

The Stages of Consent Culture for Dance Communities

Ignoring	Reacting	Planning	Creating	Sustaining
"That's just how it is."	"If we think the problem is bad enough, we will confront someone."	"We have a good system for addressing inevitable problems."	"We are proactively working to head off potential problems."	"Our entire community understands and values consent culture."
This looks like:	This looks like:	This looks like:	This looks like:	This looks like:
What do you mean? We don't have problems here	Problems are only real after they happen to someone I know	Problems happen and are dealt with in a reliable and systematic way	Problems don't have to happen	All dancers feel safe
Response excuses or supports the perpetrator	Response depends on who you talk to	Response is timely, predictable, and community-wide	Response acknowledges microaggressions and intersectionality	Response is seen as a chance to teach and learn rather than as punishment
"Bathroom networks" tell you who to avoid	No formal tracking or institutional memory	Centralized tracking and consistent consequences	Tracking process seeks feedback from underrepresented groups	All dancers feel empowered to speak
Organizers dismiss or blame victim	Organizers ask for every detail, act as gatekeepers, or try to soothe victim	Organizers value and track feedback regardless of source and severity	Organizers are aware of biases, work to educate themselves and others	Organizers plan for the continuing evolution of dance and consent culture

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