

ISEA2017
23rd INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ELECTRONIC ART
XVI INTERNATIONAL IMAGE FESTIVAL
CREATIVE CALL

1. Title

Walk Safe – Find a trustworthy buddy to walk home with

2. Organizers and presenters' names and affiliations

Jonathan Lu

3. URL of the demo website or video

<https://jonlu.github.io/des157/project/index.html>

4. Abstract (ready for diffusion). 200 words maximum.

This application easily matches users with others for the purpose of walking home together rather than alone. Through this primary feature, Walk Safe hopes to reduce crime and sexual violence during a casual night out. Multiple security checks are put in place to ensure the security and safety of both parties, including verification of phone, email, and a government issued ID.

5. General description of the Project

This project will be self-contained on cellular devices, primarily iOS, with later development and support for Android. Its intentions are to protect the welfare of primarily women, who currently face a 1 in 6 chance of being sexually assaulted. This prevention service also extends to underage teens for finding a trustworthy partner to walk home with in case they find themselves alone after going out. In terms of content and form, the application will be map-based, giving real-time notifications and discovery services to its users. Matches will be found using location and destination based queries. To further ensure the safety of Walk Safe's users, the app will also automatically record audio for the duration of the walk, and continuing up to five minutes after two matches have separated. Since this project is rooted in a trusted sense of community, users will need to post a picture of themselves, as well as a short biography. Users can cross-review others so as to best serve the public interest.

6. From glenda: I'm not sure what they will be asking in this field, but I imagine they will want to see how you connect your content to the ISEA call, so that is what I would like you to write here.

Walk Safe fulfills the ISEA call for "Critical perspectives on the use of technology for peace." By designing a smooth interface for creating and fostering a human connection between two strangers, this project will serve to both protect and connect.

7. Biographies of the Author(s).

Jonathan is a third year Computer Science and Design student at the University of California. He is the founder of Walk Safe and HelpOut.