

# Are Your Graduates “College-Ready” When it Comes to Sexual Assault Prevention?

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18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney’s Office

Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Conference - 2021

# Introductions & Objectives

- ▶ Show facts and figures related to campus sexual assault
- ▶ Explain consent and other aspects of sexual assault
- ▶ Offer helpful tips and tricks on campus safety
- ▶ Outline supportive measures for professionals and loved ones
- ▶ Provide meaning to why these conversations are important as professionals

# Facts and Figures

The background features a white space with abstract green geometric shapes on the right side. These shapes include overlapping triangles and polygons in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement.

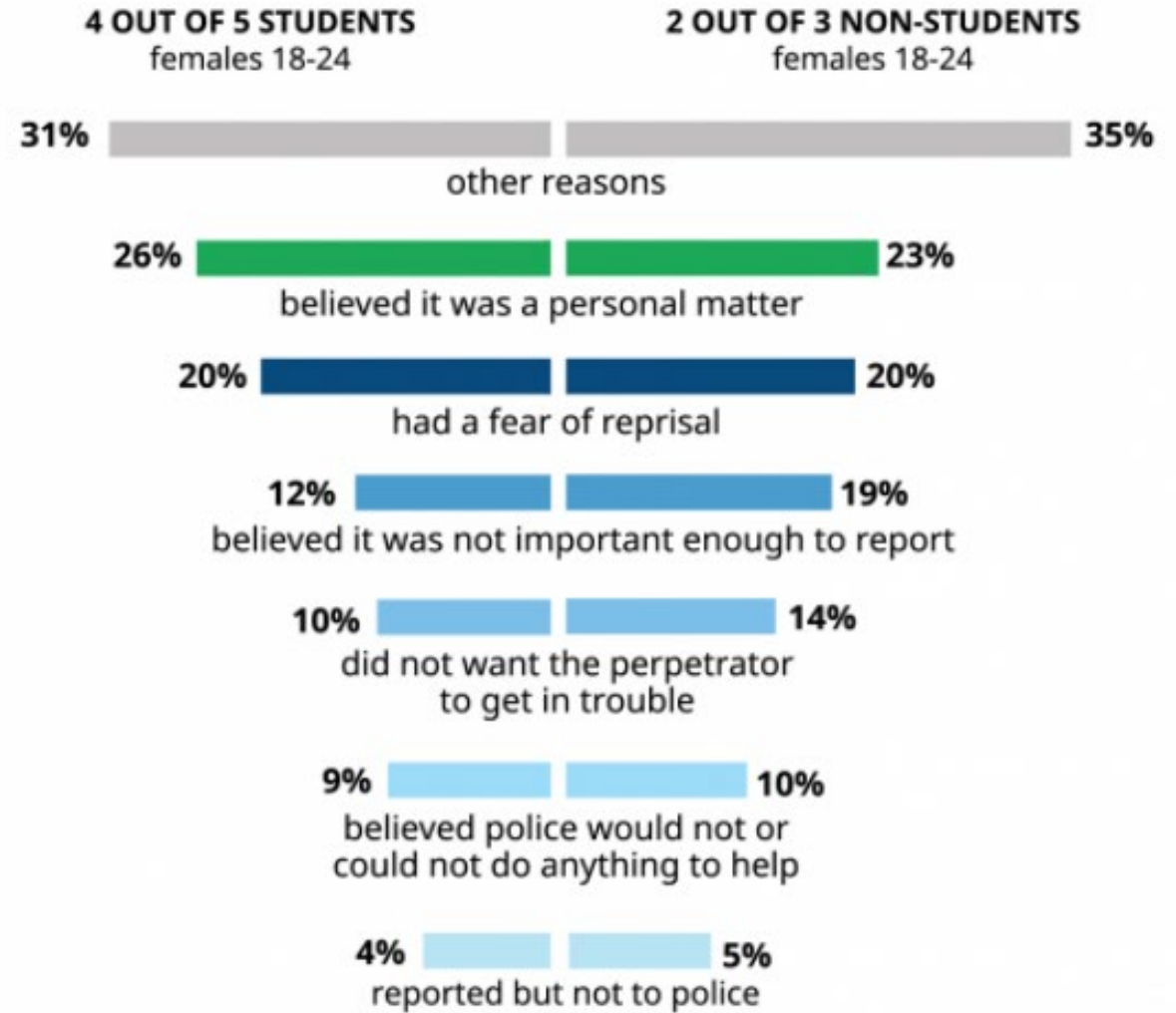
# Facts and Figures

- ▶ One in FOUR female undergraduates will be exposed to some form of sexual violence before graduation
    - ▶ Female college-aged students (18-24) are 3x more likely to be assaulted than a woman of any other age
  - ▶ One in SIXTEEN male undergraduates will be exposed to some form of sexual violence before graduation
    - ▶ Male college-aged students (18-24) are 78% more likely than non-students of the same age to be victim of sexual assault
- ▶ 95% of ALL these assaults will go unreported

# Facts and Figures

So why are 18-24 year olds not reporting these assaults?

## REASONS VICTIMS CITED FOR NOT REPORTING



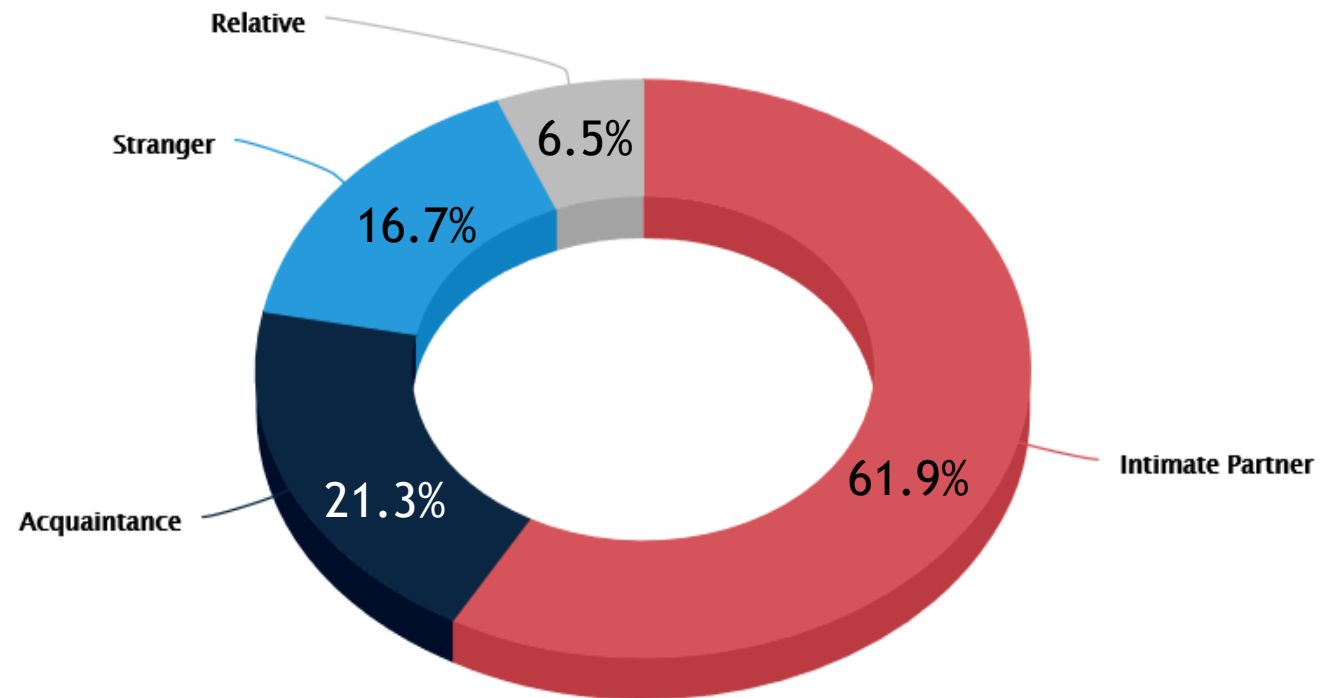
# Sexual Assault

# What is Sexual Assault?

Imagination



Reality

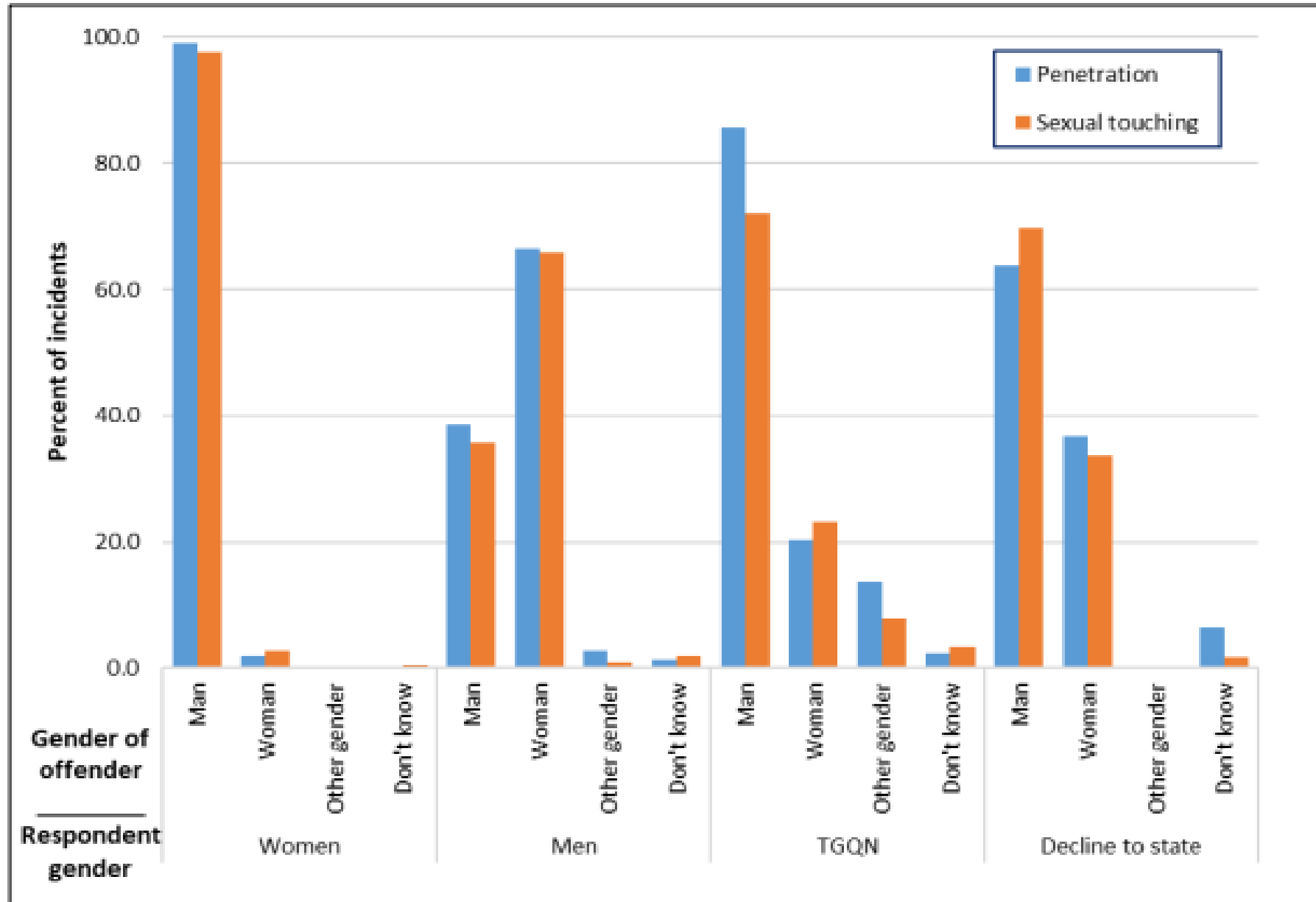


# What is Sexual Assault?

- ▶ Sexual assault - applied to a broad range of forced and unwanted sexual activity
- ▶ Involves forcing someone into non-consensual sexual acts by ways of manipulations, physical or emotional coercion, psychological force, or threats/other means of intimidation
- ▶ Sexual assault can happen to anyone regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, or socio-economic status
  - ▶ However, in *most* reported assaults, victims are females and perpetrators are male



**Figure 6. Offender gender for nonconsensual sexual contact by physical force or inability to consent by gender of victim and type of sexual contact**



# Consent

- ▶ Consent is voluntary, mutual, and can be withdrawn at anytime
- ▶ Consent is affected when a person:
  - ▶ Is under the influence of drugs or alcohol
  - ▶ Unconscious
  - ▶ Severely physically or mentally disabled
  - ▶ Not legal age to provide consent
  - ▶ Unable to consent for any other reason
  - ▶ Is forced, intimidated, or coerced

# Consent

- ▶ Consent is **NOT**:
  - ▶ Submission
  - ▶ Silence
  - ▶ Being passed out
  - ▶ Giving up / Giving in
  - ▶ Anything other than saying “no”

# Drug- and Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assaults



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19ELHA10HY0>

# Drug- and Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assaults

- ▶ At least 50% of student-related sexual assaults involve alcohol
- ▶ Approximately 90% of rapes perpetrated by an acquaintance of the victim involve alcohol
- ▶ Approximately 43% of reported acts of sexual violence involve alcohol use by the victim
- ▶ 69% involve alcohol use by the perpetrator
  - ▶ In one-third of reported sexual assaults, the aggressor is intoxicated

*So what does this tell us?*

# Drug- and Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assaults

- ▶ It's not just CONSUMING alcohol/drugs that increases risk for sexual violence
- ▶ Being in ANY situation where alcohol/drugs are consumed by OTHERS

# Drug- and Alcohol-Facilitated Sexual Assaults

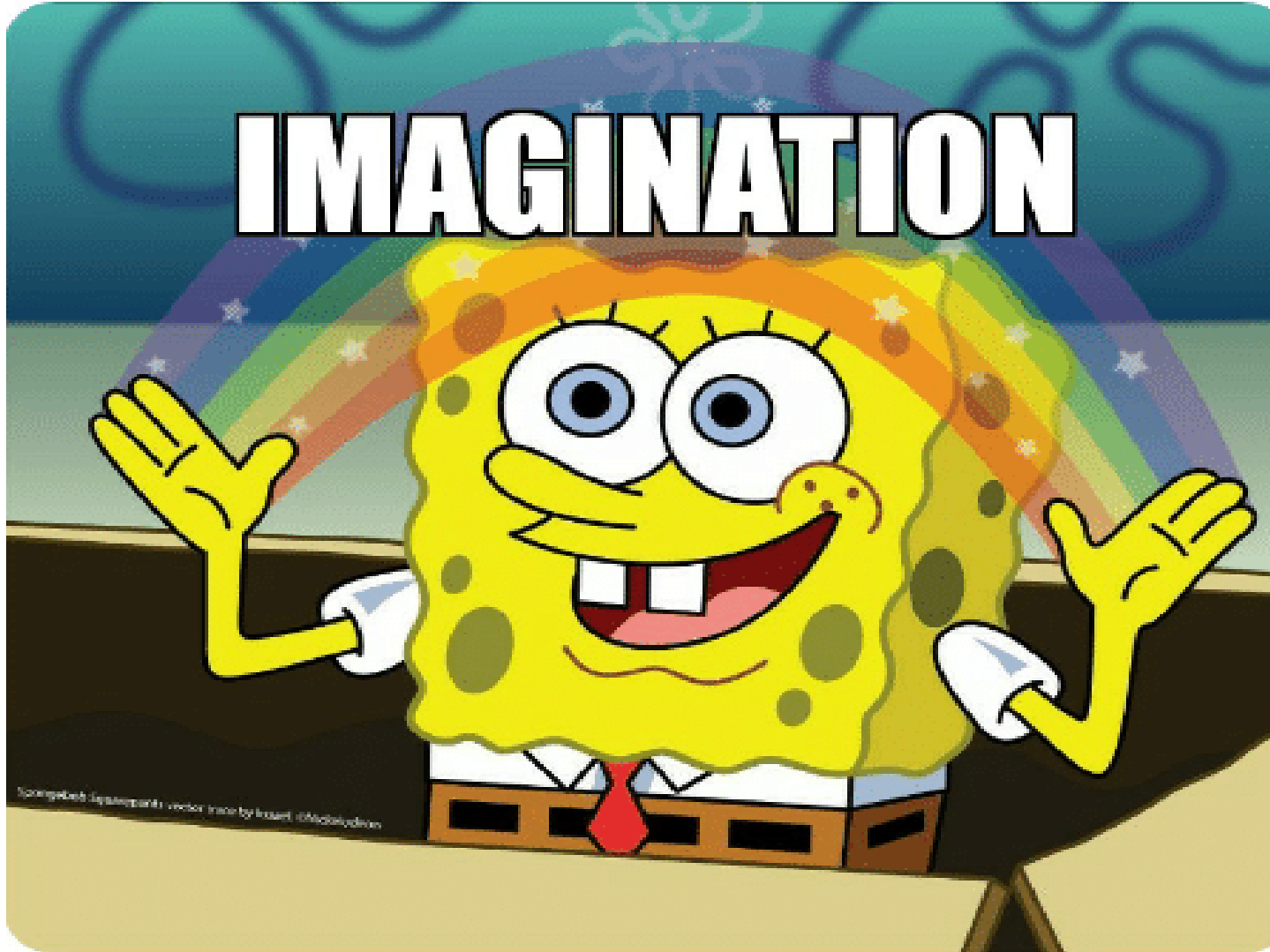
- ▶ The Effect of Drugs and Alcohol on Criminal Investigations and Prosecutions



The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the page, creating a modern, layered effect.

# Checklist to *ENSURE* Campus Safety

# Checklist to Ensure Campus Safety



# Checklist to be SAFER on Campus

- ❑ Be aware of your surroundings
- ❑ Be aware of who you are with
- ❑ If something doesn't feel right - it isn't
  - ❑ Saying something is wrong with what is happening - is a good thing!

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The text 'What Comes Next' is centered horizontally and rendered in a bold, sans-serif font, matching the lighter green tones of the background.

**What Comes Next**

# Making a Report

## ▶ Rights under Title IX:

- ▶ *“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance”*
- ▶ Both sexual harassment and sexual violence are forms of sex discrimination covered under Title IX

## ▶ Clery Act

- ▶ Requires colleges and universities receiving federal funding to prepare, publish, and distribute a public annual security report (ASR) to employees and students every October 1<sup>st</sup>
- ▶ The ASR must include statistics of campus crime for the preceding three calendar years, plus details about efforts taken to improve campus safety

# Making a Report

## ▶ Law Enforcement

- ▶ In emergency situations, contact the local law enforcement agency or 9-1-1

## ▶ Medical

- ▶ Sexual assaults can be reported to a Forensic Nurse Examiner (more commonly SANE nurse) who can help you with reporting options and guide you through a sexual assault examination

# Bystander Intervention

<https://youtu.be/opPb2E3bkoo>

# Bystander Intervention

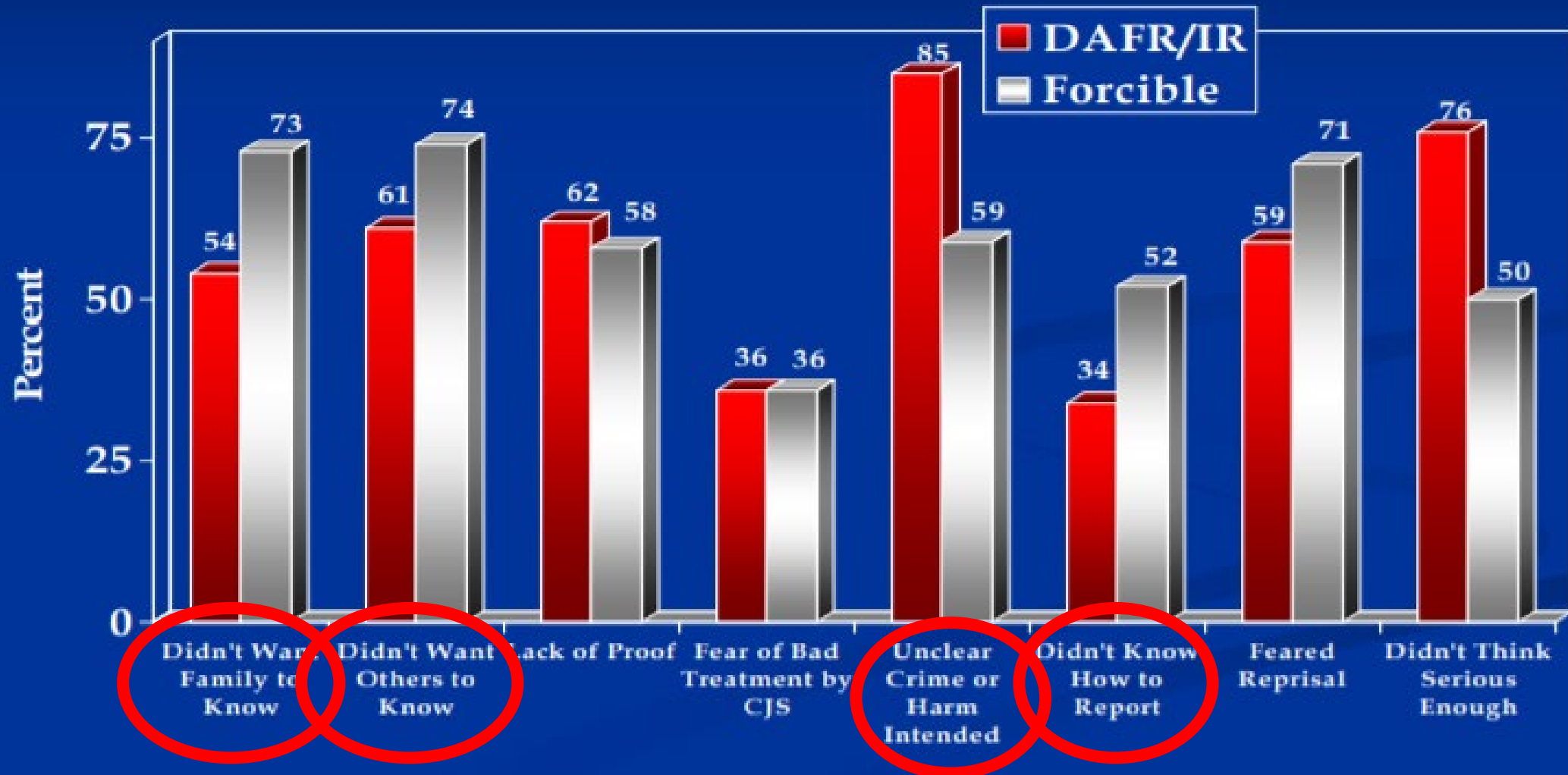
- ▶ Three D's of D.O.T. Intervention:
  - ▶ **Direct**
    - ▶ Confront the situation yourself
  - ▶ **Distract**
    - ▶ Cause a distraction that will diffuse the situation giving a moment for the situation to calm down
  - ▶ **Delegate**
    - ▶ Enlist help
- ▶ Intervention does not mean taking on the whole situation alone



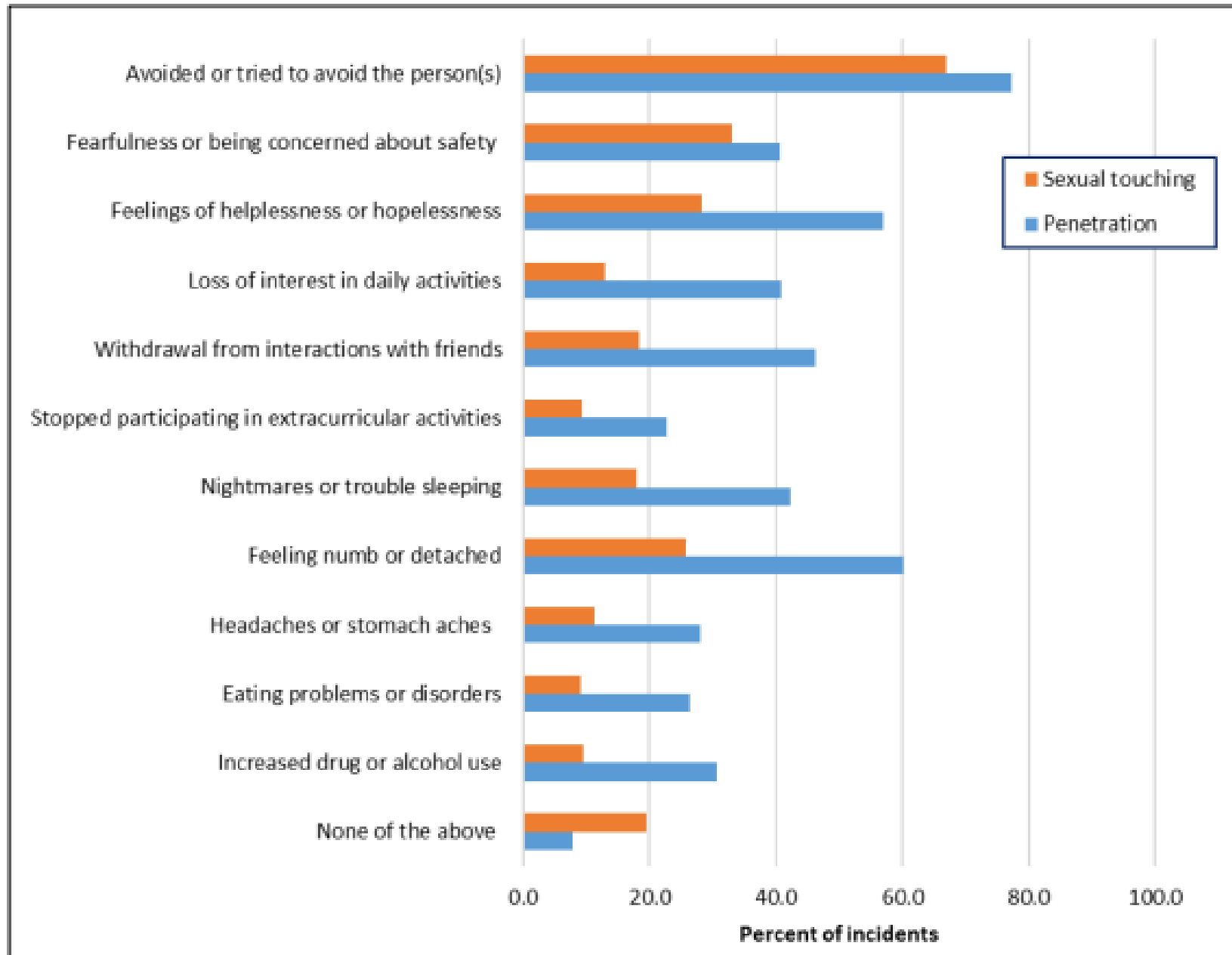
# Supporting a Survivor

The background features a series of overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles and polygons of various shades, ranging from light lime green to dark forest green. These shapes are arranged in a dynamic, layered composition that creates a sense of depth and movement, primarily concentrated on the right side of the frame.

*Exhibit 42. Reasons for Not Reporting to Police –  
DAFR/IR (N=140/150) and Forcible (N=146/176)  
Cases: College Women Sample*



**Figure 10. Behavioral and emotional consequences of nonconsensual sexual contact by physical force or inability to consent for women by type of sexual contact**



# Supporting Survivors

## Do's:

- ▶ Believe what they tell you
- ▶ Help them process their feelings: pain, anger, fear
- ▶ Control your own emotions
- ▶ Separate the anger/judgment you feel toward any behavior your friend/loved one engaged in
- ▶ Help them seek medical attention
- ▶ Seek immediate professional help if you're worried about their emotional/physical well-being
- ▶ Take care of yourself as a support person

## Don'ts:

- ▶ Don't criticize them for where they were, what they were wearing, not calling 9-1-1 sooner
- ▶ Do not over-simplify their experience
- ▶ Do not sympathize with the abuser
- ▶ Avoid asking "why" questions as they imply blame

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The rest of the background is plain white.

**For Professionals**

# Why Can't Colleges Have this Conversation First Semester Instead?

- ▶ Focus on campus laws regarding alcohol and drug use
- ▶ Discuss theft prevention
- ▶ Short presentations about consent
  - ▶ What if they've never talked about consent before their first week in a new school, in a new place, with people they've never met?

# Why Start the Conversation with High School Students?

- ▶ Having this conversation:
  - ▶ Give them the opportunity to practice consent, bystander intervention, and ask questions
  - ▶ Increases the likelihood of reporting
  - ▶ Increases the likelihood of intervention as a bystander
  - ▶ Increases the likelihood of believing friends/family/co-workers who have been assaulted
  - ▶ Increases positive coping mechanisms and resiliency after an assault
  - ▶ Decreases the use of rape language/culture



**Questions?**



# Thank You!

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