Quite positive
- ☐ Neither positive nor negative
- ☐ Quite negative
- ☐ Very negative
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Does not apply to me
- ☐ Add more detail / comments (optional):

There are many reasons why we might be put off from sharing our experiences openly or reporting them to others.

Please tick all / ANY that you feel apply to you, and give more detail if you can:

- ☐ Emotional reasons (e.g. Emotional reasons could mean feeling embarrassed, ashamed, scared, upset, traumatised; or perhaps not wanting to re-live your experience, or have to think about it again). Add more detail:

- ☐ Practical reasons (e.g. Practical reasons could mean not knowing how to report or who to talk to; perhaps not wanting to escalate things to police or other authorities; not having the time or not wanting the hassle of going through the processes involved in reporting). Add more detail:

- ☐ Social reasons (e.g. Social reasons could mean not wanting other people to know about your experiences, or treat you differently; or fear of 'causing a fuss' or causing friends and family to worry; fear about making things awkward socially, or any other social impacts you might be concerned about). Add more detail:

- ☐ Trust reasons (e.g. Trust reasons could mean thinking you may not be believed; perhaps concern there wasn't any 'proof'; not trusting that the information would be kept confidential; or perhaps feeling like no action would be taken at all, or it wouldn't result in any positive outcomes). Add more detail:

- ☐ Perpetrator reasons (e.g. Perpetrator reasons could mean that you were worried about the perpetrator finding out if you reported something; perhaps concern that the perpetrator was someone known to you, or close to you, or that they were someone with more power or authority than you; it may also be fear that people could side with the perpetrator, or the consequences would be worse for you than them). Add more detail:

- ☐ Personal reasons (e.g. Personal reasons could mean that you made a personal decision that it wasn't right for you to report it; perhaps you didn't feel it was 'serious' enough or important to report; you may not feel like you wanted or needed any help, or didn't feel 'badly affected' enough; or simply because you just didn't want to). Add more detail:

- ☐ Other reasons - add more detail (optional)

- ☐ I don't know / I'm not sure
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Finally: Is there anything that you think could (or should) have been done differently to support you or to make a positive difference to you? Please let us know in your own words:

Post Survey

Thank you so much for taking the time to share your experiences with us.

Your contribution makes a big difference.

Please consider contacting any of the following support services if you would like to speak to someone about any of the issues raised through this research:

- Your university support services (e.g., student counselling)
- Your Student's Union
- Police (101 for non-emergencies, 999 in emergencies)
- Victim support (0808 1689 111): <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/>
- Samaritans (116 123): <https://www.samaritans.org/>
- The Mix (0808 808 4994): <https://www.themix.org.uk/>

A list of dedicated **specialist support services** covering a range of areas (such as Race, Religion, Disability, Domestic Abuse, Cyberbullying, Mental Health and more) can also be found on the **True Vision** website: [Click here to access the True Vision list of organisations](#).

Remember if you have any questions about this research you can visit our [web pages](#) for more information and updates, or email a member of the research team:

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