

AAC Project: Safety Group

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### ACC Project Paper

The safety of students is something that a lot of universities take very seriously, but unfortunately, problems and incidents regarding the safety of students continue to arise. We are concerned with the safety of ASU students on campus, especially at night. Walking to and from the dorms at night is scary and we often find ourselves looking over our shoulder to make sure no one is trailing behind. Additionally, recent cases regarding sexual harassment, such as the Alayna case that is well known around multiple college communities sparked our drive to improve student safety. Student's safety should make some improvements, even just a little. We as students will feel much safer. On-campus, we shouldn't need to feel panic about our safety. We are aware that the world is a scary place but we are also living in it together so in order to improve it we must work together.

Students should be able to defend themselves especially if they live independently on campus. Although this is the case, the majority of students do not know how to defend themselves. In a survey, it was found that 45.5% of students believed that ASU did not provide adequate training in regards to first aid and self-defense, while only 12.1% found there to be enough information on both. Another 12.1% believed there was enough on first aid but not self-defense while the remaining did not know. Additionally, only 36.4% of students use the Live

Safe app while 27.3% do not; while the remaining 36.4% of students did not know about the LiveSafe app. ASU offers a multitude of self-defense classes, these include RAD classes which are offered by the ASU police, CPR and first aid, aikido, jiu-jitsu, karate, and krav maga self-defense classes. A large number of students, 72.7%, were not even aware that these classes were available to ASU students. With this being said, the majority of students do not know the resources available to them at ASU.

Safety is ambiguous for anyone who thinks about it. On-campus, to learn and work. Emergencies we have heard around the campus should give a sign to all students, parents, staff, and schools about the importance of student's safety. We need a safer environment for our students. How can we make it safer for students? It is something we should try to plan on and deeply think about. Here's the information for crime locations on or off-campus; "92.2% of all incidents occurred on-campus. 7.4% of all incidents occurred in the Tempe neighborhood surrounding the campus. 0.4% of all incidents occurred off campus but while on school affiliated property" (College Factual). According to College Factual, the rate for on-campus is way higher than off-campus incidents. Not just by a bit more, there is a huge difference. Everyone should take more care of their safety since the on-campus crime rate is at a higher percentage than off-campus. But that does not mean you should feel scared or worry about your safety on campus. It means we should have solutions that are beneficial to ourselves. We should learn and know how to protect ourselves so we can help others as well.

Crime prevention around the campus should be improved so nothing will happen. It is better to increase students' perception of safety on campus. Student safety should be taken into consideration by everyone. Due to the data, the crime rate is the greatest percentage of incidents. "Crime and safety incidents fall into four broad categories. Disciplinary actions represented

56.7% of all incidents. Arrests related to possession represented 33.7% of all incidents. Violence against women represented 3.1% of all incidents. Arrests for major crimes represented 6.5% of all incidents.” (College Factual) The cause of any kind of incident helps us improve our safety system and increases our attention and perception of personal safety. Student’s safety should be the first priority on the campus. Also, students should clearly understand the pros and cons of being responsible for their actions.

Basic first aid training CPR certification can save lives even though we might not quite know it yet. Preparing for a tragedy is the only way to minimize the emergency. There are many cases we have all seen where a tragedy has happened and we were not prepared to support the aftermath. This is very much what basic first aid training will do; minimize harm to someone that is hurt, in pain, or even possibly dying. A real-world example of this on its biggest scale is hurricane Katrina where the government and local governments were not prepared to help people affected by this natural disaster. Now let me scale this down if someone has a heart attack or a stroke these often come out of nowhere just like a natural disaster such as a hurricane or an earthquake the only way to truly be able to act on disasters and emergencies is by being prepared before they happen. I knew that having a major health crisis like a heart attack or a stroke at this age is very small but the ASU Campus and surrounding area is not just students and have thousands of people who could be impacted but this and a Sun Devil knowing what to do to save a life and who is prepared is less likely to do nothing. But there are many other emergencies that ASU students are more likely to observe such as a car accident, students with open wounds hurting their backs, or next by high fall. But one of the most likely is drug overdoses and alcohol poisoning. If a Sun Devil sees an emergency situation like one of the few listed above there most likely not going to help and just leave the problem for someone else. But if the Sun Devil knew

Basic First aid training they are more likely to act and try to help someone in need if they have the training. You may think why would we need to train our Sun Devils if we have EMTs and firefighters just a call away to solve these problems. The time in between the call and emergency services getting there can mean life or death sometimes so we can not just rely on these services but we have 10's of thousands of students that would be more than willing to learn these skills and why would we not make training like this mandatory.

The American Heart Association describes first aid as, "help given to a sick or injured person until full medical treatment is available." but what does this entirely entail? Anybody can try their best to help a person who suddenly collapses, but do they necessarily know what is wrong and what proper steps to take? The answer is probably not. According to the American Heart Association, "More than 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of the hospital each year." and about 90 percent of those result in death. However, the American Heart Association also took data from a 2014 study which showed that nearly 45 percent of victims who were immediately treated by a bystander survived. With this being said the difference between knowing what to do in a first aid situation and not is life-changing. Most people think of first aid as CPR but it is a lot more than just knowing how to handle a heart attack or stroke as first aid can be applied to almost all medical situations. Being able to start treatment immediately can be the difference between temporary or permanent damage. First aid knowledge can also save you a trip to the hospital by understanding the severity of the issue, this is very helpful to the person performing first aid and the patient as well.

Why is first aid important here at ASU? With a majority of students being on the younger side, heart attacks do not seem to be a common threat on campus. Although a lot of students may partake in dangerous activities that can lead to other injuries and or heart complications. As

stated by ASU on its wellness page about alcohol, “79.1% of ASU students either did not drink alcohol or consumed between 1 and 4 alcohol-containing drinks the last time they partied or socialized.”. It is not a secret that college students tend to drink alcohol and partake in the use of recreational drugs which usually leads to unsafe situations. So being able to identify potential overdoses and things like that would be extremely helpful to prevent devastating situations as well as being able to treat an injury caused by impairment. Also with ASU's campus constantly reaching temperatures well over 100 degrees in the summer and fall semesters, heat strokes and potential risks relating to dehydration pose a threat. Not only is it important that students learn these skills, but it also appears that most students would be willing and wanting to learn first aid according to a survey administered by our team. However, more than 72 % of participants in the survey did not know about the classes offered by ASU that can increase their overall safety. ASU offers several classes revolving around personal well-being and safety, one of them being a CPR and wellness class where you can easily apply online through the ASU fitness portal.

Creating a safer environment at ASU can be done by making the resources more easily accessible and making students more aware of opportunities, as sun devils are concerned about the well-being of their friends and peers.

ASU offers a wide variety of classes for self-defense and martial arts. Classes for self-defense include RAD, aikido classes, jujitsu classes, karate classes, and Krav Maga self-defense classes. ASU also offers CPR and first aid training. While ASU does offer some classes, it does not have many that specifically focus on student safety in regards to first aid and medical treatment. In many of the safety classes, ASU has students that do not have easy access to or knowledge that they even are allowed to participate. Many employees at ASU are required to take CPR and first aid training as part of their job, this only makes up a small majority of

students; meaning most of the students have not been required to have this type of training. The only training ASU offers that pertains to first aid and CPR is for lifeguards or employees of the fitness facilities.

ASU offers private CPR/AED and first aid classes for affiliated departments and organizations with an ASU, however, it still costs money even at the reduced affiliate price. The course is provided through the American Red Cross and provides certification in first aid, responding to breathing emergencies, using a bag – valve mask resuscitator (BVM), adult, infant, and child CPR, two-person CPR, and how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED). While this training is offered to ASU students at a reduced price, it still costs \$65 for students, \$75 for non-student members, and \$85 for anyone else not affiliated with ASU. The American red cross program is also only available at certain dates at certain times and the location might not be at a campus where a student can easily have access to. To get certification by the American Red Cross you have to take multiple classes and have to be recertified every two years.

The problem around safety on campus does not concern just the members of the group but also fellow students. The school administration should be very interested in the safety of their students and everyone on their campus. The safety of students should be one of the top priorities for school campuses as their students bring in money and they are coming to campus everyday and learning. If the students have a safe environment to learn in then they will excel in their academics. So there are many ways that they can fix the problem and make sure that the campus is safe and that everyone knows the right thing to do in an emergency situation or when they do not feel safe that they know how to protect themselves. This is not only detrimental to students but also to the university. It is a shared responsibility to maintain a campus where sexual

violence is not to be tolerated. Students should not have to worry or fear for their life when walking around the school campus and it is the responsibility of the university to prioritize the safety of their students. Many ways that ASU can help fix the problem is to offer classes like self-defense classes. Offering these classes allow students to learn self-defense and many other things that will help them. Also having self-defense classes with the police department will be helpful. This can help the students and it is a good thing to learn.

From the survey we conducted, the evidence indicates a majority of ASU students are not aware of the available resources and classes offered by the university to teach them about self-defense and safety. Our proposed solution is an educational video that gives tips on how to stay safe on campus; what classes ASU has to offer such as self-defense (RAD), CPR, and first aid; as well as how to navigate and use the Live Safe app. The tips included within the video were gathered from an interview conducted with Mr. Hopkins, a crime prevention officer of the ASU police department. He stated that communication, information, and situational awareness were some of the most important things to teach someone to keep them safe. Additionally, he said that someone who is on their phone and unaware of their surroundings is more likely to become a victim. When talking about the various self-defense and first aid classes offered by ASU, a short description of each class along with the location of where they can sign up. From the survey we conducted, 40% did not know of the LiveSafe app. Some functions of the LiveSafe app include allowing you to contact someone while you are walking and a safety escort. If the Live Safe app is used effectively it gives students safer avenues on campus. This video is required to be viewed by all freshmen in one of their introductory courses such as WPC or ASU. The video is aimed to be short, informative, and engaging to grab and keep the attention

of the viewers. We do not want students to feel afraid on campus, but we do want them to stay aware, stay alert, and stay safe.

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