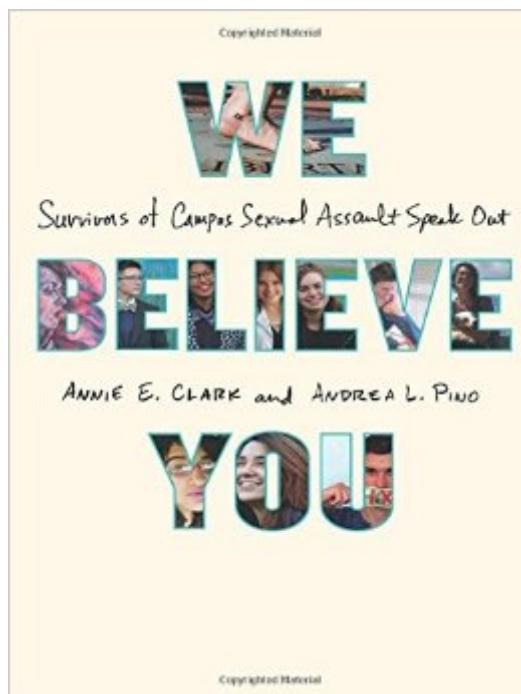


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# We Believe You: Survivors Of Campus Sexual Assault Speak Out



## **Synopsis**

"Me too. It happened to me too." More than one in five women and 5 percent of men are sexually assaulted while at college. Some survivors are coming forward; others are not. In *We Believe You*, students from every kind of college and university—large and small, public and private, highly selective and less so—share experiences of trauma, healing, and everyday activism, representing a diversity of races, economic and family backgrounds, gender identities, immigration statuses, interests, capacities, and loves. This is a bold, irrefutable sampling of voices and stories that should speak to all.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Sometimes you read a book that really wrecks your heart; this book was one of those. This review was very difficult to write. The book was full of strength and struggles - at times it was too real for me and I could only take the book in small doses. I pushed through because it's something that needs to be made aware. Our Colleges aren't safe, and to believe that they are is asinine. I just didn't realize how bad it was...and the extent some colleges go to cover it up. I'm not ashamed to say I cried because I was so heartbroken with what these students had to endure. It was just unbearable. The part that really got me was the fact that some were not only victims but that they weren't believed. I think having a friend to lean on for support is critical to the healing process after these horrid things happen to a person; I couldn't imagine facing what they did on their own. I'm still digesting most of this; I feel as though I've grown to know some of these individuals from the words

they shared. If any of them read this review, thank you for coming out and telling the world - even if you did it anonymously. It means so much to people who think they are alone. This is an excellent and much-needed book in my eyes. I did receive this book for an honest review, but that never influences my thoughts.

This book is so, so important. These stories help validate the experiences of all survivors of trauma, letting us all know that we are not alone. I will gladly pay to help publicize these beautiful, courageous people's stories and to fight the stigma that surrounds sexual assault. Thank you to all who contributed to this deeply moving and emotional book. Y'all have done so much to help others, and I thank you.

This book is such a powerful message to anyone who finds it -- we are so often told that survivors of sexual trauma are lying. The existence of this book is a bold assertion that that message is false, and I could not be happier that it exists. Somewhere, a young person who has had this experience is going to happen upon this book, and it will give them all the courage to continue. I commend these amazing activists for their bravery in sharing their stories and standing up for survivors everywhere.

I am in awe of this book. The emotions of these survivors are real, raw, riveting. This book is truly an eye opener to the violence that these survivors faced not only during their assaults but also afterwards, by their colleges! Institutions they thought would support them and guide them, just turned their backs!! These are real stories from real women, men, old, young, gay, trans, lesbian and more. The diversity of their stories is almost overpowering. From the stereotypical stranger rapes to the acquaintance rapes and everything in between. There isn't a survivor out there who can't relate to at LEAST one of these stories. My favorite chapter is definitely "Olivia Benson Believes Me," since watching SVU, she is the strength and truth behind all of the cases. Just in case you didn't already catch on, I'm one of the survivors in the book. And my story is real, my pain is real, but my strength in overcoming this situation is also SO real. It's a good read, I promise you. You will not be disappointed in this book.

If I could give a rating higher than 5 stars, I would. Clark and Pino bring forth a discussion long overdue to have been heard. Their voices are loud and necessary. This book should be assigned to every college student because hearing a story instead of a statistic is life-impacting.

This book is a real eye-opener. It gives accounts of men and women who were assaulted on campus and what happened afterwards. Some of them go into great detail so you can read what really happened in those instances, where what many other sources may censor or omit. The only gripe I have is that towards the end, the last few chapters, get a little redundant. They follow a "what happened afterward, what I've done, advice for recovery, how I've healed, etc." and kind of say the same things over and over.

I've never felt more understood, validated, and supported than I have after reading this book. I know a lot of survivors could benefit from "We Believe You". Should be required reading for all college students. Would love to see it implemented into a curriculum in high schools because waiting until college to educate students is too late. Amazing piece of work.

This is an incredibly important book for survivors and their allies. We must believe survivors and support those who come forward and share their stories, as each survivor's story is different and complex. The identities included in this book are those that are not often discussed, breaking down the idea that there is a 'perfect' story. I really hope this helps those who aren't comfortable coming forward with their stories and gives them some comfort; even when their institutions may not believe them, there are still people out there that believe you.

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