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Mistreatment and Discrimination in Macomb, IL

Figure 1. Latinos/s versus nonLatinas

Less than one fourth (94) of the participants were international students from Asia, Africa, Europe, Middle East, Latin America, or North America.

Question: How often do you feel...?

The first question aimed at capturing the frequency of experiences of mistreatment and discrimination. The results are in Table 1.

Table 2. Frequency of Experiences of Mistreatment and Discrimination

	N =424 (%)		
	Everyday/A Few Times a Month	A Few Times a year/Less than Once a Year	Never
You are treated with less courtesy than other people are	25	41	43
You are treated with less respect than other people are			

You are threatened or harassed	9	27	63
You are followed around in stores	10	22	67

Question: What do you think is the main reason for this experience?

Another question was intended to reflect the perceived reason for discrimination. The answers to this question can be found in Figure 1.

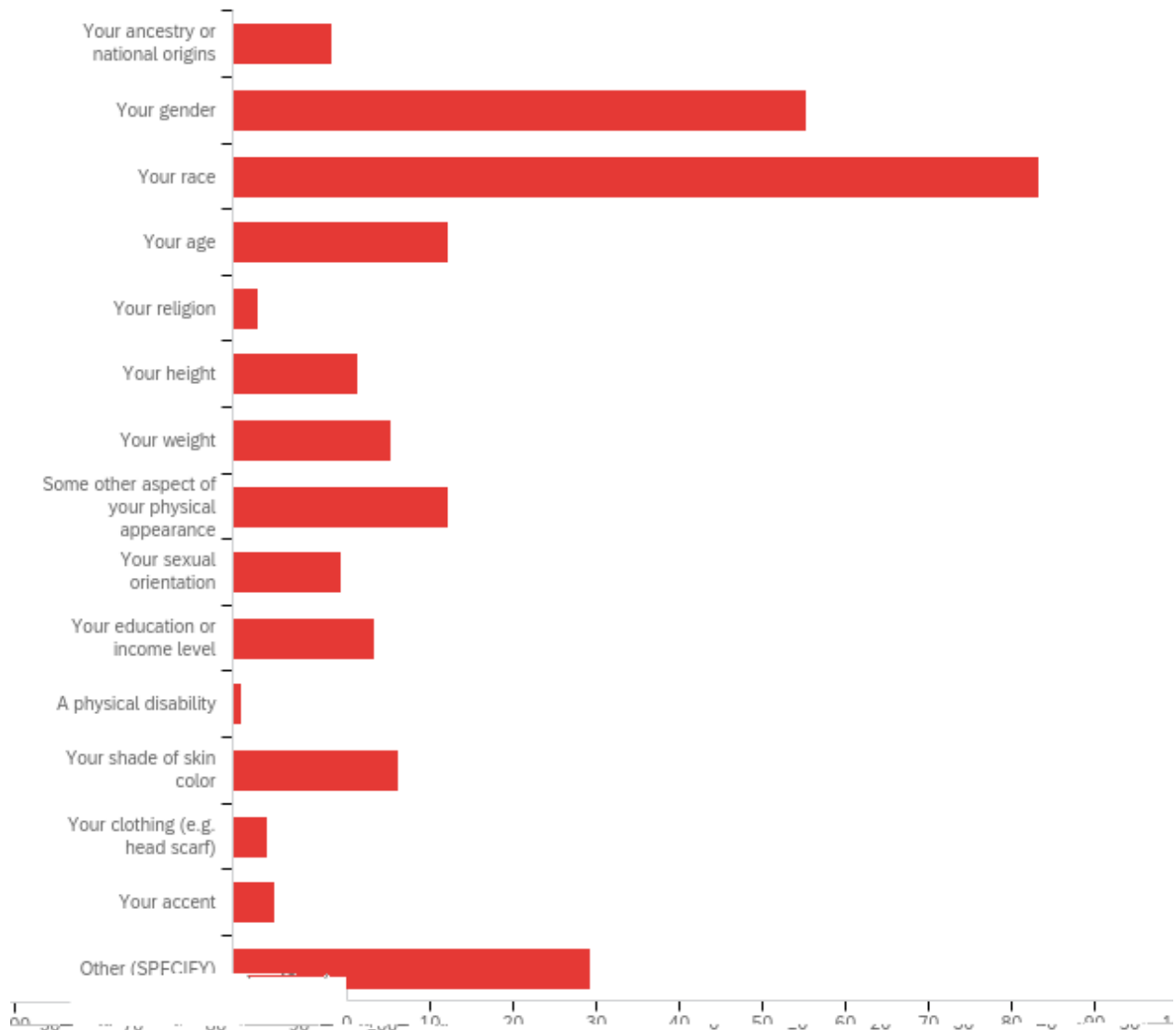


Figure 2-Perceived Reason for Mistreatment or Discrimination

Question: Place where the mistreatment happened

Another question asked participants the place where the discrimination took place. The answers



My girlfriend paid with her credit card and we left. Later, after receiving her statement, she saw excess charges made by Chicks that we did not authorize.

***Taco Bell***

Was called a "faggot" while ordering food at Taco Bell.

***Dollar Tree***

I was out shopping at Dollar Tree and decided to ask the cashier about if there were any positions available. She believed there were, but she wanted to make sure, so she called one of her managers over. She asked, "Hey, aren't we hiring?" "He's wondering if there are any positions available". She (the manager) responds "We aren't hiring at this time". The cashier responded "Really?, I thought you said we were?" The manager tells her "No, we don't need any positions filled." I returned 2-

### ***Against Women***

Some guys are creepy and weird. It doesn't happen very often, but just enough to notice. There are people who think they have a right to touch you or to they think you're dumb because you're "just a girl" and it's pathetic.

I've been told to smile more at various businesses around town. My friend has also been followed around at a business while they said catcalls.

Walking past the old Marietta Phelps building I was followed by a man that had watched me walk my boyfriend to work. He followed me around the square and eventually back to my apartment, all the while talking about my "ass" and how do I "know I love my boyfriend if I haven't tried being with him," asking for my number, etc. It was dark and late; I was alone.

Police here both on and off campus

### ***Weight/Size***

When reaching on the top shelf for a box of cookies and old man said "are you sure you need to be reaching for that" and scanned my body. I immediately felt judged for my weight and didn't buy any cookies that day.

I have a very petite build and I look much younger than my actual age. I find people react most inappropriately to this aspect of me. People may comment that I need to be eating more or buying more groceries and I have been followed around the grocery store multiple times, all of which I was alone for.

### ***Ethnicity***

Incidents of discrimination are related to my gender and sometimes to my ethnicity. I am a white Latina and discrimination surrounding my ethnicity typically occurs when cultural factors are exposed. For example when others hear my accents when I speak or my name.

Being looked at differently because I have an afro/braids

People around bars saying go back to where you came from / servers giving white individuals better service

### ***Sexual Orientation***

Many people on and off campus are homophobic. I have experienced more on campus. I have been called gay slurs, and have friends who have been attacked verbally and harassed physically for being openly gay.

### ***Local People/Other***

The city of Macomb has several groups of people who appear to feel that they are better than others due to their wealth, education level or career. They point, stare, laugh and talk down to those not in these groups and unfortunately there is no restaurant and few small businesses in town you can go to that this does not happen. There are many businesses that I will no longer

have anything to do with and I often travel outside of the city for business and leisure purposes because of this.

Many citizens in Macomb hate the university and to look down on students

***Disabilities***

I'm usually treated with "kid gloves" due to my physical disability. People go out of their way to be nice and helpful, but some people are frightened, unsure how to treat me or irritated at the inconvenience caused by my needs. Some people assume I am mentally disabled in addition to physically and treat me as a child.

***Prejudice against white people***

Assumption that I have all these resources and easy way outs because I'm white or that I wouldn't get it cause of my race. Mostly cause of all the assumptions society makes about not just my but of all races

**Businesses Specifically Mentioned**

Another question asked participants to identify the businesses where the experience took place Walmart was the business with the most reported cases of discrimination, followed by Chicks, Hyvee, and Wendy's. Other places mentioned also appear in the table below.

Table 4. Place Where Discrimination Took Place

Business	Mentions
Walmart	16
Chicks	3
Hyvee	2
Wendy's	2