

Sexual Misconduct and Scientific Production

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This version: July 1, 2025 — Please click [here](#) for latest version

Abstract

Sexual misconduct at work remains a persistent challenge in contemporary organizations. Although a growing body of important work has documented the profound impact on survivors, fundamental questions about the broader organizational implications remain unexplored. This project investigates the potential effects of sexual misconduct in academia. Specifically, I ask: How do sexual misconduct incidents in university departments shape scientific production, collaboration patterns, and gender diversity? I draw on a novel database comprising over 1,000 documented cases of workplace sexual misconduct across multiple universities and disciplines and employ a coarse exact matching approach paired with a staggered difference-in-difference design. I collect information from 359 research-focused departments that experienced at least one sexual misconduct incident and around 5,000 control departments at research-focused universities.

Full draft coming soon.

THIS IS WORK IN PROGRESS

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Thank you.

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This study was pre-registered on May 10, 2025, and can be accessed under <https://osf.io/zx3gu> once the embargo has expired.