

Alessia's Lights

Come in Alessia's room and have a learning experience like no other...

Alessia's Lights VR promo



I work for an organization called One Love

Concept Statement

An interactive story told through virtual reality to give college students a new perspective about the warning signs, and impacts surrounding emotional abusive relationships.

Motivations

- Multiple friends and even family members who have gone through emotional domestic violence from missing early warning signs
- I want students to be able to learn warning signs in a way that they will remember to implement identification of them in real life
- Allow students to realize it is the subtle signs that later develop into abuse, not the obvious ones

Design Questions

- How can we get college students to understand and recall information about the EARLY warning signs, severity and parameters surrounding an emotionally abusive relationship?

Target Audience

FRESHMAN in college

- Concerns of this age group include relationships with friends and social status
- Even though VR technology is new, it is easy for this generation to understand and excites them
- Students will have better recall and memory - retention when learning in an immersive environment

Precedents

University of Miami UMX course

20148 - UMX100-Y - THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI EXPERIENCE (Fall 2014) | My Modules

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My Modules

Welcome to the University of Miami and the UMX 100 Course

Dr. William Green, Senior Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies | Dr. Patricia Whitely, Vice President for Student Affairs

Module 1: Accessing UM Systems

Back to School | Department of Information Technology Services | Blackboard

Reviewed

Module 2: Living at UM

Department of Housing and Residential Life | Department of Housing and Residential Life Security | Department of Parking and Transportation | Office of Emergency Management | Auxiliary and Dining Services | Office of Financial Assistance Services (OFAS)

Reviewed

Module 3: UM History and Traditions

UM History and Traditions

Mark Reviewed

Welcome to UMX 100

UMX Fall 2014 FAQ's

Blackboard Help

Precedents

University of Miami IT'S ON US

About Title IX

Policies & Procedures

Get Help

Report Misconduct

Prevention & Education

A photograph of a beach with light-colored sand, some green plants in the background, and a piece of driftwood in the foreground. The 'IT'S ON US' campaign logo is overlaid on the left side.

IT'S ON
US
AMBASSADOR

IT'S ON US

WE ARE PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE
NATIONAL IT'S ON US CAMPAIGN TO STOP
SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

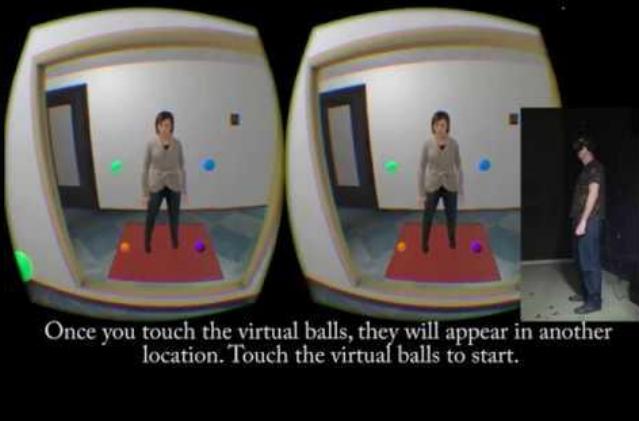
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Precedents

embodiment using domestic violence
abuser becomes female victim:

The abusers ability to read facial
expressions increased



911 call VR by emblematicgroup



Precedents

KATIE HOOD



Research + Findings

The joining of information and experience is likely to lead to deeper and more durable knowledge. As I found in multiple studies that I deep dove into., It contributes to **behavior change**.

Building on precedents

- Immersive, 3D video technology (XR lab) → MY APARTMENT
- Working with lighting for focus attention around the room
- Look back and visually shows them what they missed
- *Solitary confinement/embodiment:*
can see it from the victim's point of view and see the steps they took as if you were their friend → makes it memorable
- Katie Hood is the professional who supports all the information, everyone should hear what she has to say!

Conducting interviews

4 semi-structured, informal interviews were conducted on victims that I have a personal relationship to

Females

Ages 23, 24, 27, and 49

Some interview questions included:

1. Would you feel comfortable talking to someone else experiencing the same relationship issues as you?
2. If anywhere, where do you turn for support?
3. Do you want to help others going through this experience?
4. Has anyone ever taught you about abusive relationships as a kid? Under what circumstances?
5. At what point were you able to realize that you were in an unhealthy relationship?

Interview Results

Results:

- It takes time for the victim to realize they are in an unhealthy relationship, to the point where it makes it harder to get out of the situation
- most people seek help from friends and family
- Some seek help from a psychologist, but most are hesitant to seek professional help
- The decision to go to the police is traumatizing (victims have guilt associated with this)
- Some police departments take restraining orders more seriously than others, but there are still flaws in the systems
- victims wish they had seen small warning signs earlier
- Only 2 victims reported learning about domestic violence in a school setting

Interview Analysis

Analysis:

- It is easy to miss small early warning signs when you have no “normal” to compare the relationship to
- With so much invasion of privacy in today’s world, people have trouble identifying unhealthy behaviors in their partner
- Having a therapist or someone who is more knowledgeable on the situation has proven to be more effective in intervention
- The earlier the situation was diffused, the less traumatizing it was for the victim
- If we can educate individuals of these negative behaviors at a young age, we can possibly prevent them in the future

Alessia's Lights

CONCEPT:

- Explore the 5 main warning signs of emotional domestic violence by clicking on objects around Alessia's room.
- Have an option to view her complete story and Katie Hood's TedTalk

Story Concept Evolution

- Question preparation
- Transcription
- Editing
- Working with a screenwriter

and suffocated and like lonely from my, like other friends because he wasn't the type of guy who like inserted himself, like in my friends, like my friends didn't like him.

So what. Like at what point did you feel suffocated?

Um, I think that like when she like started, like not taking no for an answer. Like normally, like if you are with someone and like, you don't want to hang out that night or you're [00:06:00] tired or like, you want to hang out with your girlfriends, like it's not a big deal, but like, it was the head and like he.

Like couldn't handle that. And that was like an issue. And it started making me feel like why? And then like I felt like, insecure because I was like fighting. And then he like, didn't like trust me. So it was like an issue because it made me feel like we started to being more of an album cation than like something that was fun and like, good.

Like it turns from like actually having a good time with him to feeling like I had to check off that box because like, he had control. He wants to like control me and control the situation. And it was just like, not good. But in the beginning it was.

Yeah. Um, and in what [00:07:00] way did Carl take out his own issues on you.

Like so many ways. So he is very insecure and he's the type of person who loves having like all of these people like swoon over him. And he makes you like acknowledge that even if it's true or not, he just like is very insecure. So he like, Always talks about how good looking he is and how lucky I'd be to like be with him cause he's so good looking. He's an only child and he had like not the best relationship with his parents and like couldn't really hold down like a job and all of that insecurities like of his own, he took out on me by not being able to like trust me or think I was lying. And so like if I said I was like out, he'd call me like,

Hundreds and hundreds of times, like text my friends, like if I was sleeping, like I'm sleeping and like if I didn't answer, like he would call [00:08:00] my friends, like relax, like I'm sleeping and that was not normal. And things like that aren't normal. And he drank a lot so he would do things sober, but it always escalated when he drank.

Well, we both were like into very similar things at his birthday is like a week before mine and we just have like very similar personalities.

So he would like, I don't know, like he had a car and he would like pick me up and we would and hang out. And he like compliment you. Yeah, he thought I was so pretty and always told me and told me like how much he like loves hanging out with me and made me feel like I was like so high and like so like special, but also.

Made it seem like I was lucky to be with him, which was like annoying because it's like I'm lucky to be with you, like you're lucky to be with me. But that wasn't like right in the beginning. In the beginning it [00:03:00] was more not as, like serious, so it was more fun. But he. But she wasn't the only person I was like wet, but I really enjoyed his company.

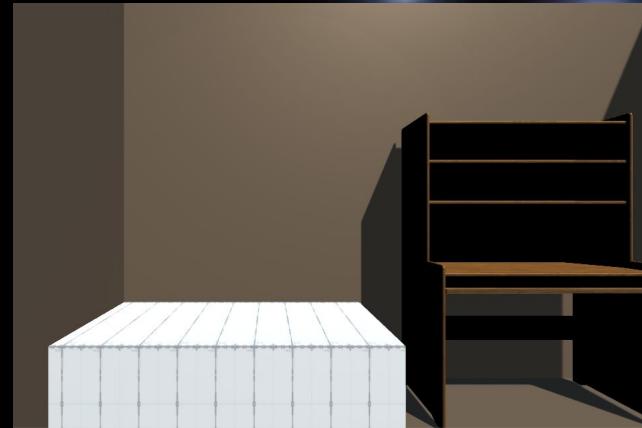
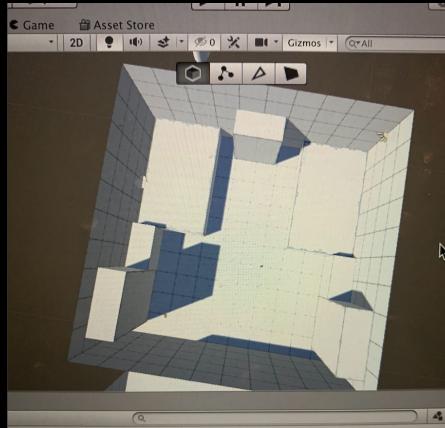
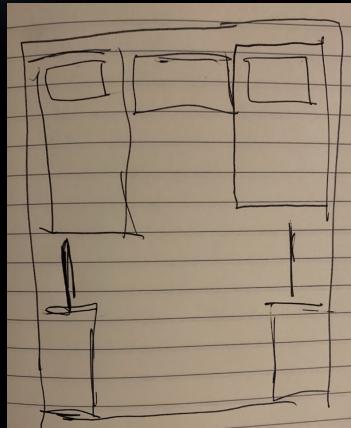
Like I remember we really got along. It was great, and he was friends with all my friends, but I kind of remember looking back now, sorry, from just like going off and you can use all of this. Looking back now, I kind of feel like my friends, like even like college friends were like, he's crazy. And I was like, no.

Like he's not like, I was almost like infatuated with him. And do you feel he was infatuated with you? Yes, both of us. Mmm. The relationship grew unhealthy and we both like knew it was unhealthy, but we were like really infatuated with one another. So did you spend a lot of time together? We did like at a point like we did at first and then like we stopped talking for a little because I dated [00:04:00] Doug and like Doug, like made me stop talking to him. Did he always like kinds of kept tabs on me and would like try and make me jealous and like would like kinds of cause problems with Doug. And then like when Doug and I would break up, I guess like I would like go back to him. But then after I graduated college was when him and I like really got together cause we were both in the city.

Okay. So let's talk about that.

That's kind of when it all. Started because that's when there was like not, so let's talk about that and like how was that the good parts of it. Okay, so that was like very different from college. Like now we're like at a college, like we're both in the city. Like we can hang out one on one.

Prototyping



Prototyping

Prototyping



User Test of Room

Need to
make it
smaller!

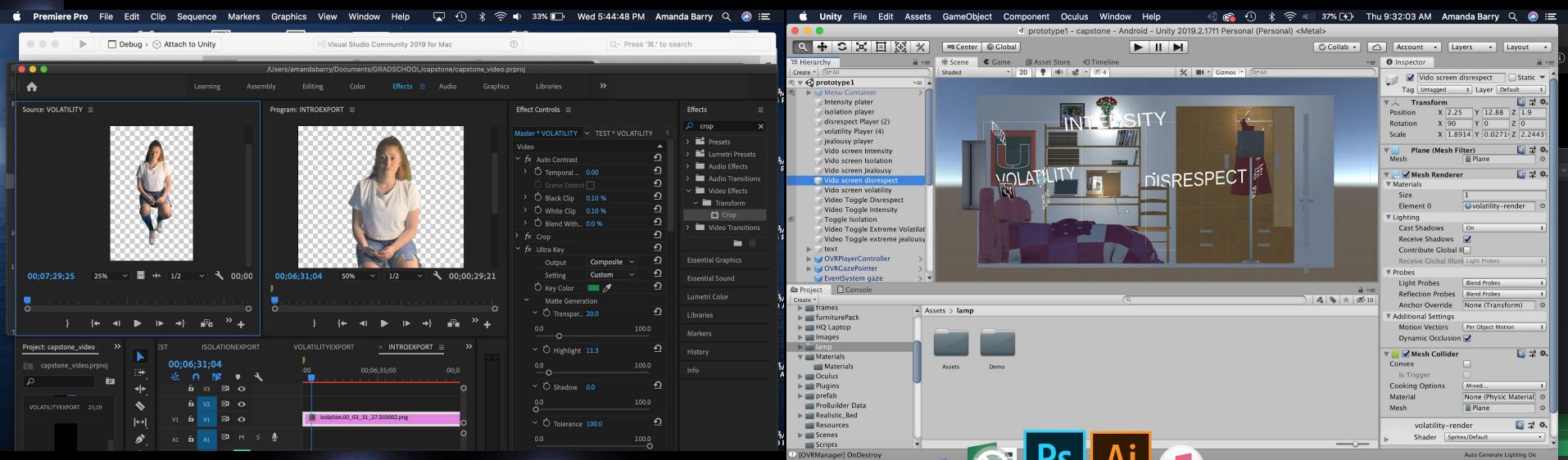


Filming...FINALLY



Getting ready for Oculus

Film Editing / Unity Coding



Alessia's Lights VR USER TEST

- Turn off the lights in the background
- Add more instruction

Adding a Menu so I can share !

A Special THANK YOU to...

- **Michael Zubi:** the screenwriter
- **Anonymous:** the storytellers
- **Kim Grinfeder:** for advising and support
- **William Jattin:** for help with development