



Bias Incidents Abroad

Learning From and Raising Awareness to Best Support Students On-site



Presenter Introductions



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: Session Preview

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 - The Why
 - Interactive Activity
 - U.S. Schools Perspectives
 - Bias incident resources in Pre-departure
 Orientations
 - DIS's Approach
 - Case Study
 - This is a pilot
 - Think, Pair, Share activity
 - Wrap up ideas/takeaways
 - Action Steps
 - Questions





The Why

- Sensitive cases that are often underreported
- What students are used to in the U.S.
- Signals the importance we place on these types of incidents/"we care"
- We hope it will be a clearer path to reporting/support
- Provide better support to students AND better inform our work due to better statistics/information



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Interactive Activity Kahoot

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: U.S. School Perspectives

- Student Expectations/Demand
- "Thought Police" VS. A tool that contributes to creating a more inclusive campus environment
- Disciplinary/Punitive VS. Educational
- A way to actualize institutional values related to diversity, inclusion, and respect
- A clearly defined process for students to communicate concerns





Bias Incident resources in Pre-departure Orientations

- Pre-Departure Orientation elements
- Identity Abroad
- CSU's current bias reporting system
- How can collaboration with partners
 across campus and abroad improve the
 current process?



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DIS's Approach

- Current process
 - Incidents captured ad hoc

- Process moving forward
 - Understanding realities
 - Adapting relevant information within cultural contexts
 - Development of templates and internal documents





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DIS Case Study

Based on a real case

- Student A was in one of Student B's classes. Student A was often rude, dominating, and talking over other students
- While visiting a local museum, there was a conversation that Student B goes to an Ivy League school in which Student B received positive feedback about from the locals and/or other DIS students
- When Student B was asked a question about their Ivy League school, Student A talked over them to say Student B was only admitted to that Ivy League because of where they came from (their "region") and because of the color of their skin (e.g. this was affirmative action and that Student B didn't deserve the admission)
- Student B confronted Student A about their discriminatory statement. Student A then apologized



This semester is a pilot

- If a DIS student were to disclose an incident, the process would look something like this
 - DIS Bias Incident Webpage
 - DIS Bias Education Webpage
 - o **DIS Incident Form**
- Are there any details that particularly stood out to you or that you questioned based on your experiences at your institutions and organizations?





C Think, Pair, Share Activity

- What successes/failures have you seen with your bias reporting system on your college campuses?
- If you have a bias incident system at your institutions/organizations, what has been your process and communication with students and/or colleagues?
- What related conversations have you had with other departments or offices?
- If you don't have such a system, what might your process and communication be or look like?
- When colleges and universities study abroad offices receive information that a student disclosed an incident while still abroad, is the incident forwarded to a centralized unit or is the student encouraged to also report it centrally with their home school? Is it centralized or does it stay in study abroad offices?

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Wrap up ideas/takeaways



- **Action Steps**
 - Have intentional action-oriented conversations with Campus Diversity Offices
 - Research your institution's bias reporting system and determine ways to bridge process with study abroad provider
 - Consider pre-departure advising to identify location specific resources/support available to students who may experience a bias incident abroad
 - Proactively reach out to partners with information on who to contact at the home institution if a student has a bias incident abroad and needs support
 - Reach out to collaborators (example: Academic Advisors) that offer support to students informing them of the process if a student abroad confides in them for support



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Questions



