Preventing Sexual Harassment In Higher Education

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Disability As An Identity

- A note on language use
- Disability is a complex identity
- Many different types of disabilities

Photo Description: A young Chinese woman smiles at the camera. She’s wearing glasses and a blue sweater, and she’s standing outside in front of a tree with yellow leaves.
Dating With a Disability

Women with disabilities often begin to date much later in life, and they struggle in a dating culture that places a premium on physical appearance.
Barriers to Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Ed

- **Misconceptions** about disability
  - Disability is inherently negative
  - People with disabilities don’t experience sexual harassment
- Lack of **accessible** safe spaces
- Not believing or **listening** to victims
  - Microaggressions: belittling, talking for/over them, treating them like children
- **Solutions** are not in the best interest of victims
What Can We Do Better?

- Disability representation and inclusion in faculty, class materials, readings, sexual harassment trainings, etc.
- Make mental health, counseling, LGBTQ wellness centers and reporting procedures fully accessible, NOT just Disability Services
  - Accessibility isn’t a “special need” — it’s a basic human right
- Understanding how intersectionality comes into play
Thank you!