
ATIXA Response to Michelle Moody-Adams:

It is facile to say that ATIXA has things the wrong way around, but the author conveniently omits the fact that ATIXA's Model Mandated Reporting Policy is based on the legal requirements of Title IX, Title VII and the Clery Act, all of which require that some or all faculty members are mandated reporters. The author asserts a chilling effect in a conclusory way. Climate surveys and focus groups are actually starting to show that mandated reporting, as long as the reports go to a small group who are bounded by confidentiality/privacy, is not a disincentive to reporting. Faculty on many campuses once believed they could maintain the confidentiality of what was shared with them. Perhaps they could, or no one ever told them they couldn't. At the time, faculty were needed as a safety net for victims, who had nowhere else to go on campus. Today, with Women's Centers, confidential resources, a Title IX team or response network, and victim's advocates, victims/survivors have plenty of safe spaces and responsive resources. Why would victims/survivors want to seek out relatively untrained faculty members when there are well-trained, experienced and confidential resources for victims/survivors to turn to now? The capacities of campuses have changed, and it is time to update the status quo accordingly.