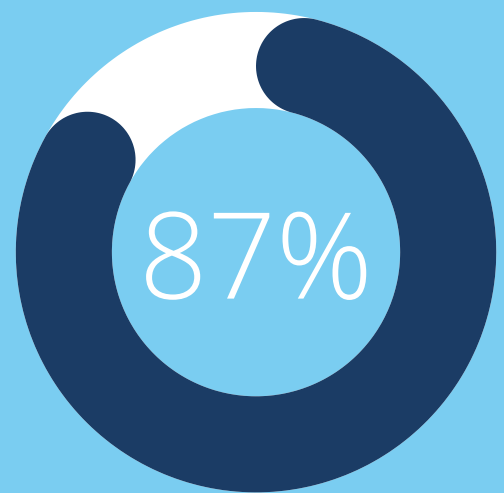


COLLEGE CAMPUSES SHOULD BE "SAFE ENOUGH"

Riley Morse

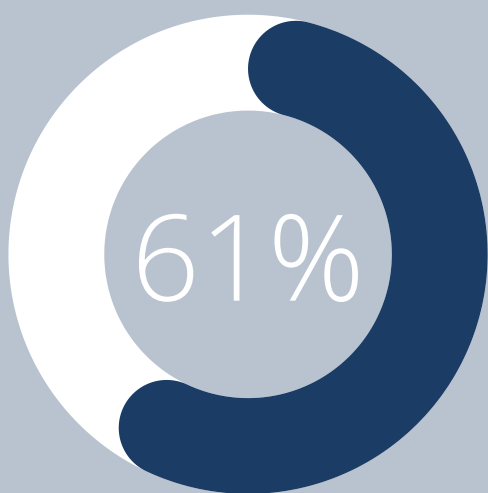
87% OF STUDENTS IN FAVOR OF SAFE SPACES ON CAMPUS

Students are mostly on board for safe spaces on campus. Safe spaces are beneficial for students to feel included and it helps diversify groups. The well being of students should be prioritized and safe spaces help reach this goal.



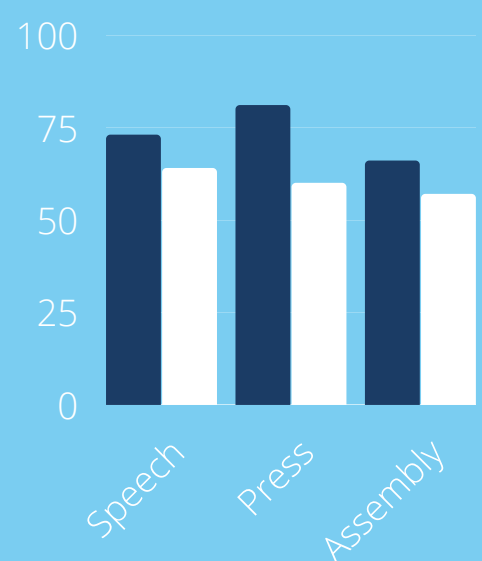
61% OF STUDENTS BELIEVE CLIMATE PREVENTS SPEAKING THEIR MIND

On the other hand, a majority of students feel they can't say everything they have on their mind because of the feelings of others. Safe spaces aim to limit speech so other people's feelings aren't hurt. It should be common sense to respect other's feelings while at the same time the freedom of speech needs to be protected.



ARE FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS SECURE?

There was a landmark survey taken in 2016 (bars on the left) that asked students if they felt their First Amendment rights were secure on campus. There was an overall percent decrease in the 2017 survey (bars on the right) because of sensitivity and increasing conflict between social groups.



THERE NEEDS TO BE A BALANCE

Ultimately, dismissing safe spaces on campus altogether would lead to a disregard for the well being of other students. Safe spaces implement diversity and inclusion into campuses which is beneficial to learning. Where the line should be drawn is when students are coddled and overprotected so they don't face the hard challenges such as dealing with differing opinions, even if they are harsh, that are necessary for oneself to grow as an individual. Campuses should be safe enough to where ideas can be shared and collided, people can argue to see another point of view, and gain a broader perspective of knowledge without having certain words be off limits, while still maintaining the well-being of students.