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LGBTQA+ Sex·U·Al Ha·Rass·Ment & Intercollegiate Speech & Debate Activities

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LGBT+ sexual harassment in Intercollegiate Speech and Debate Activities

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ABSTRACT/ BACKGROUND

• Even though sexual harassment has captured political attention, little Communication research exists on how Title IX influences and impacts sexual harassment and assault within the LGBTQ community.
• Previous research has explored heterosexual harassment in competitive Speech and Debate; however, same-sex interactions have not received the same level of scrutiny.
• There is a dearth of research regarding same-sex sexual harassment in the collegiate speech and debate community.

CONSIDERATIONS

College Campus
• More than 90% of sexual assault victims do not report the assault
• Nearly two thirds of college students experience sexual harassment

College Women
• 27% of college women have experienced some form of unwanted sexual contact
• 20-25% reported as being victims in forced sex during their time in college

College Men
• 15% reported as being victims in forced sex during their time in college

METHODS

• Participants will be students from multiple speech and debate programs in the United States.
• By extending the work of Dr. Pamela Stepp on sexual harassment within the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA) community, a more nuanced picture of sexual harassment inside extracurricular university activities can be expanded.
• Using a version of the Sexual Experience Questionnaire altered for LGBTQ participants, the conversations related to sexual harassment can be examined.

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