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### **Response 1**

I agree that it is the responsibility of a school to react effectively and promptly in addressing sexual harassment as well as sexual violence cases. A school should be informed about sexual harassment and sexual violence that develops an uncondusive learning environment in order to take necessary action to mitigate its effect, do away with the specific sexual harassment or sexual violence and put a stop to its frequency. Even though the student or their parents may not want to report the incident, it is the responsibility of the school to take action on behalf of the affected student. The school must investigate and determine the occurrence and take necessary step in resolving the issue (Abel, 2017).

A sexually harassed or sexually violated victim under Title IX can be referred to the disability service office if they are physically or mentally challenged and especially if the school, they are in is unable to prevent the reoccurrence of the situation. The disability services office will provide the necessary care required in order to reverse the effects the situation might have had on the victim. Therefore, being referred to the disability service is beneficial to victims of sexual harassment or sexual violence. I concur that operating in a safe environment is better than operating in a hostile environment that subjects one into such harassments and violence.

### **Response 2**

It is true that students being subjected to sexual harassment or sexual violence and are physically or intellectually challenged require special treatment <sup>2</sup> in order to reduce the effects of the harassment or violence. Thus, referring them to a disability service office might be a good thing to them. The disability service office can structure their services to make them reachable and secure for the victims of sexual violence. Such services include, counselling where the

victim is given the freedom to choose between a male or female counselor depending on their preference. This creates a safe environment for the victim enabling them to go through the healing process. Federal civil rights laws other than Title IX can also be relevant to a learning institution's authority to investigate and resolve such issues (1 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, 2014). Additionally, I accede that educating the referred victims in regards to sexual harassment and sexual violence is an important service in the disability services offices. Therefore, through educating the victims, it makes it easier for them to know what they have been going through and ways in which they can recover from such situations. Last but not least, different awareness programs should be promoted in order to create awareness on sexual harassment or sexual violence.

### References

Abel, K. (2017). *Where Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence and Title IX Intersect*. Doctoral Dissertation. Point Park University.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS. (2014).

*Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence.*

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>

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PAGE 1

PAGE 2