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Sexual Assault and Misconduct in Isla Vista

April 2018

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Matan Bostick
Public Policy Intern

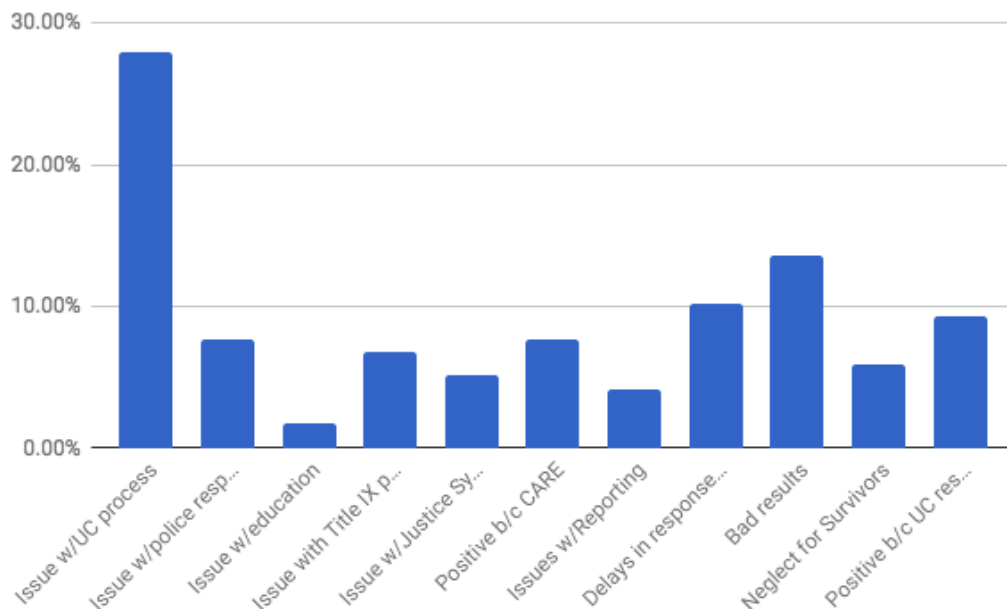
DRAFT

I. Background/ Overview

The purpose of this report is to continue addressing the major issue of sexual assault and sexual misconduct that occurs in Isla Vista. This issue has become more prominent and it is increasingly obvious that substantive measures are required to address it.

A. Article Analysis

The first task of this report was compiling all articles written in the last several years regarding sexual assault and harassment in Isla Vista and UCSB, there was a lack of articles surrounding SBCC on this topic. These articles were not only limited to crimes but also often referenced “hookup culture” and pervasive attitudes regarding sexual encounters. We decided to examine these articles first to get an idea of how people perceive and react to sexual assault and misconduct in IV. After compiling over 30 articles, they were coded by phrases mentioned. After conducting a thorough examination, the analysis revealed some clear trends regarding attitudes towards sexual assault. It is important to note that some of these articles traced back to 2013, and the institutional response to sexual misconduct on college campuses has substantially changed in that time. Below is a graph demonstrating the distribution of phrases and words used repeatedly across the articles.



Perhaps the most important takeaway from this graphic is the overwhelming amount of times “Issue w/UC process” came up (27.36%). This response occurred more than twice as frequently as the next most stated code. Several of these articles were

DRAFT

from 2013, 2014, and 2015; they might not have reflect changes with the UC's reporting process. In the last several years, the UC system and UCSB have undertaken efforts to reform the process of reporting sexual assaults. This helps account for the relatively solid amount of times authors felt positively about the UC response process (9.3%). Despite this, students continued to communicate dissatisfaction with the overall system locally between all agencies involved, culminating in the demands made May 2017 that resulted in work on this report.

Two other prominent codes that came up frequently were Bad Results and Delays in Response Procedure. While Bad Results is rather vague, it reflects the general issue of survivors not receiving the justice they deserved. Whether that meant their abuser escaping without consequence or the police mishandling their case, the prominence of this code reflects deep issues with the handling and outcomes of sexual violence cases. The high volume of Delays in Response Procedure also reflects serious issues with the way sexual violence cases were responded to. A significant portion of these mentions were written in regards to the police's response procedure as well as the university's. At the minimum, the prevalence of these coded classifications suggests further examination and study into established response mechanisms is needed. survivors should not have to wait weeks or even months to find out what the authorities plan to do. These responses are likely delayed because sexual assault cases have only recently become a priority to respondents. The literature revealed frequent cases where the police or university were extremely slow to respond and unhelpful for survivors.

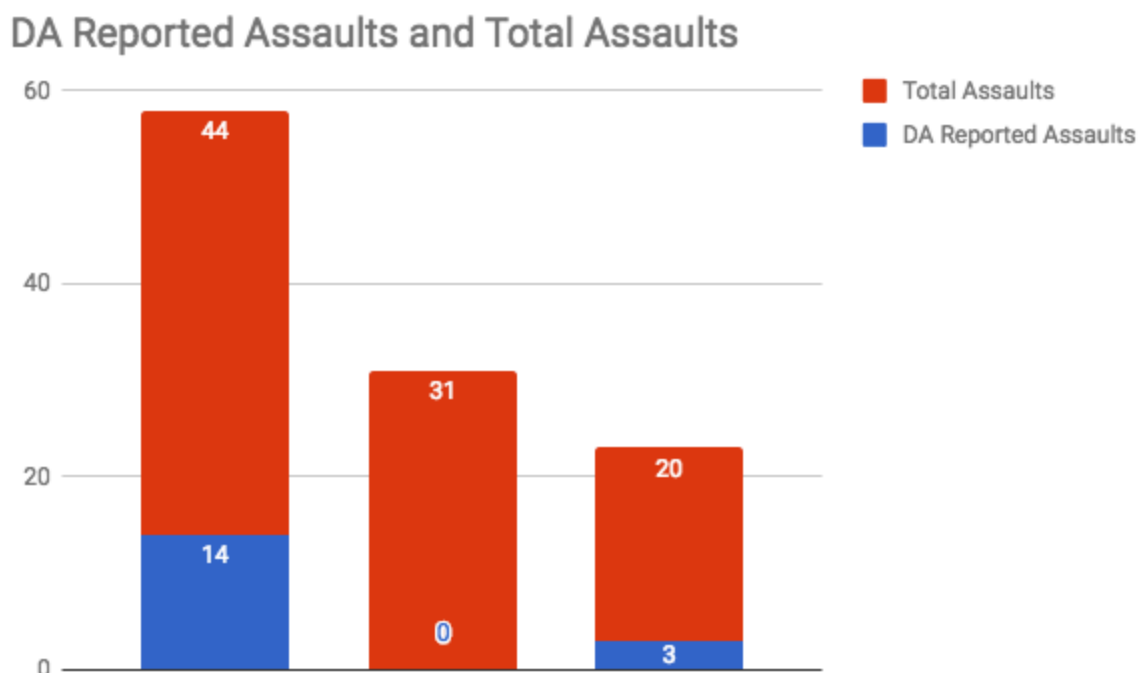
B. Police Data Analysis

Perhaps the most indicative and important data collected came courtesy of the UCSB Police Department and the Isla Vista Foot Patrol. Thanks to each department, we were able to secure crucial data regarding sexual assault and misconduct in Isla Vista and UCSB. The UCPD data is comprised of sexual misconduct and assault from 2015-2017. It is separated in broad categories of "Sexual Assault" and "Sexual Offenses". Their definition has Sexual Assault and Rape as the same thing. The definition reads: "penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim." The other category of sexual violence is Sexual Offenses, which is defined as "offenses against chastity, common decency, morals, and the like". This definition includes, but is not limited to, Fondling, Incest, Statutory Rape, Indecent Exposure, Peeping, Etc." This categorization is limited because it is vague and non descriptive of the actual incidents that occurred. Moving forward, it is important sexual violence categorizations are more detailed.

DRAFT

Another change that could be implemented in regards to categorization is the specific location and nature of sexual assaults and offenses. Locations provided by UCPD include the names of specific residence halls, Isla Vista, or an unknown location. While this helps us understand where acts of violence occur, this classification reveals very little about the nature of the attack. Future data classifying sexual assault locations should include what areas of the dorms attacks occurred, what times they occurred, and more specific details about the type of Sexual Offense. From the data, it is impossible to discern what kind of offense even occurred, which impairs our ability to target certain areas or times for heightened security measures. In addition, Isla Vista data should be expanded to include specific blocks and even the specific address of the house which an assault occurred.

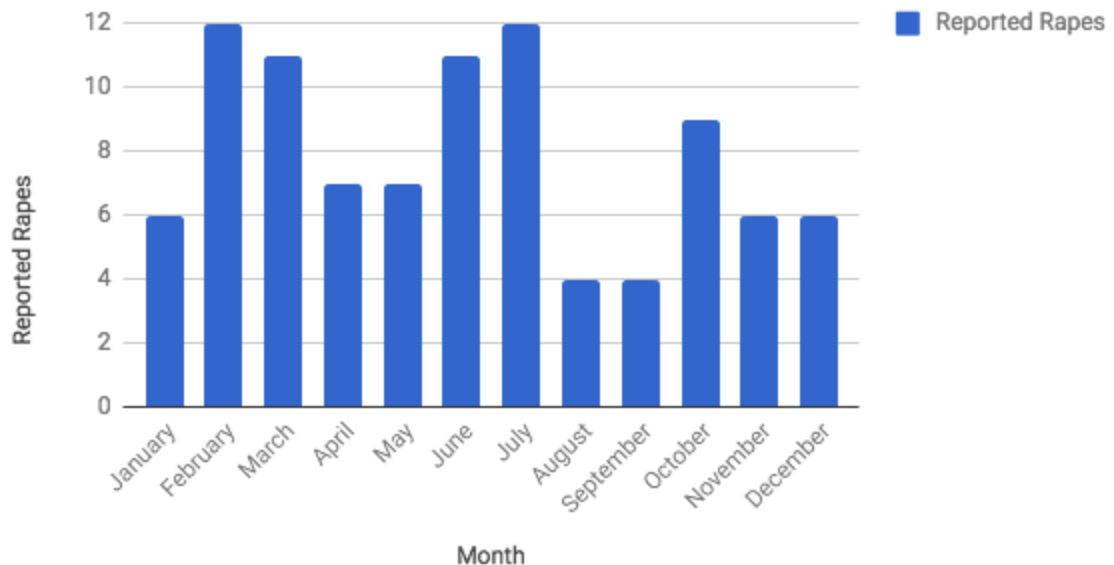
After conducting analysis, our efforts revealed certain patterns and trends in the UCPD data from 2015-2017.



Perhaps the most obvious pattern revealed in the data was that the overwhelming majority of assault cases were NOT forwarded to the District Attorney's office. Another important statistic is the rise in sexual assaults reported each year. In 2015, 20 sexual assaults were reported to the UCPD in comparison to 44 in 2017. This reflects the tangible improvements that the school and UCPD have enforced in order to make it easier to report sexual assaults. Despite the higher amount of sexual assaults, this is a positive development that shows students are becoming more comfortable reporting acts of sexual violence.

DRAFT

Reported Rapes Per Month



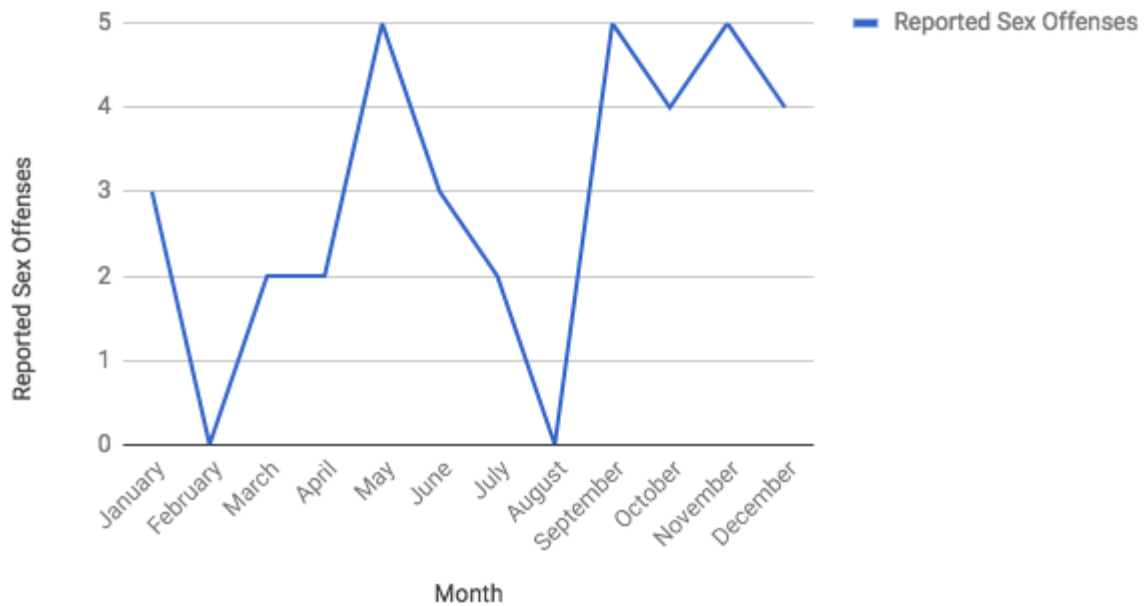
Another interesting bit of information from the UCPD data was the months when most rapes were reported. It's unclear whether there is a definitive pattern here, but the data revealed an uptick in rapes in the summer. Even though there are less people here during June-July, that might embolden rapists. Another factor to consider is the influx of non-students who move into IV during the summer. It's difficult to make any definitive conclusions from this but it certainly merits further examination.

February, March, and October also had higher reported cases of rape. It is unclear why February and March experience these upticks in crime but October may have an explanation. October is the beginning of the school year, which has consistently been a time of increased sexual violence, especially amongst freshman. The graph below of reported sexual offenses demonstrates that October is a month with many acts of sexual violence. The CSD and UCSB/SBCC should consider adopting more protective measures during October to help prevent these crimes from occurring as frequently.

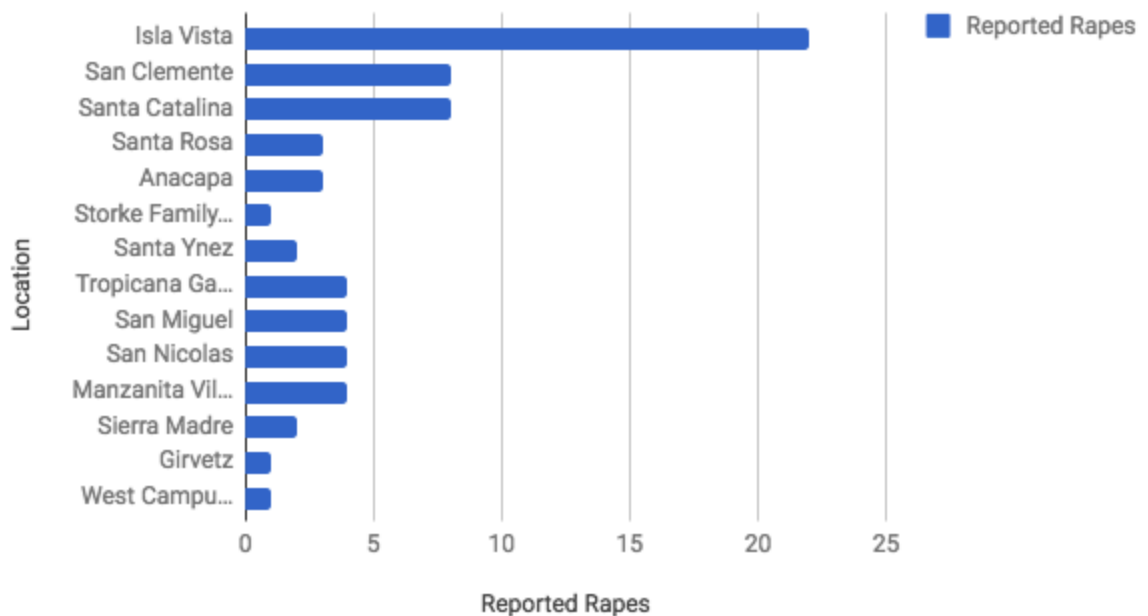
The chart below reveals that the majority of reported sexual offenses occur during the months of fall quarter. Another important stat to glean is the extremely low amount of offenses even reported to the police. These stats barely touch the tip of the iceberg and it is ludicrous to think that only this many occur. It's more likely that the figures in the graph below are more representative of the offenses that occur every weekend, not every month.

DRAFT

Total Reported Sex Offenses per Month (2015-2017)



Reported Rapes by Location

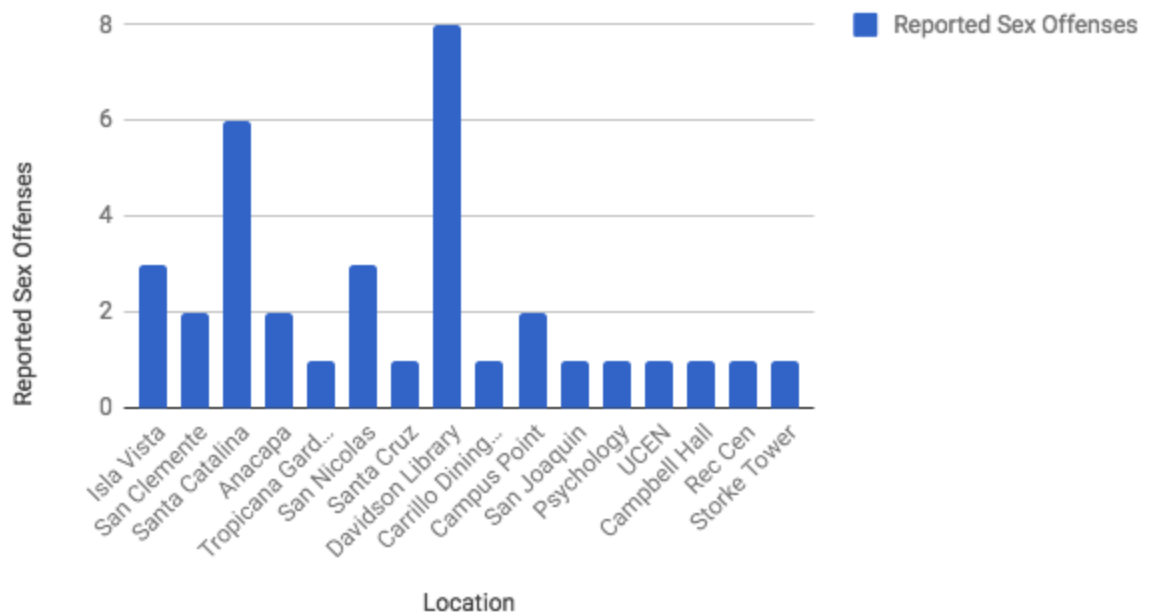


The graph above describes the locations of where rapes in IV and at UCSB occur according to UCPD data. The most important info to glean is that the vast majority of rapes occur off campus in Isla Vista, which shouldn't come as a surprise. Another stat that is not terribly surprising is that most on-campus rapes occur in Santa Catalina.

DRAFT

These dorms have the highest population of students. Also interesting to note is the relatively high amount of reported rapes in San Clemente, which is predominantly graduate and international students. Education of these students should be increased specifically.

Reported Sex Offenses vs. Location



This statistic was perhaps the most surprising of all the UCPD information. Considering the majority of these offenses occur during Fall quarter, it likely means new freshman need more training and education regarding sexual assault and violence. The surprising element of this graph is the high percentage of offenses that occur at Davidson Library. While it is outside the District's jurisdiction, the library should be safer from sexual violence as many IV residents regularly use that facility. Perhaps more security cameras or patrolling CSOs are the solutions to ensure sexual violence occurs there less.

UCPD Data Analysis

- Data only includes rape and allegations of rape (not included dating violence and general harassment)
- 2015
 - (20) Least amount of reported sexual assaults on campus (2015-17)
 - October was the month with highest amount of rapes (4)
 - November and January had second highest with 3 rapes, September and March with 2

DRAFT

- Reveals a pattern that most rapes happen at the beginning of each quarter
 - 17 out of 20 rapes were not forwarded to the DA
 - Off-campus and San Clemente had the most per location (3)
 - IV, San Miguel, FT each had 2 reported rapes
 - Only 3 “sex offenses” reported
- 2016
 - 31 reported rapes in 2016
 - February had highest amount of rapes (7)
 - March, June, July had second highest with 4 rapes, October with 3
 - Might mean there isn’t a pattern?
 - 0 rapes forwarded to the DA
 - IV had most per location (6), off campus (4)
 - San Clemente and Tropicana each had 3
 - 9 rapes occurred at an unknown location
 - Most sex offenses at Davidson Library and FT (4)
 - 12 sex offenses reported
 - Highest number of reports in September (4)
 - Makes more sense
 - All of FT reports in September
 - Only 3 sex offenses reported to DA
- 2017
 - 44 reported rapes in 2017
 - July (7) and June (6) had highest amount of rapes
 - 6 July rapes occurred in IV
 - 5 rapes in December and March
 - Only 14 rapes forwarded to the DA
 - 14 rapes in IV (by far the highest amount per location)
 - 6 rapes in FT (second highest amount)
 - 7 rapes that happened in unknown locations
 - 20 sex offenses reported in 2017
 - (4) highest amount of sex offenses in October and December
 - (3) second highest amount of sex offenses in November and January
 - Davidson Library had most sex offenses per location (4)
 - FT with third highest reported (2)
 - FT consistently higher rates of offenses than other dorms
 - Only 4 sex offenses forwarded to the DA

Next Steps:

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1. Request more specific data from UCPD
 - a. Times incidents occurred
 - b. Specific location within dorms (Bathroom, dorm room, hallway)
 - c. Specific blocks of IV (65 Sabado)
 - d. Further classification of 'Sexual Offenses' (which ones happen the most)
2. Request more specific data from IVFP
 - a. Sexual assaults per month
 - b. Total number of reports and number of reports that resulted in action
 - c. Times incidents occurred
 - d. Specific locations (Bathroom, bedroom, hallway)
 - e. Specific blocks of IV (65 Sabado)