

COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS (HISTORY, PRESENT, & FUTURE) OF TITLE IX'S ROLE IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

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This project primarily looked at mainstream and feminist media coverage from 1990 - present to identify recent changes in the understanding of Title IX. We also investigated and analyzed court arguments and Office of Civil Rights (OCR) documents to identify how the OCR sets the parameters of Title IX's role in protecting against sexual misconduct, parameters that expanded significantly 2011-2016 but have since diminished and are now in limbo. By doing so we were able to comprehend general past and present parameters/restrictions surrounding Title IX. Based on this careful analysis, precedent, and university student experiences with Title IX, the project proposes potential applications.

Title IX states, "No person...shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The initial emphasis was to protect against discrimination on the basis of sex towards educational programs or activities but later on shifted to having the Department of Education (DOE) give special importance to establishing set procedures and disciplinary measures for students engaging in sexual misconduct/harassment. It was imperative for us to note the statutory language of this law as we conducted a comprehensive analysis of this shift in emphasis using YouTube video content. We created a search word method and

suggestion word follow-ups to amplify video results leading to more upfront discussions by *YouTubers*. By placing close attention to dates on video results and *YouTuber* content and comments as well as the government changes surrounding Title IX, we found different representations and take-aways of versions of the court's language which put into retrospect student experiences with their universities addressing Title IX policy and the procedures to handle and deliver verdict on cases.

Search Classification (YouTube):

Primary, Secondary, Tertiary Search Word (PSW) / (SSW) / (TSW)

After or Before Search Word (ASW) / (BSW)

Categorization e.g.

PSW - Sexual

Assault (ASW)

stories

survivor

trauma

This project provided a parallel and reflective analysis of official government and media coverage search material for future potential applications to hopefully better student experience and worker condition at universities in the near future. It is valuable to note that Title IX is undergoing changes and university practice must be sensitive of the effects and challenges this will cause to the course of the conduct of investigations and due process of alleged student perpetrators and victims. By identifying best practices, this project has the potential to have a significant impact as we all grapple with the on-going changes in Title IX.