

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

1. Title

Walk Safe – Find a trustworthy buddy to walk home with

2. Duration (only workshops and tutorials)

Half day ____ Full day ____

3. Organizers and presenters' names and affiliations

Jonathan Lu

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

Walk Safe 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. Rationale, instructional methods, and description

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. Plan to solicit participation (only workshops and tutorials)

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7. URL of website (only workshops and tutorials)

8. Technical Rider. Please provide the requirements (technological equipment, materials and characteristics of space) (only workshops and tutorials)

9. Biographies of the Author(s).

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

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Title: Walk Safe

Abstract:

Walk Safe 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.

Keywords: Sexual Assault, iOS, Safety, Peace, Usability

Sub-themes: Critical perspectives on the use of technology for peace