



Rutgers CARES Evaluation Report

Rutgers – New Brunswick

Training Facilitator(s): Maddy Zijdel, Peer Educator Coordinator – Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance (VPVA)

Report Authors: Cassie Spector, Roxanna Ast, Sarah McMahon

KEY POINTS

- Survey participants reported that their perceived awareness of Rutgers’ procedures for dealing with reported incidents of IPV increased 47% after attending the training.
- Survey participants rated the presentation as interactive and easy to understand.
- 86% of survey participants who responded were aware of the *End Sexual Violence Now* messaging around campus.

INTRODUCTION

On December 9, 2020, the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance (VPVA) held a Rutgers CARES virtual training with 27 participants on the New Brunswick campus. The virtual training was held specifically for an undergraduate social work class, and provided information on the behavior of trauma victims, effective ways to respond to a peer who experienced interpersonal violence, and available resources for victims of interpersonal violence.

In order to evaluate the training, evaluation surveys were handed out to all participants at the end of the training. On the evaluation survey, participants were asked about the following: perceived knowledge of interpersonal violence (IPV); ability to get assistance on Rutgers campus if the participant or a friend experienced IPV; the quality and relevance of the materials provided and the presenter; and feedback for future iterations of the training.

52 percent of participants ($n = 14$) completed the evaluation surveys discussed in this report. All of the participants who attended the training and completed the survey identified as undergraduate students (100%).

Table 1. Survey Participants ($n = 14$)

	N	%
Current Affiliation to RU:		
Undergraduate Students	14	100



SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Perceived knowledge and ability *before and after the training*

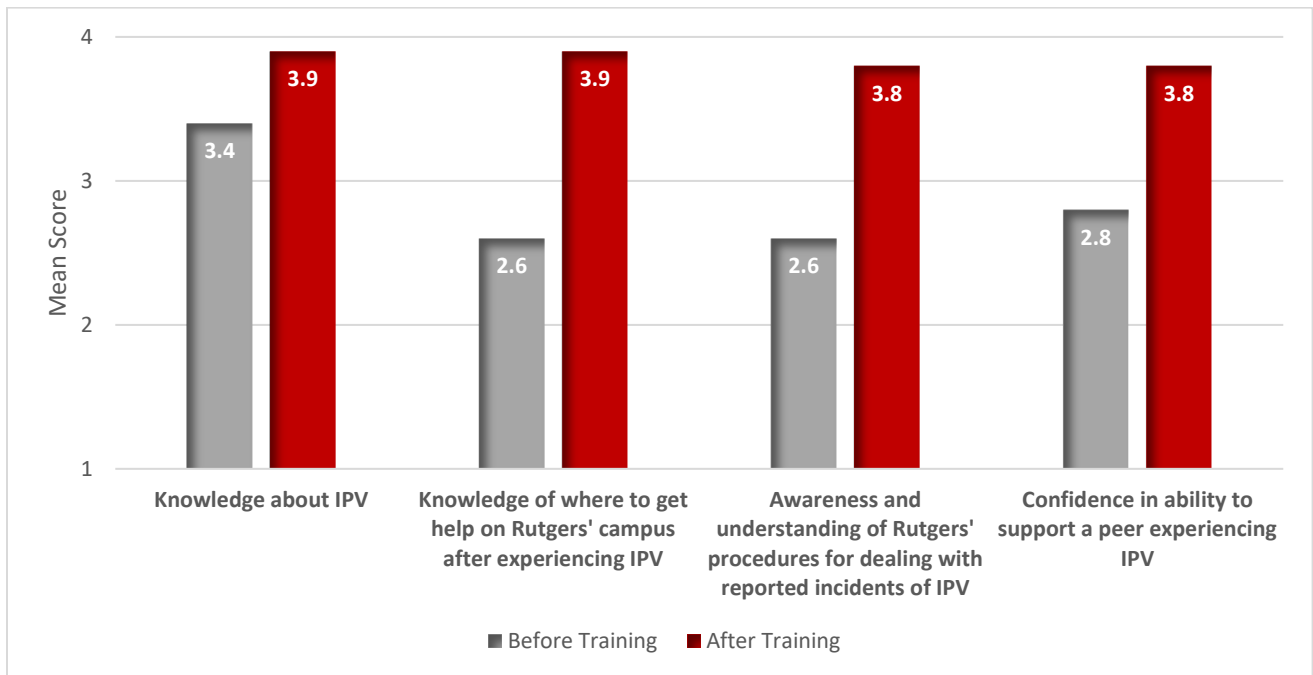
Evaluation surveys asked about participants’ perceived knowledge of IPV, ability to get assistance on Rutgers campus if the participant or a friend experienced IPV and understanding of Rutgers procedures for dealing with reported incidences of IPV **before** and **after** the training. Perceptions were rated on a 1 to 4 scale: not at all (1), a little (2), somewhat (3) and a great deal (4), both before and after the training. Higher scores indicate *greater* perceived knowledge, awareness and/or ability.

Results from the surveys show the following (also see Figure 1 below):

- Survey participants reported that their perceived knowledge of IPV *increased 15%* after attending the training.
- Survey participants reported that their perceived knowledge of where to get help on Rutgers’ campus if they or a friend experienced IPV *increased 46%* after attending the training.
- Survey participants reported that their perceived awareness of Rutgers’ procedures for dealing with reported incidents of IPV *increased 47%* after attending the training.
- Survey participants reported that their perceived confidence in ability to support a peer experiencing IPV *increased 36%* after attending the training.

Overall, the training led to an improvement in perceptions of knowledge and awareness of IPV, Rutgers’ resources, and procedures, as well as confidence in ability to support a survivor of IPV

Figure 1. Was the training effective?





Quality and relevance of training

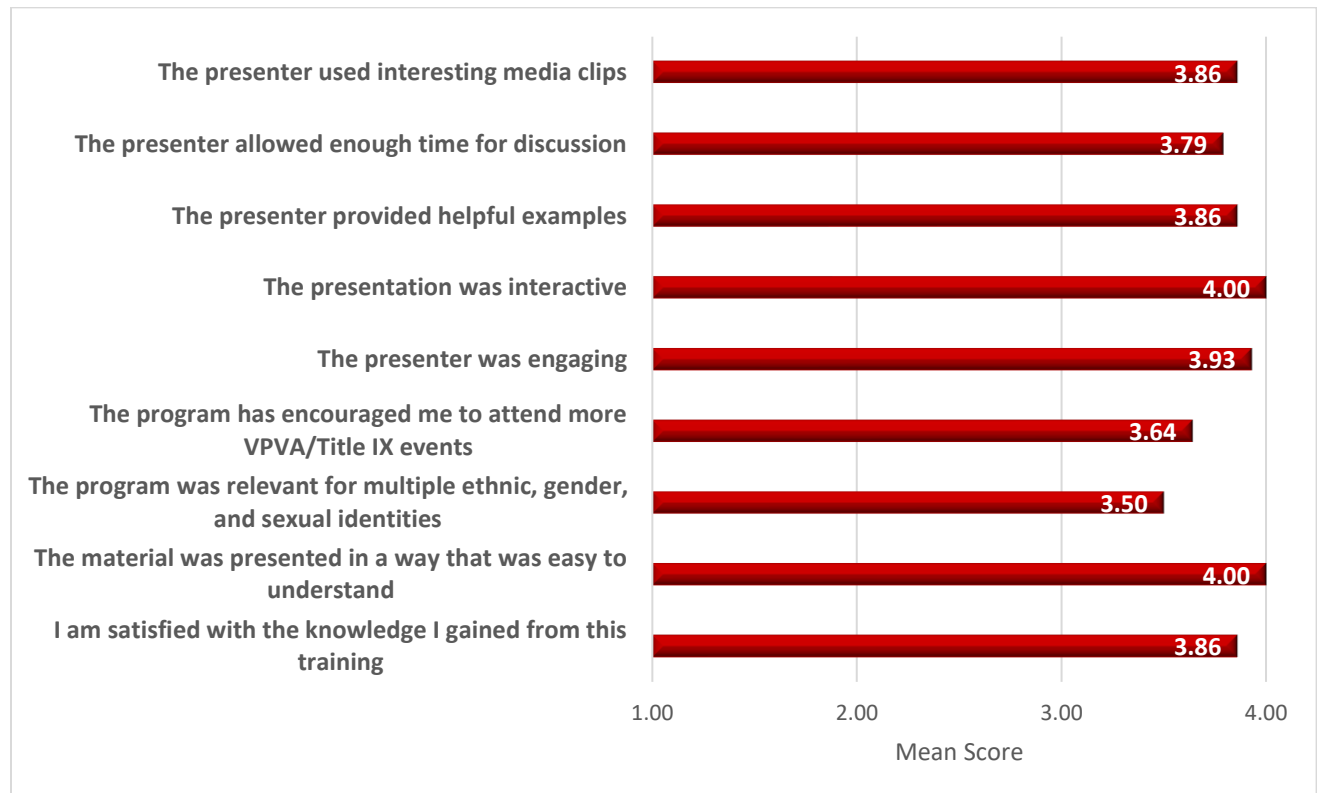
Survey participants were asked to rate their overall satisfaction with the following: knowledge gained from attending the program; presentation of the material; relevance of the program to the audience; and relevance of the program for diverse ethnic identities, gender identities, and sexual identities.

Participants were asked to rate several statements related to the overall quality and relevance of program materials on a 4-point scale: not at all (1), a little (2), somewhat (3) and a great deal (4), both before and after the training. Higher scores for each statement indicate a *more positive* rating of satisfaction.

Results from the surveys show the following (also see Figure 2 below):

- Overall, a majority of survey participants reported that they were “a great deal” satisfied with the knowledge gained from the training.
- A majority of survey participants rated the training as interactive and easy to understand.
- Further, survey participants rated the presenter as engaging and provided helpful examples.

Figure 2. Was the material relevant?





Feedback for Future Trainings

Survey participants were asked in the form of an open ended question, “What did you like about this program?”

Some of the written-in responses included the following statements:



- “This program facilitates an important conversation that needs to be had, provides great information as to how to effectively respond to instances of interpersonal violence, as well as makes everyone know of the resources available to them.”
- “The complex situational nature of some of these cases makes it hard to move forward with the influx of power which occurs.”
- “I loved the healthy, unhealthy and abusive segment and the videos from the SCREAM theater with the scenario.”
- “The presenter was informal which made things easier.”

Survey participants were also asked in the form of an open-ended question, “What would improve this program?”

Some of the written-in responses included the following statements:

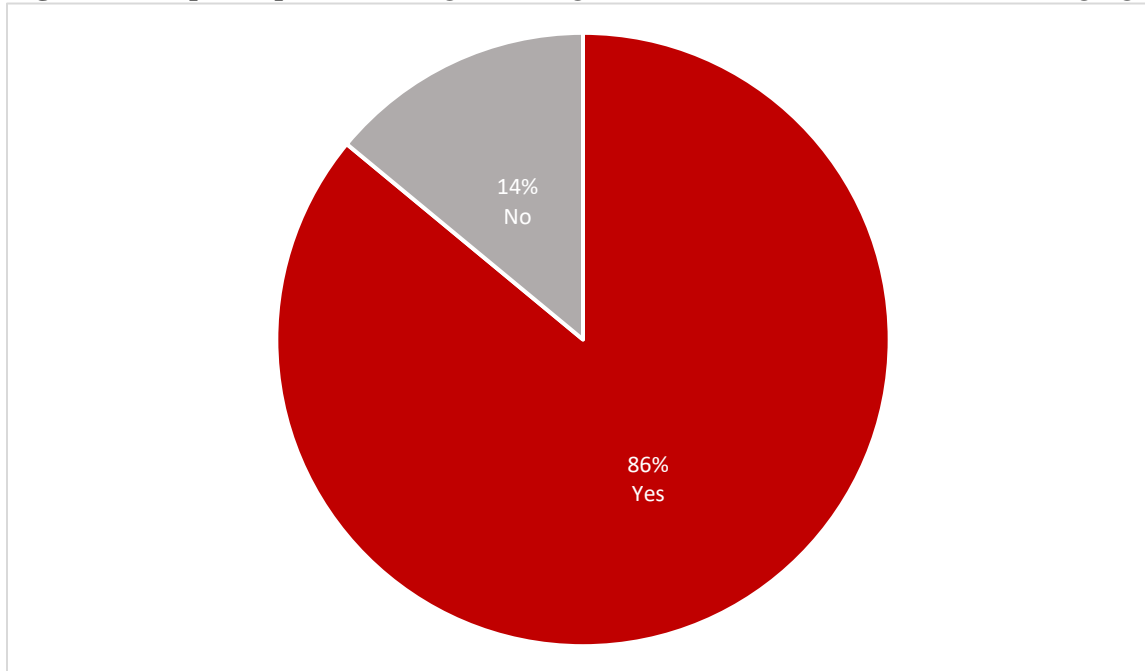
- “Changing some of the examples of healthy, unhealthy, abusive behavior to make them more relevant in today's day and age.”
- “Little more focus on homosexual situations would be relevant.”
- “Use of different videos than the videos used during new student orientation.”



End Sexual Violence Now Messaging

Finally, we asked participants if they had heard or seen *End Sexual Violence Now* messaging around campus; 86% said they had seen or heard of the campaign (see Figure 3).

Figure 3. Are participants hearing or seeing the *End Sexual Violence Now* messaging?



CONCLUSION

Most survey participants reported that their perceived awareness of Rutgers’ procedures for dealing with reported incidents of IPV increased 47% after attending the training. Additionally, survey participants reported that their perceived knowledge of where to get help on Rutgers’ campus if they or a friend experienced IPV increased 46% after attending the training. Overall, survey participants reported they were “a great deal” satisfied with the knowledge they had gained, and that the presentation was interactive and easy to understand. The presenter was rated as engaging and provided helpful examples. Finally, 86% of survey participants who responded were aware of *End Sexual Violence Now* messaging around campus.