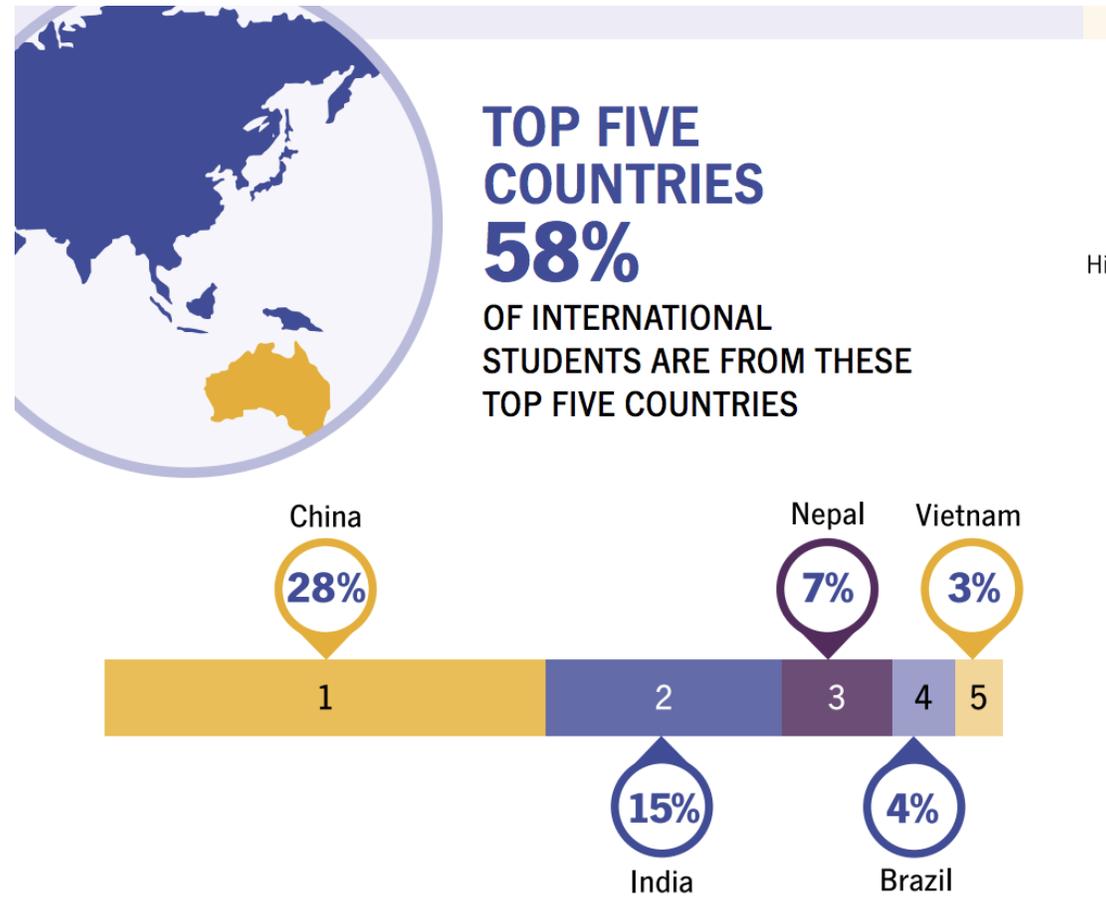




Tea Talks

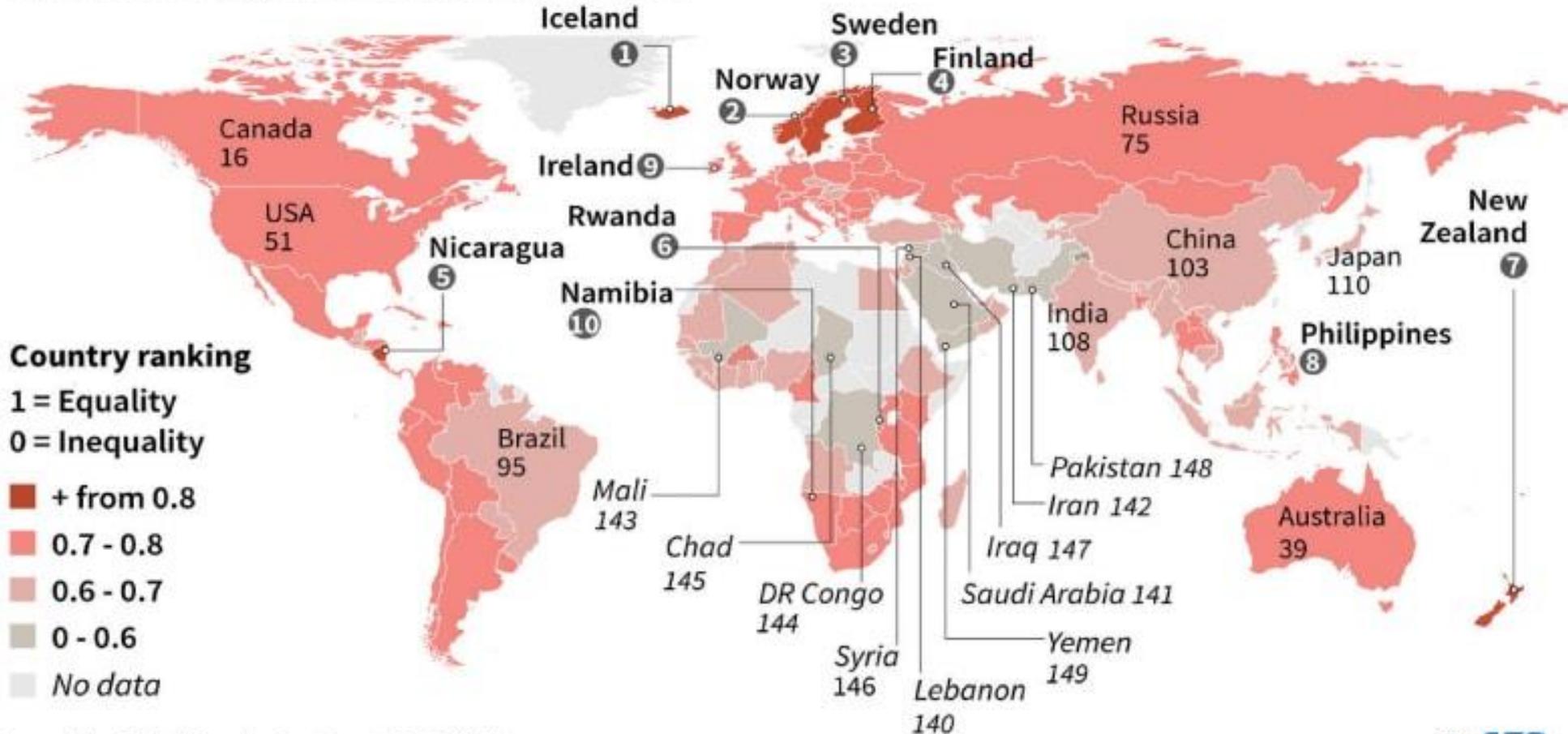
Creating dialogues among young women

Many international students come from a more conservative background



Gender equality ranked

The World Economic Forum measured gender inequality in 149 countries with an index based on 4 criteria: economy, education, health and politics



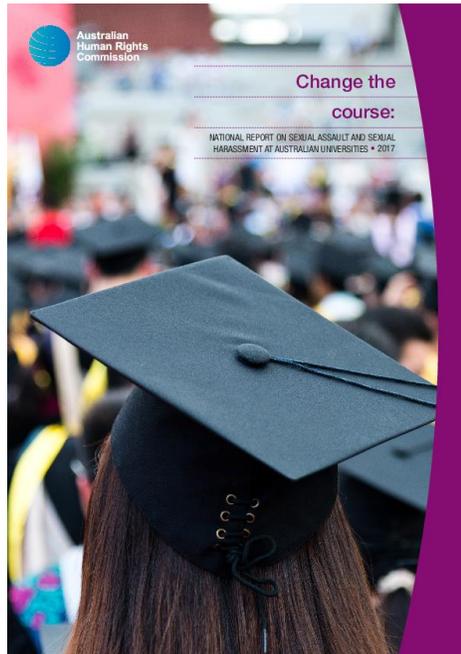
Source : The Global Gender Gap Report 2018 (WEF)

© AFP

International students are at risk when it comes to gender issues

- Gender roles are more rigid
- Less awareness on gender issues
- Risks
 - Discrimination
 - Self-esteem and mental health
 - Sexual health
 - Safety
- Opportunities
 - Experience new culture and develop our own ideas

Recent efforts in tackling sexual safety and health



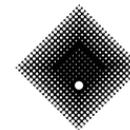
“Change the course” report in 2017



**RESPECT.
NOW.
ALWAYS.**



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UNIVERSITY**



**VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY**





What if we can create organic conversations
among students?

Tea Talks brought to you by



We are inspired by our work and are committed to our organisation and our members, because we have a strong believe in what we do. It is our passion for our work and life



The International Student Welfare Program is a Victorian Government initiative to fund projects that aim to enhance the experience of international students studying in Victoria.

Tea Talks format

- Two parts:
 1. Expert speakers presentation or workshop
 2. Facilitated small group discussions
- Inclusive, supportive, respectful and safe environment
- ~20-30 participants
- A range of topics related to female international students and/or gender issues

Topics we've covered

- Women in Leadership and Power Positions
- Financial Empowerment
- Gender Violence
- Engaging Men in Gender Issues

Tea Talk #3

- Topic: Breaking the Silence – Fighting Gender Violence
- Case study
 - What types of violence has been other than physical violence?
 - Why is it important to understand different types of family violence?

What are the main causes of domestic violence?

Can you think of some reasons why it's difficult for victims to reach out and seek help?

Tea Talk #4

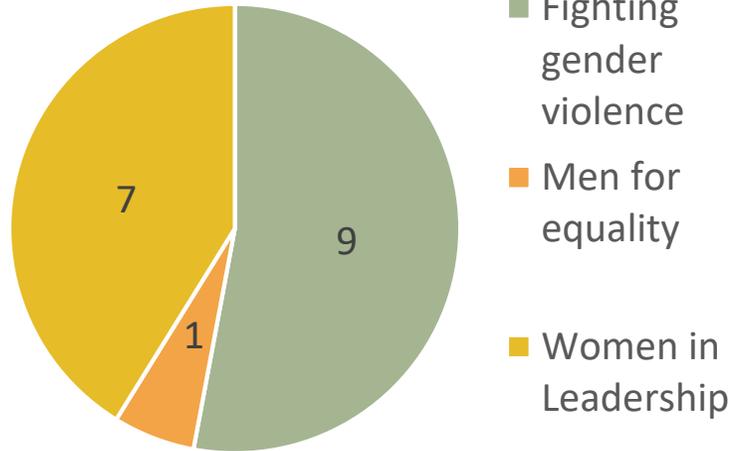
- Topic: Men for Equality
- Activities
 - Gender Walk
 - “What would you do in this scenario”

How would you explain what you learnt today to your friends and family?

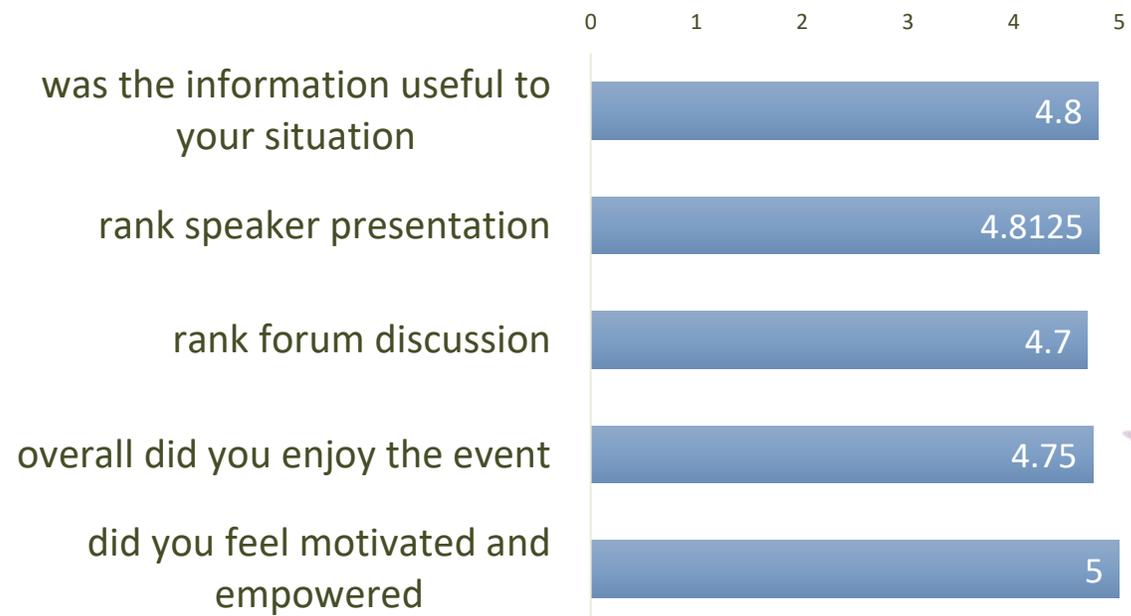
Stereotype hurts everyone who don't conform... what are some of those?

Participants Feedback

Feedback Received per Topic



Average results (n=17)



What were the take home messages?

“Women have (equal) rights just like men”
“To have a healthy relationship”
“Know when and where violence starts”

“don’t be scared to (talk) about domestic violence”
“It’s okay to speak up on any violence experience”
“Start a conversation”
“Be empowered and have the courage in yourself”

“Advocate for other women, be your own advocate ”
“We should support each other”
“Women can be strong ”
“We need to continue fighting ”

How can we improve?

- Loved the engagement
- It's my first time to have a talk in Australia which is awesome!
- I've learnt a lot, thank you
- More topic discussion, name new members to speak
- Ask presenters to speak more slowly because it is difficult to understand some things
- The facilitator and guest speakers are well prepared

What other topics do participants want to hear?

- Mental health and self care
- Bystander action
- Dealing with backlash
- Respectful relationship
- How to find a mentor

What we've learnt

- Marketing is the most difficult part!!!
- Some of the topics can be triggering, have support available!
- Adequate preparation is very important; so is speaker engagement
- Leave sufficient space for students to voice their thoughts
- It is very important to create a safe and respectful environment
- There is a need to focus on gender issues among international students
- This gap that we identified has led us to create Future Female
- We are expanding Tea Talk to other states in collaboration with CISA member organisations

Acknowledgement

- Speakers

- Diana Crvenkovic (Study Melbourne)
- Irene Yu (Bank of Melbourne)
- Lee Ting Ooh (Bank of Melbourne)
- Sakina Hassani (Safesteps)
- Stephen Wilson (Protective Group)
- Peter Streker (Community Stars)
- Sean Stephen Ryan (Victoria University)

- Volunteer team

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Tea Talk Series



Future Female

