Title: An Updated Analysis of Sex-Based Harassment in the United States' K-12

Schools: Rates and Predictors of Allegations, Student Reporting, and Student Discipline

STUDENT NAME

## **Abstract**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 defines sex-based harassment (SBH) as a form of sex discrimination and is prohibited in all federally funded educational activities. Despite federal protections, SBH is a pervasive and under-researched problem in K-12 schools in the United States (U.S.). To date, Richards and colleagues (2021) is one of the most comprehensive studies on this issue using the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) to understand all alleged, reported, and disciplined incidents of SBH in K-12 schools during the 2015-2016 school year. The current study contributes to the extant literature by replicating these analyses using data from the 2017-2018 school year to assess the stability of prior empirical work. Data collection for the 2017-2018 school year contains N = 17,370 LEAs and N = 96,440 schools. Since schools are nested within districts, which are nested within States, the analyses presented include a series of multilevel, negative binomial regression models to assess the independent effect school-, district-, and state-level factors have on the number of alleged, reported, and disciplined incidents of SBH in K-12 schools. Preliminary findings reveal the prevalence of K-12 schools in the U.S. during the 2017-2018 school year, including that most schools had zero SBH allegations. Further, results will assess whether SBH disproportionately impacts specific gender and racial/ethnic groups in addition to the influence of State laws (e.g., mandatory reporting). Important implications regarding the prevalence, reporting and data collection of SBH in K-12 schools are discussed.

## **Description of Meeting/Event and Role**

The American Society of Criminology (ASC) conference is a national, annual event which comprises the largest U.S. conference for the field of criminology and criminal justice (<a href="https://asc41.org/events/asc-annual-meeting/">https://asc41.org/events/asc-annual-meeting/</a>). It hosts a broad audience of students, academics, practitioners, legislators, and other policymakers. For instance, I have personally been approached by representatives of state supreme courts regarding past presentations I have done on state laws. The 2023 ASC meeting will be held at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown (Pennsylvania) between November 15-18. My presentation will take place on Saturday, November 18, and therefore, I am planning on leaving in the morning on Sunday, November 19.

My role is to participate in a thematic session titled, "Sexual Misconduct and Title IX." I will be the sole presenter of my GRACA titled, "An Updated Analysis of Sex-Based Harassment in the United States' K-12 Schools (2017-2018): Rates and Predictors of Allegations, Student Reporting, and Student Discipline." Further, the conference will further my own professional development in research dissemination, public speaking, and networking. As a student on the academic job market this semester, the conference provides vital opportunities to connect with employers from around the country.

# **Proof of Acceptance to Conference**

8/1/23, 11:38 AM

American Society of Criminology - 78th Annual Meeting: Sexual Misconduct and Title IX

## Session Submission Summary

# Sexual Misconduct and Title IX

Sat, Nov 18, 8:00 to 9:20am, Franklin Hall 10, 4th Floor

Session Submission Type: Complete Thematic Panel

## Abstract/Description

Sexual misconduct including sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking among students at educational institutions in the United State (U.S.) is an important public health and safety issue. Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 prohibits sexual misconduct at U.S. schools and federal guidance mandates prevention and response strategies. The studies in this session examine the prevalence and predictors of experiencing and reporting sexual misconduct, the effect of awareness training and educational programs, and the impact of resources and supports directed at harmed students.

#### Sub Unit

Area V. Victimization / 37. Causes and Correlates of Victimization

#### Individual Presentations

University Staff Perceptions of Title IX Resources and Policies Across the Southeastern United States - Cathy Marcum, Appalachian State University; Courtney Crittenden, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Christina Policastro, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Exploring the Likelihood of Experiencing and Subsequently Reporting Sexual Misconduct Among College Students with a Disability - Lane Kirkland Gillespie, Boise State University; Brittany E. Hayes, University of Cincinnati; Tara Richards, University of Nebraska Omaha

An Updated Analysis of Sex-Based Harassment in the United States' K-12 Schools (2017-2018): Rates and Predictors of Allegations, Student Reporting, and Student Discipline - Caralin Branscum, University of Nebraska Omaha; Tara Richards, University of Nebraska Omaha

Examining the Impact of Training, Knowledge of Resources, and Campus Climate on Reporting Sexual Misconduct Among College Students - Alvi Ali, University of Nebraska Omaha; Tara Richards, University of Nebraska Omaha; Brittany E. Hayes, University of Cincinnati

# **Budget & Budget Justification (Total Requested \$500)**

I have exhausted resources from my advisor, department, and college as well as finding the cheapest options. My department will provide \$500 in conference travel funding.

Item	Expected Cost	Justification	
Meal per diem	\$221.20		
Airfare	\$493.46	This was the cheapest rate I could find for my travel days. Staying at the hotel longer to obtain a cheaper plane ticket did not save money in the end.	
Hotel room	\$408.46	The total cost for the hotel is \$816.92; however, I have cut costs by having a student roommate.	
Registration/Conference Fees	\$60	The <u>mandatory</u> , student-rate to register to attend the conference.	
Mandatory membership to ASC	\$60	This is the mandatory, student-rate to be a member of ASC which is <i>mandatory</i> for presenters. Please note I receive a better rate for the conference registration by being a member before registering.	
Transportation on the day of departure.	\$128	I will take Uber/Lyft (whichever is cheaper the day of) to get from home to the airport and from the airport to the hotel. Two separate Uber/Lyft(s) are estimated here (approximately \$64.22 each).	
Transportation on the day of return.	\$128	I will take Uber/Lyft (whichever is cheaper the day of) to get from the hotel to the airport and from the airport to home. Two separate Uber/Lyft(s) are estimated here.	
<b>Total Cost for Conference</b>	\$1,500	This is <u>not</u> the amount I'm requesting from SCTF (see below).	
Total funding from department:	\$500	My department has pledged to cover \$\$\$ of travel expenses which is contingent on receiving an additional \$500 from an external source.	
Total funding from Graduate Studies	\$500	Though the application is not available on NuRamp yet, I am hoping to apply for and receive \$500 in travel funding from them.	
Total requested from SCTF 2023	\$500	The amount I'm requesting from the SCTF 2023 program.	

# **Bibliography**

- American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. (1993). *Hostile hallways:*The AAUW survey on sex-based harassment in America's schools. Harris/Scholastic Research.
- American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. (2001). *Hostile Hallways:*Bullying, teasing, and sexual harassment in America's schools. Harris/Scholastic

  Research.
- American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. (2011). *Crossing the line:*Sexual harassment at school. Harris/Scholastic Research.
- Farrington, D. P., Lösel, F., Boruch, R. F., Gottfredson, D. C., Mazerolle, L., Sherman, L. W., & Weisburd, D. (2019). Advancing knowledge about replication in criminology. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, *15*(3), 373–396. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-018-9337-3
- Franco, A., Malhotra, N., & Simonovits, G. (2014). Publication bias in the social sciences:

  Unlocking the file drawer. *Science*, *345*(6203), 1502–1505.

  https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1255484
- Lösel, F. (2018). Evidence comes by replication, but needs differentiation: The reproducibility issue in science and its relevance for criminology. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, *14*(3), 257–278. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11292-017-9297-z
- Myers, W., Lloyd, K., Turanovic, J. J., & Pratt, T. C. (2018). Revisiting a criminological classic:

  The cycle of violence. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, *34*(3), 266–286.

  https://doi.org/10.1177/1043986218770003
- Richards, T. N., Holland, K., Kafonek, K., & Navarro, J. (2018). Sex-based harassment in the United States' K-12 schools: Rates and predictors of allegations, student reporting, and

student discipline. Journal of School Violence, 34(3), 266–286.

https://doi.org/10.1080/15388220.2021.1920423

# **Prior and Current Support**

Prior support from August 2021-2023 is reported below.

- Ongoing: I received \$5,000 in funding from GRACA (Award Start Date: 01/27/2023;
   Award End Date: 12/15/2023) for a project entitled, "An Updated Analysis of Sex-Based Harassment in the United States' K-12 Schools: Rates and Predictors of Allegations,
   Student Reporting, and Student Discipline."
  - a. This project is directly linked to the current application as it is the project, I am presenting at the 77<sup>th</sup> American Society of Criminology conference in Philadelphia.
- 2. Completed: I received \$500 from the Graduate Studies Graduate Student Conference Presentation Proposal (Fall 2022/Spring 2023) for travel funding to the 2022 ASC conference to present a project titled, "The Victim-Survivor Notification Process and Experience from Practitioners and Survivors."
  - a. Citation: Branscum, C. & Richards, T.N. *The Victim-Survivor Notification* Process and Experience from Practitioners and Survivors. Paper presentation at the 76th annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology (ASC). Atlanta, GA.
- 3. *Completed*: I received \$500 from the UCRCA Student 2022-2023 for a project titled, "The Victim-Survivor Notification Process and Experience from Practitioners and Survivors." This funding was used in tandem with Item #2 to support my travel to the 76th annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology (ASC).

- Completed: I received \$500 from the Graduate Studies Graduate Student Conference
   Presentation Proposal (Fall 2021/Spring 2022) for travel funding to the 2021 American
   Society of Criminology conference.
  - a. Branscum, C. & Richards, T.N. *Investigating Racial Disparities Among Runaway Youth on a National Scale*. Paper presentation at the 75<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology. Chicago, IL.
- 5. *Completed*: I received \$5,000 in funding from GRACA during the 2020-2021 school year for a project entitled, "Investigating Racial Disparities Among Missing/Runaway Youth on a National (#27475)."
  - a. The outcome of this endeavor was a publication in the journal of Child Abuse and Neglect (Impact Factor: 2.899). I submitted a copy of this manuscript as my final GRACA product.
  - b. Citation: Branscum C. & Richards, T. (2022). An Updated Examination of the Predictors of Running Away from Foster Care in the United States and Trends over Ten Years (2010-2019). *Child Abuse & Neglect*. Advanced Online Publication https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2022.105689

Appendices	Ap	pend	lices
------------	----	------	-------

Not applicable.