



# After Dark

## Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP)

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**The purpose of this research project is to explore and reveal unique individual safety techniques for securing personal safety amongst University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire (UWEC) students' on- and off-campus safety.**

**Data collected via semi-structured interviews with on-and off-campus police, housing, and transportation.**

1. In your experience what would you say are the most common instances you've encountered, that have to do with students' safety being threatened?
2. What is some advice you would give to students about safety?
3. What safety precautions do you utilize?

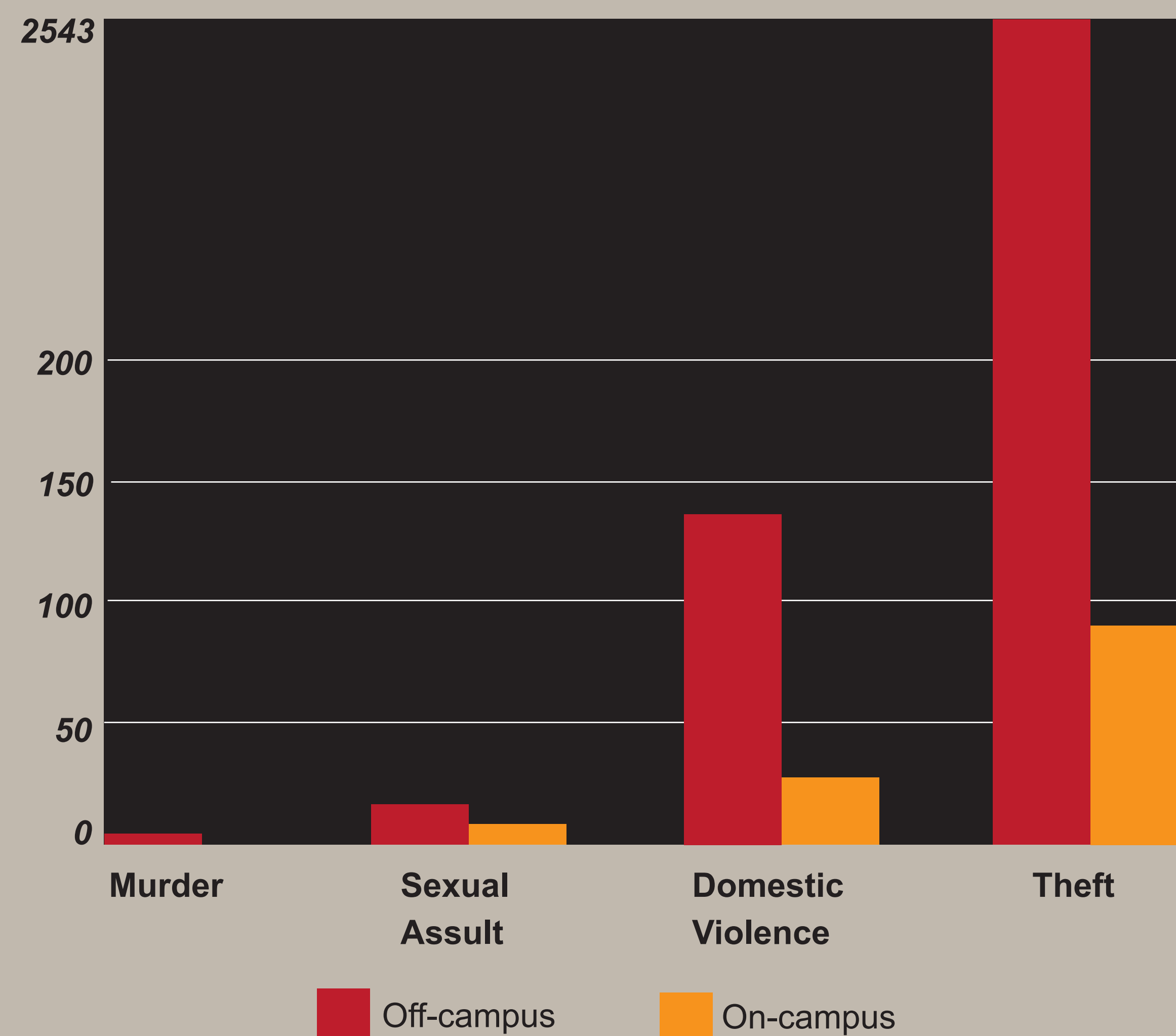
### Police

*This information was gathered through interviews with on- and off-campus police officers.*

#### Common Occurrences

- Alcohol related and outdoor theft/ burglary/ vandalism crimes/ most popular due to cover of darkness

**2008  
Off-Campus vs. On-campus  
Crime Rates**



	Murder	Sexual Assault	Domestic Violence	Theft
Off-Campus	1	17	142	2543
On-Campus	0	4	27	89

#### Advice & Safety Precautions

- Walk in Groups
- Stay in well lit areas
- Stay within shout/ sight distance to people
- Let people know where you are going and when you'll be back
- Stay alert and aware of your surroundings
- Call police or utilize emergency phone towers on campus if you notice any suspicious or concerning behavior
- Never leave a drink unattended
- Never let your guard down

### Transportation

*This information was gathered through interviews with the on- and off- campus bus and taxi drivers.*

#### Common Occurrences

- Falling
- Uncomfortable feelings toward creepy males
- Passengers passing out from various causes



#### Advice

- Travel in groups
- Slow down, don't go too fast (falling)
- Call or ask someone to call for transportation if you have any concerns

#### Utilized Precautions

- Keep passengers aware that they can always talk to the bus driver or call the transit system about any concerns
- Surveillance camera that record at all times

#### Works Cited

(2001-2008). Retrieved April 2009, from Neighborhood Scout: <http://www.neighborhoodscout.com/wi/eau-claire/crime>

Police, U.W. E. C. (2008). Crime Statistics. Retrieved April 2009, from UW-Eau Claire Police Department: <http://www.uwec.edu/police/crim-info.htm>

### Housing

*This information was gathered through interviews with off campus landlords and on campus hall directors.*

#### Common Occurrences

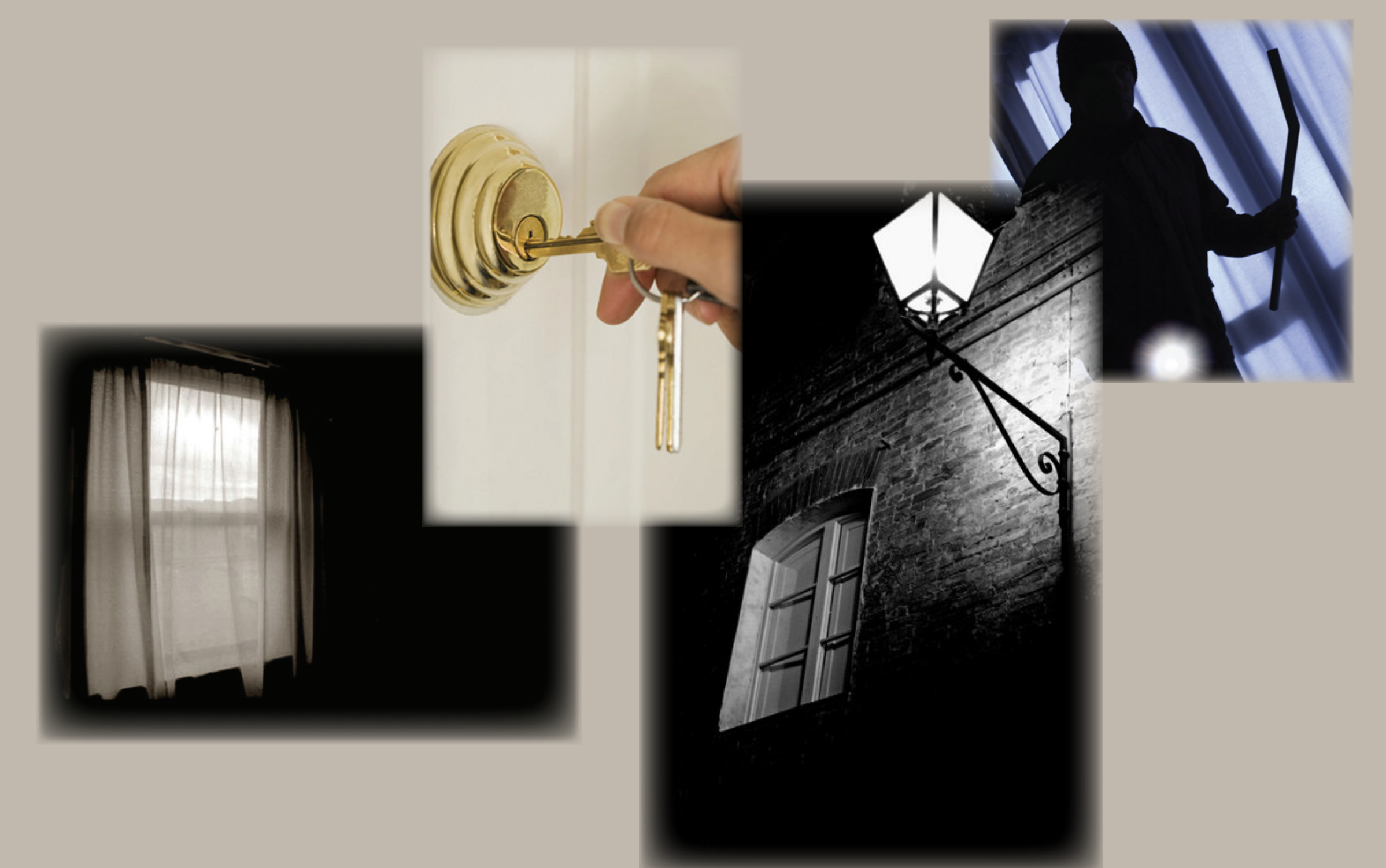
- Combos/ keys given out -theft
- Over intoxication

#### Advice

- Never give out codes / keys
- Ask for help if needed (RA's, hall directors, police, (on-campus))
- Discuss safety precautions with landlord to help avoid burglary and theft (off-campus)
- Always check doors/ windows when going to sleep or leaving
- Long periods of absence - leave light on- in and outside of building, leave tv or radio on, ask someone to check on facilities (off-campus)

#### Utilized Precautions

- Required by law to put locks on every door, air tight windows with lock
- Curtains/ blinds for privacy



Based on these findings from the interviews, the data shows that there is still a need for education of safety precautions amongst UWEC students. The intent of this research is to increase the use of safety techniques practiced after dark.

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