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EmpowerED

*Integrating
Comprehensive Sexual
Violence Education into
Post-Secondary
Curricula for Student-
Driven Solutions*

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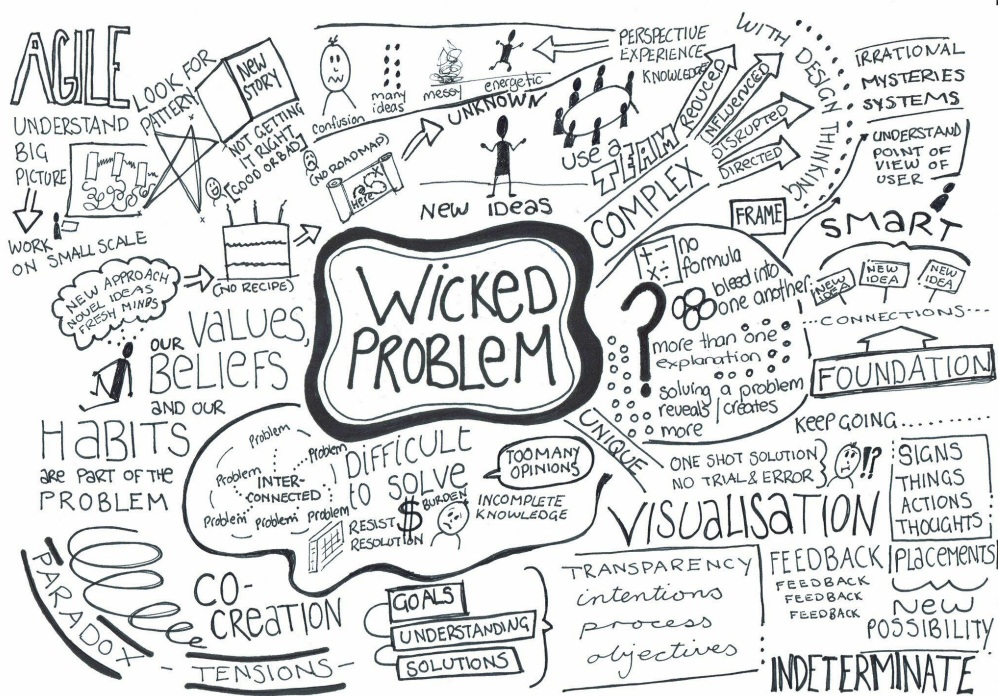


The Problem

- According to Statistics Canada, there were more than **34,200 reports of sexual assault countrywide in 2021.**
- However, this number may not reflect the true extent of the problem, as **only 5% (use with caution) of sexual assaults in Canada were reported to the police in 2014.**
- **4 out of 5** undergraduate students surveyed at Canadian universities reported experiencing dating violence; **29% of them reported sexual assault (DeKeseredy, 2011)**



A Wicked Problem



- Sexual and gender-based violence positioned as a WICKED problem
- Relates solutions, problem-solving to what students are studying
- Case study locates issues here and helps students build awareness of supports/resources and policies
- Accessing students where they are at, not asking more from them

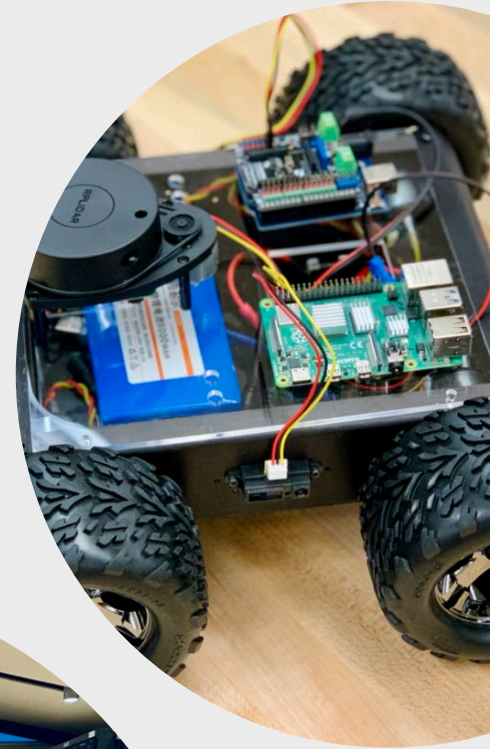
DESIGN FEATURES

- Beyond guest speakers: embedding content in curriculum
 - **Integration:** encouraging place-based learning
 - **Incentives:** participation and grading
 - **Empowerment:** Solution-focused learning



Example: STEM Course Integration

- MREN 203: Mechatronics & Robotics Design II is about **solving problems with technology**
 - 15-25 % female enrolment
- Students often focused on **technical** matters without explicit connection to **socio-economics**
 - Engineers emphasize **professional practice** and stakeholder co-creation
- Our workshop: Use technical and problem-solving skills to formulate **practical solutions**
 - 1 h background and Q&A, 1 h team brainstorm and pitches
- **Overwhelming enthusiasm!**



EmpowerED Pilot

Over **1,150 students** trained in the 2023/2024 school year

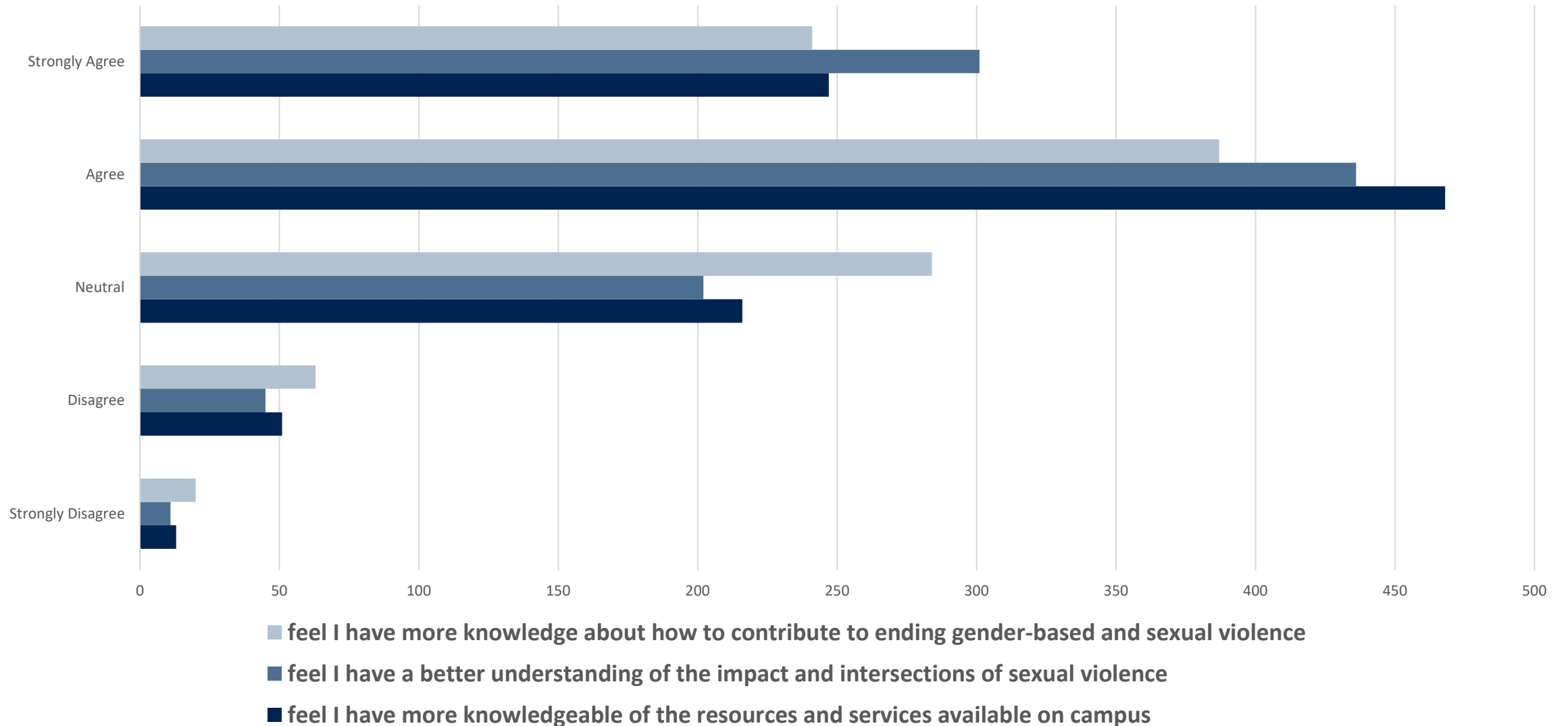
There were **996 student survey entries**, with a completion rate of **94.9%**.

- APSC 200: 375 (37.7%)
- DEVS 102: 172 (17.3%)
- GLBH 281: 137 (13.8%)
- HLTH 333: 64 (6.4%)
- KNPE 167: 129 (13.0%)
- KNPE 366: 37 (3.7%)
- MECH 200: 27 (2.7%)
- MREN 203: 55 (5.5%)



*“It's always 'Sit,' 'Stay,' 'Heel'—never 'Think,' 'Innovate,'
'Be yourself.’”*

Survey Results: EmpowerED 2023/2024 school year



THE END: QUESTIONS & THANKS!



Queen's
UNIVERSITY