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Bystander Intervention for Combating Sexual Misconduct in Science: Everyone Can Be Part of the Solution



Objectives

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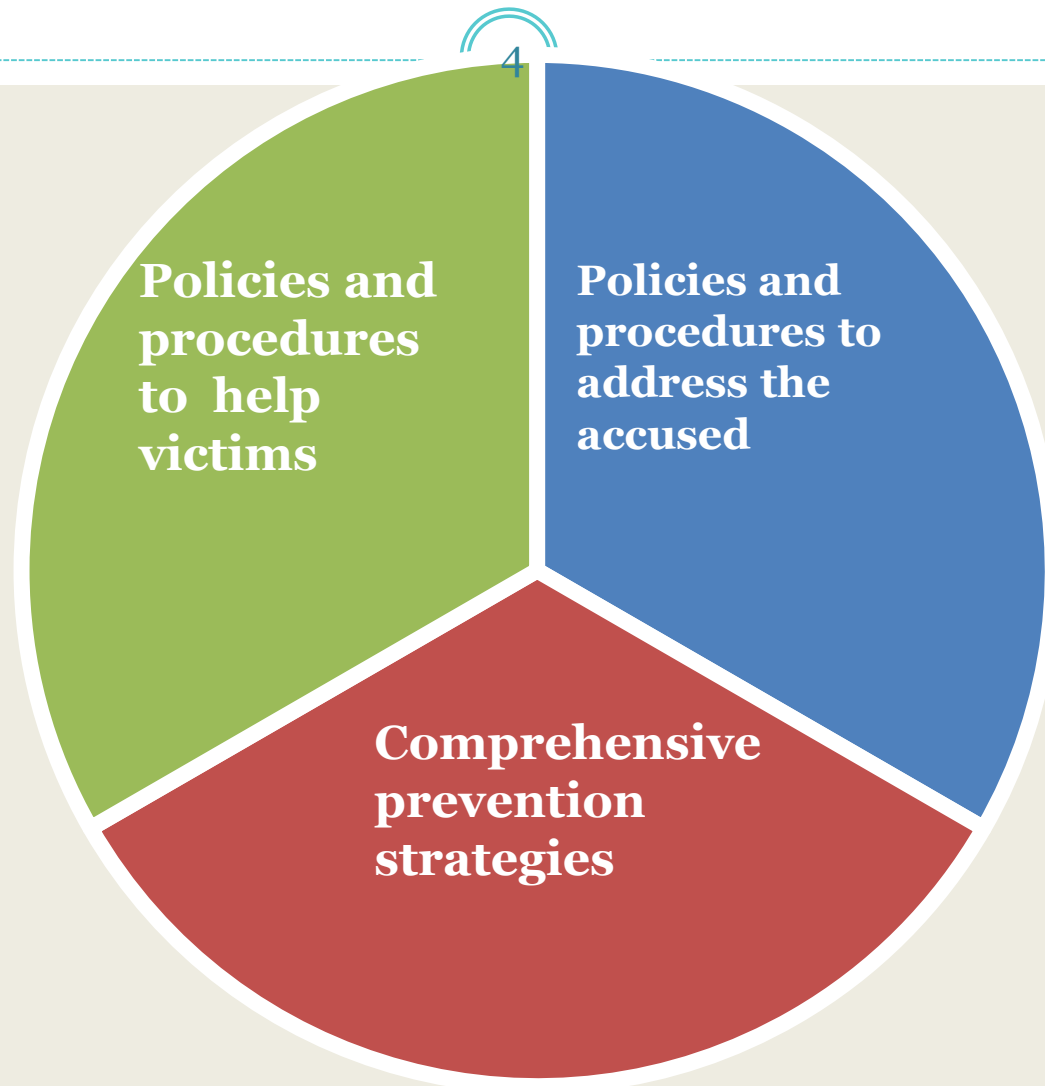
- Participants will understand the concept of bystander intervention.
- Participants will be able to identify a continuum of inappropriate sexual behavior.
- Participants will develop empathy for those who have experienced sexual and relationship violence and stalking.
- Participants will understand their role in bystander intervention and make a commitment to intervene in cases of sexual and relationship violence and stalking before, during and after an incident.
- Participants will apply the concept of bystander responsibility to sexual and relationship violence and stalking.

Bringing in the Bystander®



**A Sexual and Relationship Violence Prevention
Workshop for Establishing a Community of
Responsibility**

Ending Sexual Violence



Public Health Approach



- Sexual and relationship violence and stalking are **PREVENTABLE**
- Primary, Secondary and Tertiary
- Use data to define the problem
- Develop prevention strategies that are knowledge and skills-based

Prevention = Knowledge+ Skills + Action

Risk and Protective Factors



- **Risk Factors increase the likelihood that individuals will either perpetrate or be a victim of violence. They create vulnerabilities toward violence perpetration and victimization.**
- **Protective Factors decrease the likelihood that individuals will experience violence. They provide reliance from risk factors.**

Brainstorm on Bystander Responsibility

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- **What is a bystander?**
- **Are our ideas of bystanders positive or negative?**
- **Why?**

Definitions

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- ***Bystanders*** have the opportunity to provide assistance, do nothing, or contribute to the negative behavior.
- ***Prosocial bystanders*** are individuals whose behaviors intervene in ways that impact the outcome positively.

Bystander Intervention

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- Takes a wider community approach
- Does not target individuals as potential perpetrators or victims
- Everyone has a role to play
- Includes building knowledge and recognition, sense of responsibility, perception of norms, weighing pros and cons, confidence and skill building, and context

Social Norms: Theory



“...the best way to prevent this violence is to focus on the positive and engage our community members as partners in prevention by helping the majority to act on their desire to help confront the negative.”

-Alan Berkowitz, PhD

Stoke Hall Gang Rape 1987

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- **Three men gang raped a woman in 1987 in Stoke Hall, a residence hall at UNH.**
- **The victim transferred to another University.**
- **Two of the three offenders plead guilty to misdemeanor sexual assault for which they would each spend 2 months in prison.**



Where were the bystanders?

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Julia O'Hearn

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- **Comments about her body, sexually assaulted in stateroom, experienced retaliation.**
- **Captain belittled her authority by telling her she was “silly” because she requested the trash to be bagged and then for 2 weeks he repeatedly dumped trash in water.**
- **Made official reports and nothing was done.**



Where were the bystanders?

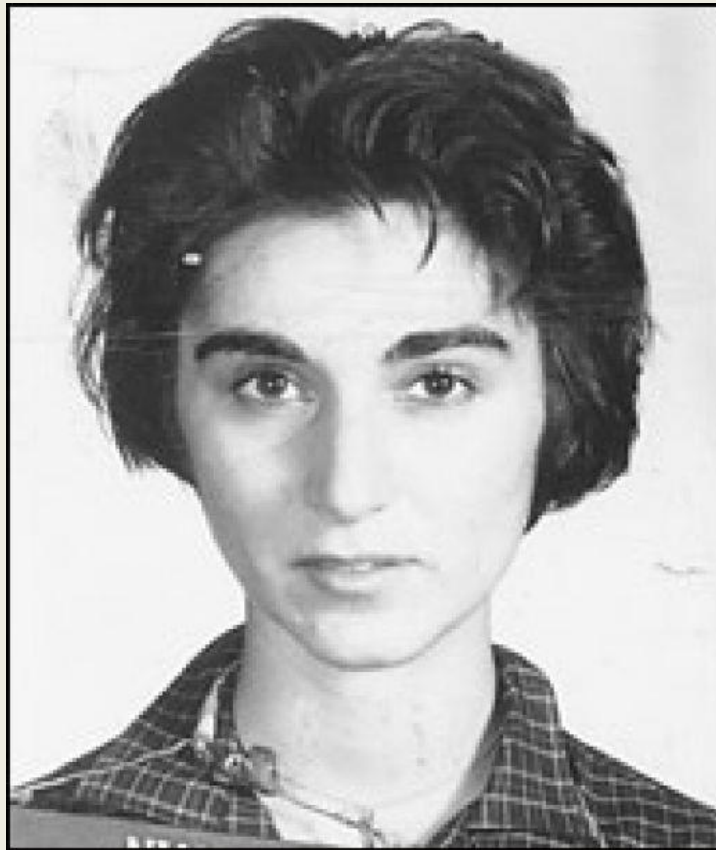
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Where Did the Study Of Bystanders Begin?

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The Case of Kitty Genovese



Bystander Research Confirms

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RECOGNIZE SITUATION

BEING ASKED

ROLE MODEL

GROUP SIZE

Bystander Action: In Person

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**If Not For 2 Strangers,
Brock Turner May
Have Never Been
Arrested**

**A bystander
intervened because
“something seemed
weird,” and the victim
says he’s a hero.**



Bystander Intervention from a Distance

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Professor
Bernard
Wood,
GWU

Scope of Sexual Violence

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Low

LEVEL OF RECOGNITION

High

High

FREQUENCY

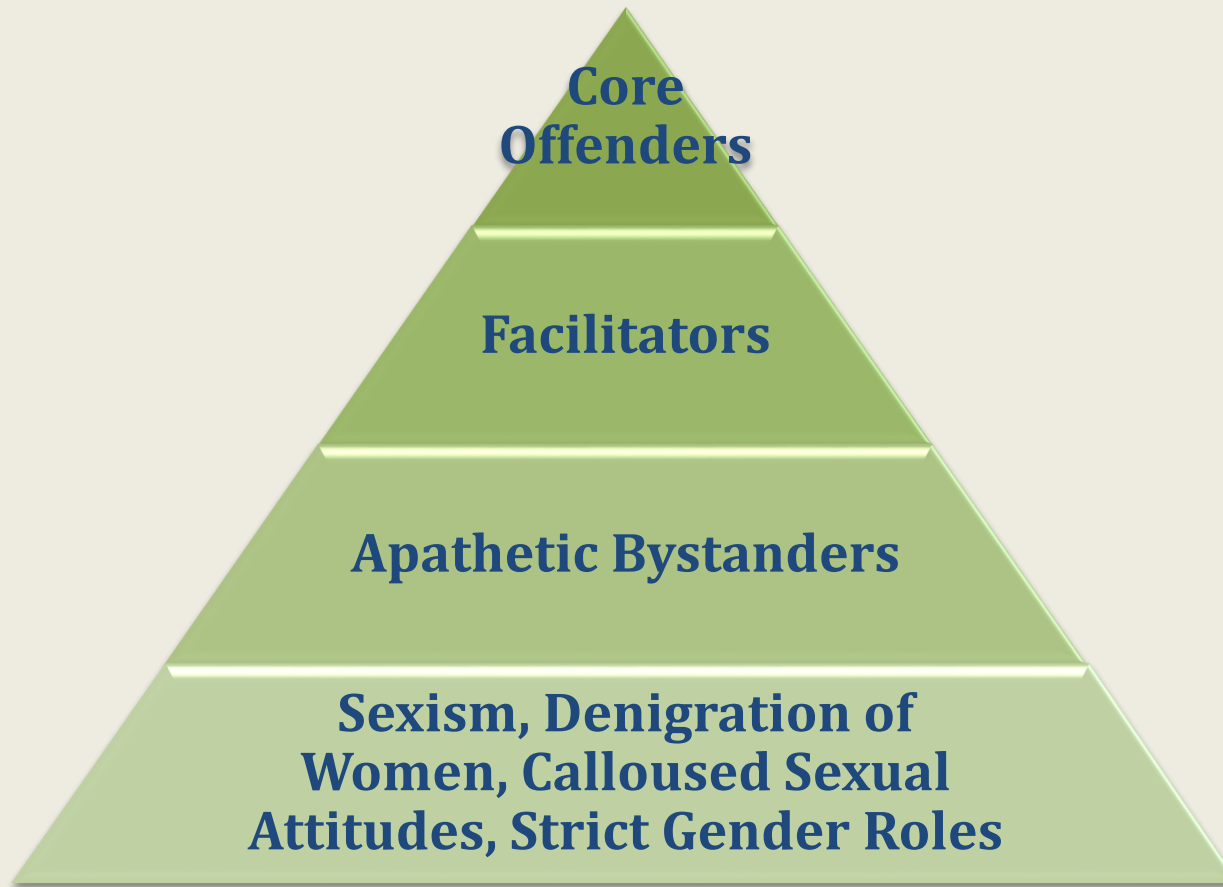
Low

Rape Culture

*Adapted from D. Lisak's

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Rape Culture slide



Consequences of Sexual Violence

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- **Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).**
- **Personal Consequences.**
- **Professional Consequences.**
- **Community Consequences.**

Decision Making Process

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QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE I TAKE ACTION:

- Is this a problem
- Can I help?

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- Safety
- Options
- Assistance
- Benefits/Costs

DECISION TO TAKE ACTION:

- Resources

ACT

Thank you!

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