

Mahri Irvine, PhD

Professional Biography

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Mahri Irvine is an anthropologist who studies gender-based violence and cultural inequalities in the United States. She works for the Indiana University system as the Statewide Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Specialist; currently, she is conducting applied research in the form of needs and strengths assessments for the six IU regional campuses. Her office is located at [Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis](#). Dr. Irvine is also employed as an Adjunct Professorial Lecturer at [American University](#); she designs and teaches online classes focusing on gender and violence. She received her PhD in Anthropology from American University in 2014. Her dissertation research examined how rape culture impacted the lives of formerly incarcerated women in Washington, D.C.; she studied how sexual victimization played a direct role in women's decisions to become involved in crime, and how three different types of violence interconnected to pose unique challenges for these women. Dr. Irvine has studied sexual violence and gender inequalities for fourteen years, with four years of direct experience as a victim advocate for [Rape Victim Advocates](#) in Chicago, the [DC Rape Crisis Center](#) in Washington, D.C., and Open Arms prison reentry organization in Washington, D.C. She was also a volunteer for Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault for six years. Dr. Irvine has designed and taught university courses since 2011, working at American University and St. Mary's College of Maryland. She is a member of the American Anthropological Association, Association for Feminist Anthropology, Society for Applied Anthropology, Anthropology and Mental Health Interest Group, and the Society for Anthropology of North America. Dr. Irvine values and prioritizes work-life balance, recognizing that it is vitally important for victim advocates, researchers, and students to maintain their mental health by engaging in positive non-work activities. She enjoys yoga, reading, hiking, camping, spending time with her loving partner and three adorable cats, and she is learning how to sew. She highly recommends that all of her students and colleagues intentionally make time for non-academic, non-work activities in their lives!