

Connecting a Community:

Analyzing Feminist Perspectives on Miami University's Campus

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Intersectional feminism is "The view that [people] experience oppression in varying configurations and in varying degrees of intensity" (Vidal).



Campus Happenings Thus Far



Donald Trump Jr. Rally

- Donald Trump Jr. came to Brick Street Bar in Oxford on October 24, 2016.
- More than 100 protesters, student and nonstudent, gathered across the street. Some participated in rhetorical chanting, others formed a silent demonstration.
- Vice President of the College Democrats group, Matt Zeigman, said of the protest: "I think students were very clear, Donald Trump and his divisive rhetoric aren't welcome at Miami University. His hate-filled campaign has no place here in Oxford."
- Paul Odioso, a Trump supporter and Miami alum, recounted, "They engaged me, and they put me down as a stupid Trump supporter...They want to name call and antagonize, and I'm glad police officers were there" (Miami Student).





- On Friday, September 16, a group called the Official Street Preachers (OCP) formed a picket protest at the corner of Maple and Spring St. They had signs that exhibited islamophobic and anti-LGBTQ language.
- Students gathered in a peaceful counter-protest next to the OCP.
- "Homo sex is sin!" v. "Homo sex is in!"
- Jane Brownell, Vice President of Student Affairs, said of the event, "Miami is a public institution and we are not going to be able to shield students from the bigger issues and concerns from the larger world"
- President Crawford tweeted that afternoon: "Thanks to those students who demonstrated Love & Honor today with peace & civility in the face of division. So proud of you all," (Miami Student).





Sexual Assault Statistics

- The national average for sexual assault on campus is 1 in 4 for females in the United States.
- In Oxford, 26.3% of undergraduate women report being raped and 7.7% have experienced attempted rape. And 5.8% of undergraduate men have experienced rape while at Miami.
- Miami University provides resources for victims/survivors such as student counseling services, It's on Us!, a partnership with Women Helping Women, etc. There are also displays, such as the Clothesline Project and the Take Back the Night march, that provide communal support.





Anti-Choice Lawn Display

- Sign reads: "EACH CROSS REPRESENTS TEN BABIES THAT DIE BY ABORTION EACH DAY".
- The crosses were on Central Quad around residential buildings, unavoidable for many students.
- The student organization, Students for Life, arranged the demonstration.
- The display was kicked down and the sign was moved during the three day period it was there.
- Tours were not rerouted and prospective students were subsequently shown the presentation as a reflection of Miami University.



Of the 2015 undergraduate enrollment class:

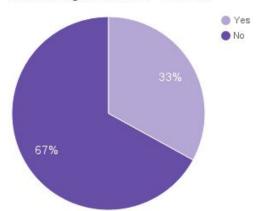
- 14% of the domestic students come from a multicultural background
- 4% of the undergraduates are Hispanic/Latino
- 3% of the community is African American
- 2% of the class is Asian
- 76% of the student body is Caucasian

"Crawford has responded by establishing the President's Task Force to develop a university-wide policy statement on the educational value of diversity and inclusion" (Miami Student). Miami also has a Council on Diversity and Inclusion and an Office of Diversity Affairs.

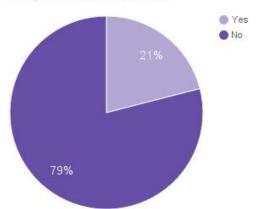


Responses from Miamians

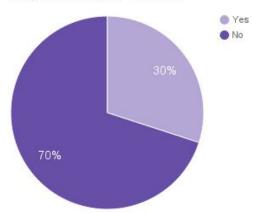
Armstrong, Is Miami Feminist?



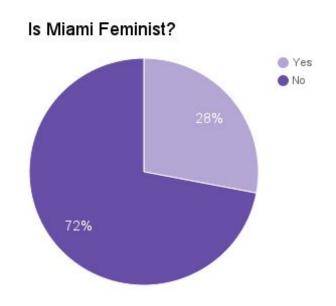
King, Is Miami Feminist?

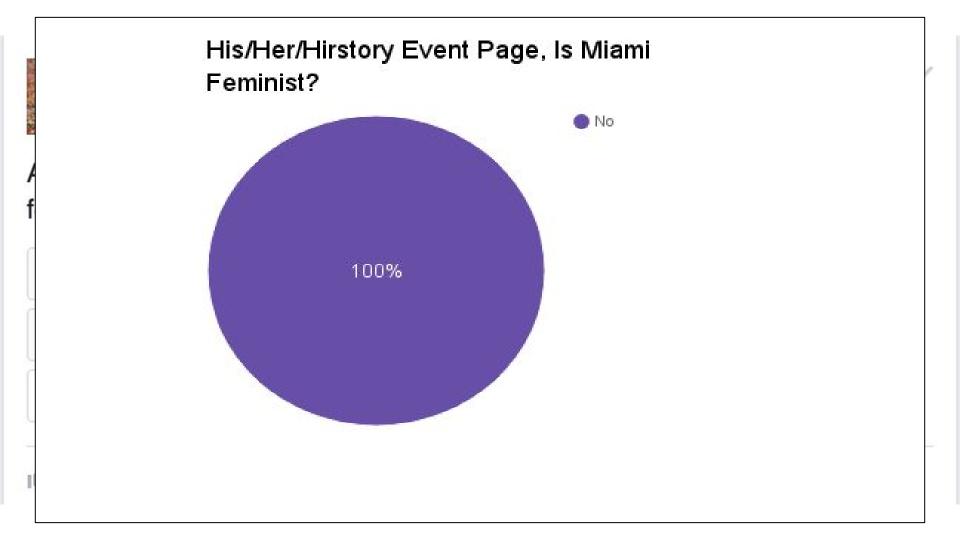


Maple, Is Miami Feminist?



Overall, Is Miami Feminist?







I asked, "If you could say one thing to those in charge at Miami University, what would you say?"

- Person 1: "Priorities need to be reevaluated and I think that the campus mission needs to be taken seriously...I question if those are the values that are truly upheld by the university, like how are we truly supporting our students and creating inclusive environments."
- Person 2: "Make it more of an accepting place for everyone."
- Person 3: "Support everyone, not just cases that you want to support of good things happening...Support the people who come to you saying: I need help, this happened to me, this is a serious problem, or I've been discriminated against because of my color, because of my religion, because of my sexuality. Take care of everyone in the same way that you would take care of people who have great accomplishments.



Do you think Miami is feminist?

Works Cited

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it-And-why-you-should-care.html. Accessed 14 Sept. 2016.

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