

2015-2016 Assessment Final Report

Department: Student Involvement and Leadership Center

Assessment of Student Safe Zone Learning Outcomes

Introduction

Assessment Project Description

Student Safe Zone is an educational program provided by The Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity (SGD) that will educate KU students in order to create a safer, more civil community for all individuals, particularly those of sexuality and/or gender minorities (e.g., lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, etc.)

Student Safe Zone was selected for assessment to determine if it is effectively educating students on LGBTQIA topics, heterosexual and cisgender privilege and how to be an effective ally. This feedback will provide SGD staff insight into how improvements can be made to this program.

Service/Program Student Learning Outcome(s)

Students participating in a Student Safe Zone will be able to...

1. Recognize problematic and offensive language and behavior specifically directed toward LGBTQIA+ individuals (SILC Learning Outcome #1, # 5, and #6; SGD Learning Outcome #1, #2, and #3)
2. Identify heterosexual and cisgender privilege in their lives (SILC Learning Outcome #1, #5, & #6; SGD Learning Outcome #2, #3, & #5)
3. Comprehend tools and resources available to interrupt discriminatory or problematic behavior (SILC Learning Outcome #1, 3, 4, & 6; SGD Learning Outcome #3, #4, & 5)

Population/Sample:

Students who attended a Student Safe Zone session during the 2016 spring semester were asked to fill out a written evaluation directly after the session. A total of 62 students participated in four sessions. 13 attended the first. 10 attended the second. 30 attended the third. 9 attended the fourth.

2015-2016 Assessment Final Report

Department: Student Involvement and Leadership Center

Assessment Method(s):

Participants were asked to fill out a written survey directly after the session.

Summary of Key Findings/Results

- 100% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were now able to identify heterosexual and cisgender privilege in their lives. (n=60)
 - 75% of respondents strongly agreed with this statement
- 95.08% of participants agreed or strongly felt more confident in recognizing problematic and offensive language and behavior directed at LGBTQIA+ identified students. (n=58)
- 92.92% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were more aware of tools and resources available to interrupt discriminatory or problematic behavior. (n=56)
- 91.8% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they would recommend participation in this training to other students. (n=56)
- 98.33% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that workshop facilitator(s) were knowledgeable and effectively communicated the intended message. (n=59)
- Participants stated they most enjoyed discussion, activities and terminology
 - 14 participants mentioned discussion
 - 14 participants mentioned activities
 - 10 participants mentioned terminology/language
- Participants would change the Kanye West activity, the use of time and specific facilitation issues
 - 6 participants stated that would remove the use of Kanye West in the Gender Unicorn activity
 - 8 participants mentioned that the length was too long/time was not used appropriately
 - 9 participants specifically mentioned facilitation problems, such as professionalism, tangents, organization and attitude of presenters

2015-2016 Assessment Final Report

Department: Student Involvement and Leadership Center

- Of 58 respondents 21 (41%) said one thing they learned was related to vocabulary/terminology. Of these 58 respondents 13 (21%) said one thing they learned was related to pronouns.
- Only 11 respondents said that one thing they learned was directly related to the student learning outcomes.
- A majority of “general comments” were positive and thankful for the session.

Conclusions

Impact of Assessment

These results will cause The Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity (SGD) to revamp the Student Safe Zone training for the 2016-2017 academic year.

- All facilitators will be required to attend a Train the Trainer workshop, which will include facilitation techniques.
 - Student facilitators will never facilitate alone.
 - The SGD Graduate Assistant will construct specific guidelines for facilitation
- Student Safe Zone will no longer include any activities that mention Kanye West.
 - We will re-work the Gender Unicorn activity
- SGD will update the curriculum to be reflective of current laws, policies, etc. that affect LGBTQIA+ people.
- SGD will promote open Student Safe Zone sessions across campus in order to increase participation.
- Student Safe Zone evaluations will include demographic questions.

Lessons Learned

- The use of written evaluation forms worked well, however we did not accurately track how many participants attended the session overall therefore we do not know our response rate.

2015-2016 Assessment Final Report

Department: Student Involvement and Leadership Center

- We did not ask demographic information which limited our future outreach to groups who we might be missing in our advertising.
- Through this assessment we have discovered that our student facilitators are not adequately trained and that it may have negatively impacted some of the participants' experiences.
- In future assessment we will include a student learning outcome about student's comprehension of terminology.
- Even though students enjoyed the session, we are cognizant that this may be the first time they have had any formalized LGBTQIA+ education, therefore they may not have provided critical feedback.