### Betrayal Trauma Theory: Memory, Health, & Gender

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For "Trust, Love and Betrayal", the 3rd Biennial Childhood Trauma Conference, Australian Childhood Foundation, Melbourne , 29 July to 3 August 2018.

### **Presentation Plans**

Today: Betrayal Trauma Theory

Memory for Trauma Betrayal Blindness Betrayal Toxicity Gendered Risk Betrayal on Students

Tomorrow: Moving from Institutional Betrayal to Institutional Courage

### Collaborative Research



	OVNAMIC Freyd Dy Dynamic Mertal Reverserations	namics Lab	
		University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, USA.	
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Rachel Harsey (lab manager)	Monika Lind (doctoral student)	Kristen Reinhardt (doctoral student on clinical internship)	
Marina Rosenthal (doctoral student on clinical intership)  PhDs and lab emeriti	Alec Smidt (doctoral student, lab Human S Pool coordinator, and JTD Edit Assistant)	Subject undergraduate RAs	
etrayal Trauma Research			
ŀ	nttp://dynamic	.uoregon.edu/	

#### Memory & Trauma – Consider Frank Fitzpatrick

Frank Fitzpatrick... began remembering having been sexually molested by a parish priest at age 12. ... Mr. Fitzpatrick's retrieval of the repressed memories began, he said, when "I was feeling a great mental pain..."

Mr. Fitzpatrick... slowly realized that the mental pain was due to a "betrayal of some kind," and remembered the sound of heavy breathing. "Then I realized I had been sexually abused by someone I loved," said Mr. Fitzpatrick.

But it was not until two weeks later that he suddenly remembered the priest,

The New York Times, 21 July 1992

## In 1991 we started with a question about human memory:

- Initial research questions
  - Why and how would individuals remain unaware of (or forget) traumas they had experienced?
  - Why are some traumas forgotten (and not others)?
- Proposed answer: Betrayal Trauma theory
  - How: mechanisms
  - Why: motivations

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### Consider Frank Fitzpatrick

- My question: how and why would Fitzpatrick forget an important interpersonal trauma like this?
- A different question: are recovered memories like Fitzpatrick's true or false?

Frank Fitzpatrick's memory of prolonged child sexual abuse by Father James Porter was corroborated

- Fitzpatrick's personal investigation resulted in tape-recorded incriminatory statements by Porter
- Eventual identification of dozens of others victims
- Porter was prosecuted criminally in Fall River, Massachusetts, and he pled guilty.
- For an archive of this and other documented cases see: <u>www.RecoveredMemory.org</u>

### Confusing Controversy in the 1990s

- In the 1990s we lacked knowledge
  - Fitzpatrick's and other's memories were corroborated
  - But in other cases there was little or no corroboration
- We now know a lot more about these issues eg:
  - Sivers, H., Schooler, J., Freyd, J. J. (2002) Recovered memories. In V.S. Ramachandran (Ed.) Encyclopedia of the Human Brain, Volume 4. (pp 169-184). Academic Press.
  - Belli, R. F. (Ed.) (2012) True and false recovered memories: Toward a reconciliation of the debate. Vol. 58: Nebraska Symposium on Motivation. New York: Springer.

# Yet there still much confusion and misinformation about memory for abuse

- Why?
  - One problem is the confusion of phenomena, mechanisms, and motivations
  - Another problem is the conflating of 2 separate issues

# Confusing Different Questions: phenomena, mechanisms, motivations

- What is it? (phenomena)
- How does it work? (mechanisms)
- Why does it work that way? (motivations)



## Memory accuracy vs memory persistence

Memory accuracy	true memory
	Memory persistence
unavailable or "recovered"	continuously available

- Common conflation of memory accuracy with memory persistence
- Separate dimensions (Freyd, 1998)

### Mental Events Occur in all 4 quadrants

Memory accuracy	true memory
	Memory persistence
unavailable or *recovered*	continuously available
Copyright © 1997, Jennifer J. Freyd	false memory

- Dimensions conceptually and empirically separate
- We can have memories that are largely true or false whether recovered or continuous
- Focus today on upper left quadrant

### Rates of forgetting



Freyd (1996). Fig 3.2 Rates of forgetting sexual abuse from three retrospective studies and one prospective study.

Hillson	m some forgetting
n = 52	Loftus, Polonsky, and Fulfilove (1994) substance abuse treatment dients reporting child sexual abuse
	always remembered



### Trauma rates (Elliott, 1997)

- Elliott, D. M. (1997). Traumatic events: Prevalence and delayed recall in the general population. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 65, 811-820.

  Method:

- Random sample 724 individuals across the US.
   Mail questionnaire (demographics, trauma history, trauma memory questions).
- 505 (70%) completed the survey.
- Results:

  - 72% reported some form of major trauma
     40% experienced major motor vehicle accident or natural disaster
  - 43% witnessed violence
  - 50% victims of interpersonal violence23% childhood sexual abuse

## Elliott (1997) continued: forgetting rates

- Delayed recall reported by 32% of those who reported some form of trauma.
- Most likely to report continuous memories for:
  - adult sexual assault without penetration (94%)
  - major motor vehicle accidents (92%)
  - natural disasters (89%)
- Complete memory loss most common for:
  - victims of child sexual abuse (20%)
  - witnesses of combat injury (16%)
  - victims of adult rape (13%)
  - witnesses of domestic violence as a child (13%)

### Consider again Frank Fitzpatrick

Frank Fitzpatrick... began remembering having been sexually molested by a parish priest at age 12. ... Mr. Fitzpatrick's retrieval of the repressed memories began, he said, when "I was feeling a great mental pain..."

Mr. Fitzpatrick... slowly realized that the mental pain was due to a "betrayal of some kind," and remembered the sound of heavy breathing. "Then I realized I had been sexually abused by someone I loved," said Mr. Fitzpatrick.

But it was not until two weeks later that he suddenly remembered the priest, the Rev. James R. Porter.

The New York Times, 21 July 1992

## How and why would people be unaware of betrayal?

- How and why would individuals remain unaware of (or forget) betrayals they had experienced?
- And why are some traumas forgotten (and not others)?
- Proposed answer: Betrayal Trauma theory

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• The question of *mechanisms* 

### How Question, Continued

- Multiple ways of forgetting and remembering involving mechanisms of attention and memory
  - Blockage at time of encoding (dissociation, unawareness)
  - Retrieval inhibition of relatively well-formed memories at a later time (repression)
- Nature of processes in forgetting have implications for retrieval process

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### Investigating mechanisms – retrieval inhibition

- Mike Anderson has been investigating retrieval inhibition and repression
  - E.g.: Hulbert & Anderson (2018). "Psychological trauma and its relationship to enhanced memory control." Journal of Experimental Psychology:
  - "Participants reporting more trauma demonstrated greater generalized forgetting of suppressed material."

## Investigating mechanisms – encoding processes / dissociation

 Early focus in my lab on encoding effects – particularly dissociation

### Dissociation

- Dissociation is "a lack of normal integration of thoughts, feelings, and experiences into the stream of consciousness and memory" (Bernstein and Putnam, 1988)
- High levels of dissociation are empirically associated with a history of trauma

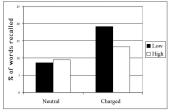

# Investigating cognitive mechanisms of memory and attention – a research strategy

- Select individuals with high dissociative tendencies and compare to low dissociator controls in cognitive laboratory tasks
- Child and adult participants
- Measure memory for trauma material and neutral material

### For adults

- We tested their memory for trauma words and neutral words
- Example trauma words: victim, incest, assault, rape

### DePrince & Freyd (1999): Free recall memory results



- High dissociators remember fewer trauma words than do low dissociators relative to neutral words
- Replicated in both 2001 and 2014 studies using slightly different methods

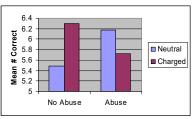
Example trauma words: *victim, incest, assault, rape* DePrince & Freyd, 1999.

### Becker-Blease, Freyd, Pears (2004)

- 80 preschool children
- Children looked at pictures from the Berenstain Bear books and then their memory was tested
- We compared trauma pictures and neutral pictures

### Becker-Blease, Freyd, & Pears (2004)

 Abused children remembered neutral pictures better. Non-abused children remembered trauma (charged) pictures better.



## Summary of findings from dissociation-memory studies:

- **Trauma:** High dissociators report significantly more trauma in their history.
- Memory: High dissociators remember fewer trauma words (and abused children remember fewer trauma pictures)

# Betrayal Trauma interpretation: • Abused children and dissociative adults may have enhanced cognitive skills to keep

betrayal trauma information out of memory

 Keeping information about betrayal traumas out of awareness and memory may lead to high levels of chronic dissociation.

and awareness.

Why would one be unaware of
betrayal?

• The question of motivation

## Why be unaware of abuse? Consider our Sensitivity to Betrayal

- Some ability to evaluate trustworthiness is highly important to any social species
- When empowered, we have exquisite sensitivity to cheating and betrayal
- Response: withdrawal or confrontation

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### Betrayal Trauma Theory: Consider Human Dependence

- •Humans, particularly children, are profoundly dependent on others
- •Attachment system protects dependent person/child
- Baby has "job" to engage (love and be lovable)
  - -Approach and positive engagement



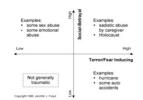
### Betrayal Trauma Theory: Betrayal Blindness as a Survival Mechanism

- What does a child do when caregiver betrays?
  - a child abused by a caregiver would risk further mistreatment if awareness caused withdrawal or confrontation
  - conflict between sensitivity to betrayal and needs of attachment (approach & engage)
- Betrayal blindness occurs when awareness would threaten necessary (or apparently necessary) relationships
- Thus unawareness and forgetting are sometimes an adaptive response to betrayal



•	Trauma Theory S Dimensions of Trai	00
Examples:  • some sex abuse  • some emotional abuse	Examples: - sadistic abuse by caregiver - Holocaust	<ul> <li>Physically threatening and terrorizing (fear inducing)</li> <li>Social-betrayal (betrayal trauma)</li> </ul>
Not generally traumatic  Copyright 1969, Jennifer J. Freyd	Terror/Fear Inducing  Examples: • hurricane • some auto accidents	Would rates of forgetting and symptoms of distress depend on these dimensions?

### **Memory Prediction**

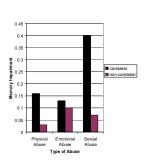


•Betrayal trauma theory predicts that forgetting and unawareness will be greater for betrayal traumas than non-betrayal traumas

## Motivation to Not Remember: A Specific Prediction

 Childhood abuse perpetrated by a caregiver will lead to more forgetting than will abuse perpetrated by a non-caregiver

BTI: Memory and Victim-Perpetrator Relationship (Freyd, DePrince, & Zurbriggen, 2001)



- College student population of 202 participants.
- "Memory impairment" = forgetting
- Abuse perpetrated by a caregiver is related to less persistent memories of abuse.
- Follow-up regression analyses: Age and duration of abuse did not account for findings.

### Are Physical and Mental Health Symptoms Also Related to Betrayal Traumas?

Examples:  • some sex abuse  • some emotional abuse	Examples:  a sadistic abuse by caregiver  High
•	Terror/Fear Inducing
Not generally traumatic	Examples:     hurricane     some auto accidents

•Memory/forgetting is related to betrayal. •Is exposure to BT related to other trauma symptoms?

### The need for a brief measure

• Designing a brief betrayal trauma survey

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### Brief Betrayal Trauma Survey (Goldberg & Freyd, 2006)

- BBTS 12 items (also 14 item version, parent report version, translated versions)
- Low Betrayal: Been in a major earthquake, fire, flood, hurricane, or tornado that resulted in significant loss of personal property, serious injury to yourself or a significant other, the death of a significant other, or the fear of your own death.
- Medium Betrayal: You were deliberately attacked so severely as to result in marks, bruises, blood, broken bones, or broken teeth by someone with whom you were not close.
- High Betrayal: You were made to have some form of sexual contact, such as touching or penetration, by someone with whom you were very close (such as a parent or lover).

### BBTS (Goldberg & Freyd, 2006) Features

- BBTS takes 5-10 mins to complete
- BBTS well tolerated by participants
- Trauma history results comparable to other instruments
- Parent Report, German, Chinese, Swedish, and Japanese versions also available.
- BBTS is on the web at:
  - http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/~jjf/bbts/

### Now That We Have the BBTS

• What does it tell us?


## Goldsmith, Freyd, & DePrince (2009), 185 college students, BBTS

	Exposure to Trauma with Low Betrayal	Exposure to Trauma with High Betrayal
Days Sick	02	.24**
Number of physician visits	02	.26**
Anxiety	07	.38**
Depression	.16*	.35**
Dissociation	.18*	.39**

•Trauma with high betrayal is a significant predictor of both anxiety and depression.

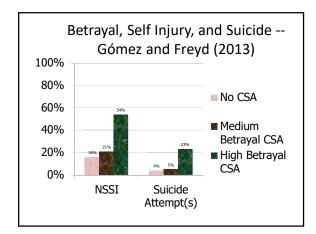
•When we add trauma with low betrayal into the model (using multiple regression), Rsquare statistics change very little, and these changes are not significant.

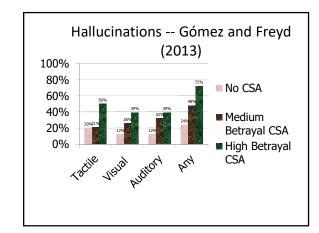
Freyd, Klest, and Allard (2005), 99 Individuals From the Community with Chronic Illness and/or Pain, BBTS

	Exposure to traumas with low betrayal	Exposure to traumas with high betrayal
Depression (TSC)	.31**	.45**
Anxiety (TSC)	.39**	.49**
Dissociatio n (TSC)	.40**	.46**
Physical Illness Symptoms	.31**	.37**

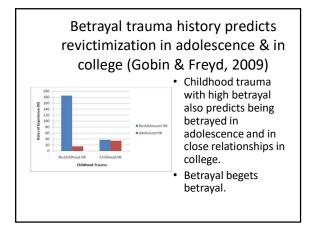
 Trauma with high betrayal is a significant predictor of both anxiety and depression.

•When we add traumas with low betrayal into the model (using multiple regression), R-square statistics change very little, and these changes are not significant.





# Maternal Revictimization Status and Child Interpersonal Trauma (Hulette, Kaehler, & Freyd, 2011) • Revictimized mothers are more likely to have children victimized • Betrayal begets betrayal



# Gobin & Freyd (2009): Betrayal history predicts decreased betrayal awareness

Childhood trauma with high betrayal (Hi) predicts more unawareness of betrayal in close relationships in college

## Betrayal Trauma is also related to Shame

- Babcock & DePrince (2012) found that experiences of childhood betrayal trauma were linked to self-blame following intimate partner abuse in adulthood.
- Platt & Freyd (2015) found that betrayal trauma exposure is related to shame. Shame may function much like forgetting – protecting the relationship with perpetrator.

### Betrayal Trauma & PTSD

- Kelley, Weathers, Mason, Pruneau, 2012: Betrayal was associated with all PTSD symptom clusters and PTSD total severity, whereas PLT was associated with hyperarousal and PTSD total, and injury had no association with PTSD symptoms.
- Goldsmith, Chesney, Heath, & Barlow (2013):
   Betrayal trauma exposure impacted symptoms of
   intrusion, avoidance, depression, and anxiety via
   emotion regulation difficulties.

### Betrayal and Disclosure

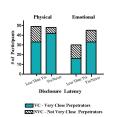
- Disclosure and impact of trauma are deeply interwoven issues
  - All the more so for interpersonal traumas with high degrees of betrayal, stigma, and secrecy
    - "Unspeakable"

What would happen if one woman told the truth about her life? The world would split open.

Muriel Rukeyser

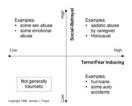
### Betrayal Trauma Predicts Disclosure Rate for Childhood Abuse

- Disclosure of betrayal may threaten attachment and thus survival.
- Foynes, M.M., Freyd, J.J., & DePrince, A. (2009)
  - Close relationships → longer disclosure latency
- Nondisclosure appears to operate as a coping mechanism, sustaining the attachment relationship



# Examples: • some emotional abuse • some emotional abuse • some emotional frame to the foregretal some auto accidents • some auto accidents

### What about Gender and Betrayal?



- Combining across events, men and women have similar overall rates of trauma
- But gender differences emerge for different types of event categories

### What about Gender and Betrayal?

 Goldberg and Freyd (2006) asked 750 homeowners about their trauma experiences using the BBTS.

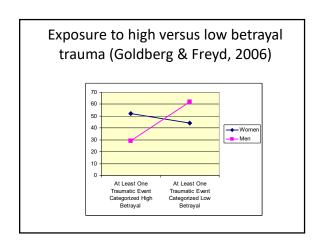
### Gender Differences for Different Types of Events (Goldberg & Freyd, 2006)

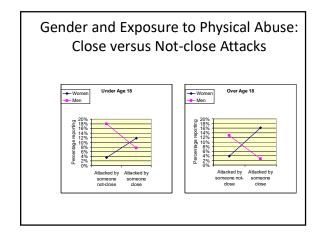
- Traumatic event rates high for both males and females
- However, 12 of 24 specific event /age comparisons produced highly significant gender differences
- Violet indicates women report more; blue indicates men report more. Significant effects in bold. \*\*\* p < .001</li>

	Refore 18	After 18
Earthquake, fire, flood	27014	19245
Automobile, bike accident	.29703	.00025***
Witnessclosekilled	.37203	.25018
Witnessnot closekilled	.00000***	.00000***
Witnesscloseattack family member	.04805	.00057***
Attackedclose	.06219	.00000***
Attackednot close	.00000***	.00002***
Sex abuseclose	.00000***	.00031***
Sex abusenot close	.00000***	.00001***
Emotionally mistreated	.00001***	.00000***
Death of own child	n too small	.01454
Other traumatic event	87752	04473

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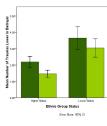


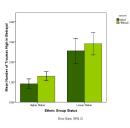
### Is this limited to North American samples? Klest, Freyd, & Foynes

- 833 members of the Hawaii Personality and Health cohort
  - 51-60 years of age
  - 53% Women, 47% Men - Cultural Identification: 39.7% Japanese, 20.5% Caucasian, 19.2% Native Hawaiian, 9.2% Filipino, 5.9% Chinese, 2.9% Latino, 2.6% Other



### Status, Gender, and Betrayal Trauma --Hawaii

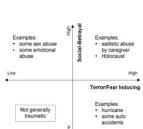




LOW BETRAYAL

HIGH BETRAYAL

### Summary of 20+ Years of Research: Betrayal is Toxic & Gender Effect



Jenaer Effect

High Betrayal is associated with forgetting and unawareness and not telling: betrayal blindness

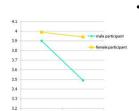
High Betrayal is also associated with increases in symptoms of 
—Depression
—Anxiety
—Dissociation
—Shame
—PTSD
—Physical Illness
—BPD features
—Hallucinations
—Self harm
—Problematic substance use
—Revictimization

\*Women/gifs at higher risk than men/boys of high betrayol exposure

### This raises the question

- Dominant narrative: Close relationships and family are supposed to be safe places....
  - Why is this accepted wisdom so different from the empirical reality for so many people?
  - Are betrayal traumas disbelieved & discounted because they are disproportionately experienced by women?

## Maybe, yes: believing abuse vignettes depends on trauma history for men



- Cromer & Freyd, 2007
  - Gender differences in believing abuse
  - Interaction with trauma history

### **Defining Betrayal Blindness**

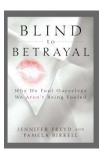
 Betrayal blindness is the unawareness, not-knowing, and forgetting exhibited by people towards betrayal.



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### **Betrayal Blindness is Pervasive**

 Victims, perpetrators, and witnesses engage in betrayal blindness in order to preserve relationships upon which they depend



### **Backlash and Current Movements**

- False Memory Syndrome movement
- Church abuse, military sexual trauma, college sexual assault, #MeToo
- · The next backlash?
- Lessons learned from researching student sexual assault. . .

### Growing Awareness for Campus Sexual Trauma

- By early 2013 much US & world press attention to the topic of campus sexual violence largely due to student grassroots effort
- January 2014 US White House Task Force





### US White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault

- Announced in January 2014
- Report Not Alone released April 2014
- JJF to WH March 2014 & April 2014







## Meanwhile, at the University of Oregon (UO)



In May 2014 a gang rape allegation (involving athletes) – and questions about how the university administration had responded -- threw the campus into crisis

A Campus in Crisis: UO in May 2014



## In Summer 2014 at the University of Oregon (UO)

- Making institutional changes became a priority
- We needed to gather local data on campus victimization and institutional behavior
- This quickly led to our first campus sexual violence survey at the UO in August 2014
- Response of administration

### The 2014 UO Sexual Violence Survey

- Assessing sexual assault, sexual harassment, perpetration, attitudes, institutional response, student health, and educational engagement
- Primary Collaborators: Carly Parnitzke Smith and Marina N. Rosenthal
- http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jif/campus/



Pictured: C. Smith. J. Freyd. M. Rosenthal

## Survey Framework Sexual Violence of Students – What Is It?

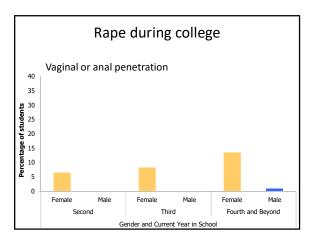
- Sexual violence includes sexual assault, dating violence (battering), stalking, and sexual harassment.
- Sexual violence is simultaneously a public health, criminal/justice, human rights, civil rights, and educational issue.

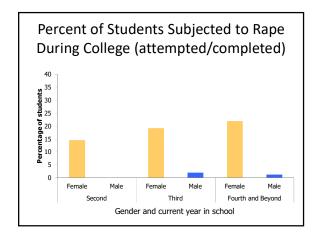
### 2014 UO Survey methodology

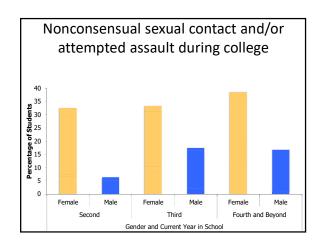
- Registrar provided us randomly selected representative sample of 5000
- On-line data collection
- We provided compensation as incentive
- 982 completed surveys
- We excluded those who did not pass "attention check"
- All victimization questions were behavioral rather than using terms like "assault" or "harassment"

### One group we missed

 Students who left the university because of sexual assault or harassment are not in the sample



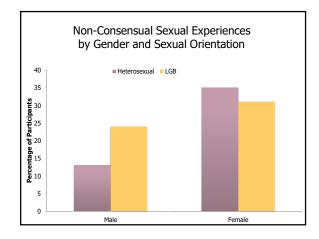




Gender of perpetrator?

As indicated by victims, 87% of the perpetrators were male.

Is it betrayal?	
Of the students who had a nonconsensual sexual experience, 73% indicated knowing their	
perpetrator.	
Institutional Betrayal	
41% of students experienced <b>at least one</b> type of institutional betrayal related to a non-	
consensual sexual experience	
More about this In plenary tomorrow	
114%	
Minority status as a risk factor?	



## Did students report sexual assault experiences to a university source?

90% of those who had any nonconsensual sexual experience did not tell any university source

86% of those who were raped did not tell any university source.

2014 Survey Open Source <a href="http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jjf/campus/">http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jjf/campus/</a>

A list of measures, an electronic print-out of the UO online survey, and additional results can be found at: http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jif/campus/



### We took our findings from the 2014 UO Survey (Freyd, Smith, & Rosenthal) to the University Senate

- · The data made a difference on campus
- Increased awareness
  Data applied to policies
- and decisions (Although sometimes curiously not)



### **UO Senate Task Force Report** Fall 2014

• Twenty Students Per Week: The Final Report of the University Senate Task Force to Address Sexual Violence and Survivor Support.



### February 2015: Developing an Open Access Survey

- ARC3 = The Administrator-**Researcher Campus Climate** Collaborative
- Created at the Madison Summit on Campus Climate and Sexual Misconduct
- Included in campus survey UO in spring 2015 (Freyd, Smith, Rosenthal, Smidt, & Gomez)





### A second campus survey in 2015

- Our first campus survey was end of summer 2014
- Our second campus survey was end of spring term 2015
  - The second survey included graduate students

### A second campus survey in 2015

- The second survey included graduate student participants
- Research team: Alec Smidt, Jennifer Gómez, Carly Smith, Jennifer Freyd, & Marina Rosenthal







Survey instruments & findings at: <a href="http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jjf/campus/">http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jjf/campus/</a>

### 2015 Survey Procedure

- Goal was to survey 1500 students; a 25% response rate was expected.
- 4,000 undergrad and 2,000 graduate student emails were randomly selected by the UO Registrar
- Compensation: \$15 Amazon.com gift certificate
- Due to our strong response we had to cut the survey off – so we really cannot give a precise response rate, except to say at least 25%.

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## A Few Things We learned from the 2015 Survey

- 1. We replicated victimization & institutional betrayal rates for undergraduate students
- 2. Graduate students show a somewhat different pattern of victimization (less sexual assault; more sexual harassment by faculty/staff)
- 3. For all victimization categories both undergraduate and graduate students who were women reported significantly higher rates of victimization

## 2015 Rates of Victimization for Undergraduate Students While at UO

Victimization Type	Male Undergraduates	Female Undergraduates
Completed penetration without consent	1%	13%***
Any attempted or completed sexual contact without consent	6%	27%***
Stalking	19%	26%*
Dating violence (battering)	6%	14%**
Sexual or gender-based harassment-related event- by other student	46%	68%***
Sexual or gender-based Harassment-related event – by faculty/staff	21%	28%*

\*p<.05, \*\*p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001, higher rate for females compared to males

## 2015 Rates of Victimization for Graduate Students While At UO

Victimization Type	Male Graduate Students	Female Graduate Students
Completed penetration without consent	<1%	4%*
Any attempted or completed sexual contact without consent	4%	10%*
Stalking	12%	25%***
Dating violence (battering)	6%	11%
Sexual or gender-based harassment-related event– by other student	39%	58%***
Sexual or gender-based Harassment-related event – by faculty/staff	23%	38%***

\*p<.05, \*\*\*p<.001, higher rate for females compared to males

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## 2015 Rates of Victimization for Female Students -- Undergrad vs Grad

Victimization Type	Undergraduates	Graduate Students	
Completed penetration without consent	13%***	4%	
Attempted and completed vaginal, oral, or anal contact without consent	20%***	8%	
Any attempted or completed sexual contact without consent	27%***	10%	
Stalking	26%	25%	
Dating violence (battering)	14%	11%	
Sexual or gender-based harassment-related event- by other student	68%**	58%	
Sexual or gender-based Harassment-related event – by faculty/staff	28%	38%**	

<sup>\*\*</sup>p<.01, \*\*\*p<.001, higher rate for undergrads compared to grads
\*\* p<.01, higher rate for grads compared to undergrads

# Sexual Harassment of Graduate Students (Rosenthal, Smidt, & Freyd 2016)

- Controlling for other forms of victimization, harassment by superiors associated with
  - increased trauma symptoms
  - decreased perceptions of safety
  - $-\,increased\,experiences\,of\,institutional\,betrayal$
  - It is about betrayal

### Summary

Today: Betrayal Trauma Theory

Memory for Trauma Betrayal Blindness Betrayal Toxicity Gendered Risk Betrayal of Students

Tomorrow: Moving from Institutional Betrayal to Institutional Courage

### Institutional & Societal Betrayal Trauma

- · Can betrayal trauma (and blindness) occur on an institutional level?
  - Betrayals by schools, churches, government, etc.?
  - Genocide
  - Separation of children from parents at border



### Institutions as Betrayers?



- Institutions may be trusted and depended-upon

  - depended-upon

     "School community"
    or "Military family"

     For instance, what
    happens when
    experiencing or
    reporting sexual
    assault within an
    institution?

### **Tomorrow**

Plenary at 10:15 AM:

Moving from Institutional Betrayal to Institutional Courage

### Questions?



Full text of articles and additional resources: http://dynamic.uoregon.edu And https://www.jjfreyd.com/