

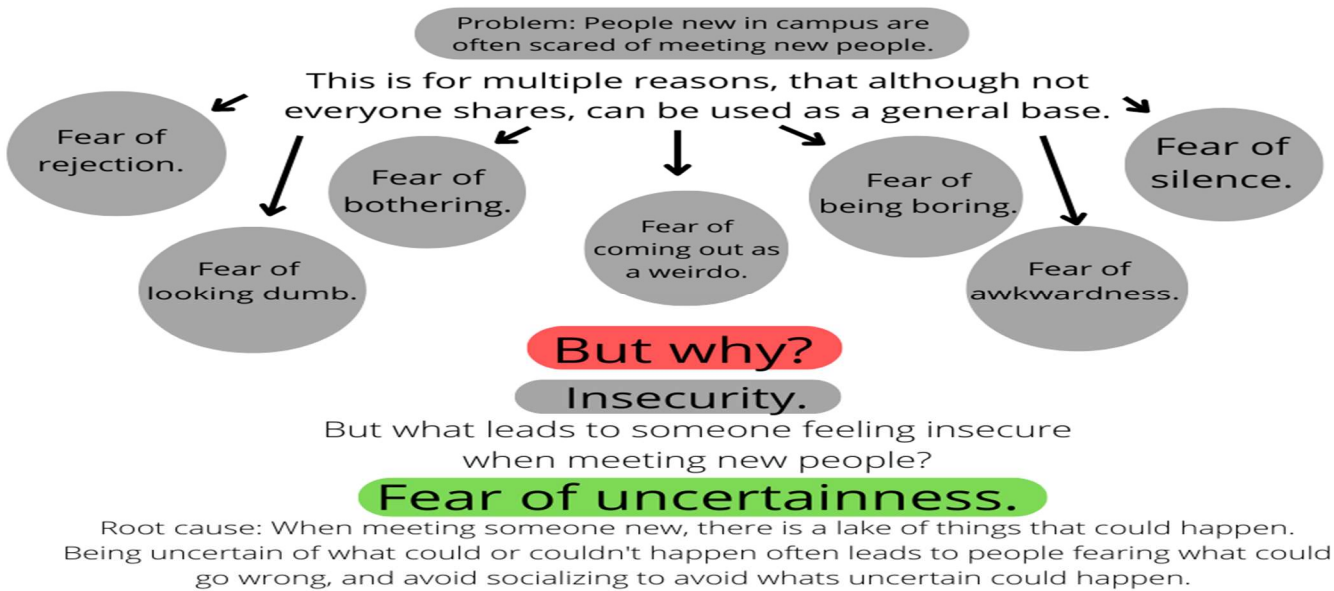
Problem Background

- Social life in college is a new start to your social life. You may find yourself somewhere completely new, where you know nobody, and are completely alone. You may find yourself having a difficult time getting to know new people, which may lead to feelings of loneliness, social isolation, social anxiety, and depression.
- It is common for new students be afraid to meet new people, this may be for many reasons, but common ones are, fearing not being liked, being scared of awkward situations, and being scared that the other person is not interested in meeting anyone new.
- In a 2017 survey of 48,000 college students, 64% said they had felt “very lonely” in the last year.
- To see how much loneliness and previously stated feelings affect us, think about this 25% of the entire undergraduate class of Yale University signed up for a course that teaches how to lead a happier life.
- Loneliness on Campus fact sheet: <https://www.artandhealing.org/campus-loneliness-fact-sheet/>

Target

- Those who arrive new and fear meeting new people have a platform to meet people for a short period of time.
- New students have less fear of socializing and making new friends.
- A more united, aware, and inviting campus.

Causes



Countermeasures

- A website that facilitates the process of meeting new people, by eliminating as much uncertainty as possible.
- The site sets up a new student with a student in year N or below where N is set by the new student, both students need to accept a meet before its confirmed.
- The meet will take place somewhere inside campus, midway in between both students.
- To eliminate uncertainty, the site will:
  - Select a 20-minute lapse of time in which both students are free based on their class schedule. The meet up will last 10 minutes.
  - Give instructions and expectations of how you are supposed to act on the meeting.
  - After the 2 students meet, the site will have an option to “Use questions” which will give the students something to talk about instead of having to socialize with no direction.
- Students will be maintained anonymous. The only details your profile will show about you is, what you are studying, a short bio, some of your interests, your age range (18-21, 22- 25, 26-29, 30+), and a user selected profile picture.

Check/Evaluate

- For quality reason, after each meeting each student will be asked to rate out of 5 how well the other student followed the sites rule, and if given a low rating, why. this rating won't affect the other person in anyway, it will just be a way by which admins of the site can tell who in the site is behaving out of line, people with low ratings will be given a personalized warning. If their behavior doesn't improve, they should be banned off site for incrementing periods of time.
- After every few meets, the students will be given a short survey about how they are starting to feel about meeting new people, which should help us asses if the site helps people be more social.
- Admins will have a tool that allows them to see how active users are.
- Will track how long new user use the site for, and after a long period of inactivity, we'll send an email to the user asking if they stopped using the site because their social skills got better, because they didn't find the site help with socializing, or any other reason.

Act/Standardize

- The first campus added will be uprm, but if we see success, we could expand it to other universities and make meeting in surrounding areas. Students will be made aware of the app via their upr email. We could also develop this in a mobile app form. We could expand use to nonstudents which would meet anywhere.