



# Change Reality

Disrupting Street Harassment  
with VR





# Poll 1



# Poll 2



# Men Edmonton: Who we are



[menedmonton.org](http://menedmonton.org)



# Collaborators:

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**NEXT  
GEN  
MEN**

THE CITY OF  
**Edmonton**

[menedmonton.org](http://menedmonton.org)

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# This Is What It Feels Like!



A Travelling Anti-Street Harassment Art Exhibit



# The Next Step: Change Reality





# Why VR?

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Virtual reality perspective-taking increases cognitive empathy for specific others


**Austin van Loon<sup>1\*</sup>, Jeremy Bailenson<sup>2</sup>, Jamil Zaki<sup>3</sup>, Joshua Bostick<sup>2</sup>, Robb Willer<sup>1</sup>**

**1** Sociology Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States of America,

**2** Communications Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States of America,

**3** Psychology Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States of America

## Building long-term empathy: A large-scale comparison of traditional and virtual reality perspective-taking

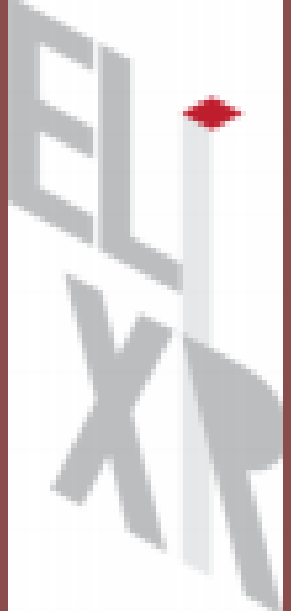
Fernanda Herrera , Jeremy Bailenson, Erika Weisz, Elise Ogle, Jamil Zaki

Published: October 17, 2018 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0204494>





# Elixr Simulations





# Why this Scenario?





# Indigenous Consultants

Consultants:

Cst. Kandis HISCOCK  
Domestic Violence Unit  
Parkland RCMP

Donita Large,  
First Nations, Metis and Inuit  
Grad Coach  
Braided Journeys Program  
Archbishop O'Leary High School



# VR Experience

Harassment incident

Decision Point

Scene plays out/Feedback

1. Do nothing
2. Distract
3. Intervene
4. Fight
5. Delegate



# 5 Ds of Bystander Intervention

**HARASSMENT IS NEVER YOUR FAULT**



**BADASS BYSTANDER MOVES: THE FIVE D'S**

The Five D's are different methods you can use to support someone who's being harassed.

<b>DIRECT</b>	<b>DISTRACT</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>DOCUMENT</b>	<b>DELAY</b>
Confront the situation. Be firm, clear, and concise.	Take an indirect approach to de-escalate the situation. <small>*Ask for the time or directions</small>	Seek help from a third party.	If it is safe to do so, document the incident.	Check in with the person being harassed.



# Immediate Feedback

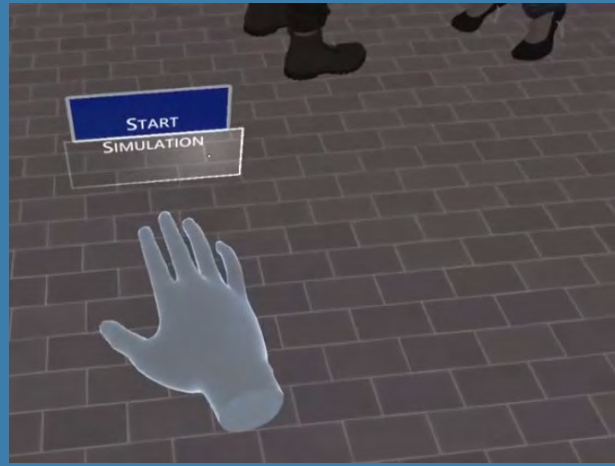
- Receive immediate feedback from within the simulation
- Unlimited chances to try different interventions





# Demo

Change Reality Video





# Interactivity

- Live Decision making (unlike TIWIFL)
- Safe environment
- Requires active thinking (good and bad answers present!)







# Debrief/Data Collection

- Facilitated discussion
- Data collection in program





# Short Term Goals





# Community Applications

## Another Black Muslim woman threatened at Edmonton transit station



By [Emily Mertz](#) • Global News

Posted February 24, 2021 4:30 pm · Updated February 26, 2021 11:38 am



Edmonton

**2 Muslim women attacked in 'hate-motivated' assaults in Edmonton, police say**



[menedmonton.org](http://menedmonton.org)



# Long Term Goals





# Poll 3



# Contact Info

## Men Edmonton:

Jeremiah Levine  
jlevine@menedmonton.org

Lukas Kuru  
lkuru@ualberta.ca

## City of Edmonton:

Michael Hoyt, Social Worker  
michael.hoyt@edmonton.ca

## ELIXR Simulations

contact@elixrsim.com

