Bringing in the Bystander®

A Prevention Workshop for Establishing a Community of Responsibility

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Eckstein, Moynihan, Banyard, and Plante.
BRAINSTORM ON BYSTANDER RESPONSIBILITY

• What is a bystander?

• Are our ideas of bystanders positive or negative?

• Why?
• **Bystanders** are individuals who witness emergencies, criminal events or situations that could lead to criminal events and by their presence may have the opportunity to provide assistance, do nothing, or contribute to the negative behavior.

• In the context of this program, *pro-social bystanders* are individuals whose behaviors intervene in ways that impact the outcome positively.
Stoke Hall Gang Rape 1987

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.
STOKE HALL GANG RAPE 1987

- Witnesses had opportunities to intervene at every stage but did not do so until after 2 female witnesses learned that the victim was a friend, not a stranger.

- A Resident Assistant warned the perpetrators to get “the girl” out of their room. No one went to the victim’s assistance or helped her to Health Services or to the police.¹
In February 2012, George Huguely was convicted of Second degree murder of his former girlfriend, Yeardley Love.

They were students at the University of Virginia when he killed her.
WHERE WERE THE BYSTANDERS?
Where Did the Study Of Bystanders Begin?

The Case of Kitty Genovese

• Kitty Genovese was stalked and stabbed outside her apartment in Queens, NY, in 1964

• Despite the fact that there were many individuals who either saw or heard the attack, little was done in assisting her. She died as a result.

• This became a national story and prompted social scientists to start researching the bystander phenomenon.
Bystanders: Model by Latane and Darley (1969)

According to this model, bystanders must

• Notice that something is happening

• Interpret the situation as calling for Intervention (What is the Context? Mall Story)

• Assume personal responsibility for intervening

• Decide what to do, and

• Possess the necessary skills and resources to act.
The Bystander Approach Offers Several Clear Benefits:

- Discourages victim blaming
- Offers the chance to change social norms
- Shifts responsibility to men and women
INTERVENTION RESEARCH CONFIRMS:

RECOGNIZE SITUATION
- You must be aware of the problem and recognize the negative impact on the victim.²

BEING ASKED
- Those who are asked and agree to help, are far more likely to intervene than those who are not asked.³

ROLE MODEL
- People who witness prosocial interventions are more likely to effectively intervene in the future.⁴

GROUP SIZE
- The more people are present, the lesser the likelihood of a bystander effectively intervening.⁵
Witnesses To Alleged De Anza Rape Speak Out

POSTED: 10:10 pm PDT May 22, 2007
UPDATED: 8:43 pm PDT May 24, 2007

SAN JOSE -- Two young women who say they intervened during a savage assault at a college party are speaking out in an exclusive television interview. The women say they witnessed a rape last March that involved members of the De Anza College baseball team, and they are now outraged that the Santa Clara County District Attorney has chosen not to prosecute the case. Lauren Chief Elk and April Grolle are 20-year old De Anza College students and teammates on the school's soccer squad. They were leaving a party at a house when they realized something wrong was going on in a back room where the doors were closed and the lights were off.

"We heard and saw a girl tapping on this door in the kitchen saying 'There is a girl in there with eight guys,'" explains Chief Elk.

They say they tried to get into the room, but were confronted by a baseball player.

"[He said] 'Mind your own business; she wants to be in here' and slams the door," says Grolle.

What they saw through a crack in the door horrified them.

"When I looked in, I saw about ten pairs of legs surrounding a girl, lying on the mattress on the floor and a guy on top of her with his pants down and his hips thrusting on top of her," recall Chief Elk. "And when I saw that I knew immediately something wasn't right. It just didn't look right."

"I saw that this young girl did not want to be in there, and that's when we just went 'We're getting this girl out of there,'" says Grolle.
EMPOWERED BYSTANDERS

Source: Raja Mishra 12/22/05, Boston Globe Staff

Tape tells how clerk set rescue in motion

By Raja Mishra GLOBE STAFF

The woman was virtually silent, but her mouth conveyed hidden torment to liquor store clerk Diana Dison. An advocate for battered women, Dison immediately recognized that something was amiss Monday night at Bradford's Liquors in Plymouth.

The woman, clutching a little boy, surreptitiously mouthed the word help to Dison, as a man stood menacingly at the doorway. As soon as the three left, Dison called 911.

"She was saying help, help," said Dison calmly to the 911 operator, according to a tape of the conversation released yesterday by Plymouth police. "I don't know if she's afraid of him or what's going on, but I couldn't get more out of her.

The 911 tape released yesterday captures the moment that saved the woman and her son from worse horrors, thanks to a liquor store clerk with a background that made her uniquely inclined to take the woman's hushed plea seriously.

Minutes after the 911 call, Plymouth police would arrest Empedro S. Delrade, 28, at a nearby motel. He is charged with abducting the woman and her boy from a parking lot at a Framingham Wal-Mart Saturday night, then holding them prisoner. Dison told the 911 operator for three days during which he raped the woman repeatedly as her son locked on.

"All I knew was that a woman was in need of help and I was going to get it to her," Dison said in an interview yesterday. "I definitely think my work put me in tune with her. I was in tune with her emotions."

Prosecutors plan to ask a judge tomorrow to keep Delrade in jail for 90 days without bail, a step they argue is necessary because Delrade is a dangerous sociopath.

"His release would pose a danger to the community," said Bridget Norton Middleton, a spokeswoman for Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz.

Police have not identified the woman and her son because she is the alleged victim of a sex crime.

Court documents said that Delrade used a 13-inch carving knife to force the woman and her 2-year-old into a car, where he allegedly raped her. They drove to the Pilgrim Sands Motel in Plymouth, where she was repeatedly assaulted, according to the documents.

Tape tells how rescue triggered

Without her information, who knows what could have happened. It could have been even more horrific than it was. This guy obviously felt like he had nothing to lose."

Plymouth Police Captain Michael Botteri

On Monday at about 6 p.m. Delrade allegedly sought to purchase beer at Bradford's Liquors store but lacked identification. Three hours later, they returned. He sent the woman in while waiting at the front door.

"The woman mouthed "help" to a customer, who told Dison, said liquor store employees. Dison works days as a court advocate for battered women with the South Shore Women's Center in Kingston. A brief and quiet exchange convinced her that the woman had been victimized.

"She mouthed "help" and Pilgrim Sands," Dison whispered to her that I would help her," Dison said. "When she wouldn't look at me, I knew she didn't want the man to see her."

But Dison had no idea what was wrong.

"His eyes were glassy," she said. "I thought it was a woman in distress with her husband drinking."

Dison said that she tried to dissuade the woman's departure with small talk about Christmas, but that the man quickly spirited them away. Dison immediately called 911.

"She's with a guy, they're at Pilgrim Sands, she's saying help," Dison told the 911 operator. "I don't know if he's doing something rude to her, harming her or whatever."

Within a minute, Plymouth police were en route to the motel about 1 ½ miles from the liquor store.

Dison was later stunned by the story of brutality that the woman related to police. The next day, she visited the woman at Jordan Hospital.

"She screamed, "My sister\". She hugged me for about 10 minutes," said Dison. "I told her she was strong."

Authorities praised Dison's actions that night.

"Without her information, who knows what would have happened?" said Captain Michael Botteri of the Plymouth police. "It could have been even more horrific than it was. This guy obviously felt like he had nothing to lose.

"Her observations were keen," Botteri said. "She acted exactly right."

Raja Mishra can be reached at rmishra@globe.com. Globe correspondent Chase Davis contributed to this report.

Alexandria Goddard: The Steubenville Rape Case Blogger

Samantha Stendal: A Needed Response

Http://youtu.be/eZxv5WCWivM
WHAT ARE SOME INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIORS?

**Behaviors:** Unreciprocated, Unwanted, Repeated

**Environments:** Offensive, Intimidating, and Hostile

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<tr>
<th>Low</th>
<th>RECOGNITION</th>
<th>High</th>
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<td><strong>Visual:</strong> Winks, Invading body space, Posters, Drawings, Cartoons</td>
<td><strong>Verbal:</strong> Sexist, Sexual Remarks</td>
<td><strong>Physical:</strong> Touching, Sexual/Physical Assault</td>
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<th>High</th>
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**THE SCOPE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

**Behaviors:** Unreciprocated, Unwanted, Repeated

**Environments:** Offensive, Intimidating, and Hostile

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**RISKY**

- **Visual:** Winks, Invading body space, Posters, Drawings, Cartoons
- **Verbal:** Sexist, Sexual Remarks
- **Physical:** Touching, Sexual/Physical Assault

**ILLEGAL**

- **RECOGNITION:** High
- **FREQUENCY:** Low

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RAPE CULTURE*

* D. Lisak’s Rape Culture slide

Sexism

Bystanders

Facilitators

Core Sex Offenders

Calloused sexual attitudes

Denigration of women

Hyper-masculinity

RAPE CULTURE*

*Adapted from D. Lisak’s Rape Culture slide

Core Offenders

Facilitators

Apathetic Bystanders

Sexism, Denigration of Women, Calloused Sexual Attitudes, Strict Gender Roles

FACTS ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE

• Rape is an act of violence, sex is the weapon.

• Sexual violence affects everyone.

• Rape can happen to anyone, anywhere at any time.
FACTS ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- Most people tell the truth about rape. Only 2-8% are false reports.\textsuperscript{6}

- Most (73\%) of sexual assaults are perpetrated by a non-stranger.\textsuperscript{7}

- Most men don’t rape, but the few that do, commit multiple rapes as well as other assault.\textsuperscript{8}

- Majority of perpetrators remain undetected in our community – they are not caught.
CONSEQUENCES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- Many victims develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

- Other consequences include fear, suicidal feelings, interference with school and job, disrupted relationships, helplessness, shock and disbelief, guilt, humiliation, self blame, flashbacks, depression, nightmares, insomnia, impaired memory, drug and alcohol abuse.
### Table 6.1

**Prevalence of Physical and Mental Health Outcomes Among Those With and Without a History of Rape or Stalking by any Perpetrator or Physical Violence by an Intimate Partner — U.S. Women, NISVS 2010**

<table>
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¹No history of rape, stalking, or intimate partner physical violence
²p-value determined using chi-square test of independence in SUDAAN™
³Non-significant difference
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What can I say or do?

“Do you need help?”

“Can I walk you home?”

“Are you alright?”

“Should I call the police?”

“Do you want me to call someone for you?”

“What can I do to help you?”

“Do you want me to talk to so-and-so for you?”

“Is everything OK?”
Understanding the Challenge to intervene

Gender

Culture
THE FOUR THINGS EXERCISE
• “Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted; the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most; that had made it possible for evil to triumph.” – Haile Selassie

• The world is a dangerous place to live, not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don’t do anything about it.” – Albert Einstein
1. Keegan, 1987


4. People who witness prosocial interventions are more likely to effectively intervene in the future (e.g., Batson, 1998).


6. Rape Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)

7. RAINN

You are hanging out with some friends and acquaintances. Some people start talking about a rape that recently occurred at a nearby university. An acquaintance of yours says “yeah, but she was totally shit-faced, what did she think was going to happen to her.” Some of the people involved in the conversation laugh, others looks uncomfortable but don’t say anything.

**Decision Making Process:**

People make stupid comments everyday...why should I make a big deal? this person obviously has issues, but what good would it do to say something? why would he/she listen to me?...if I don’t say anything, she/he may continue to make these comments...is this my responsibility? What am I supposed to do?

**Discuss pros and cons of each option:**

Nothing. It is none of my business.

Give the person a disapproving look.

Say something to counter this comment, such as:

Engage this person and others in a conversation by saying:

**Your own idea:**

**What do you do? How will you stay safe?**
ILLEGAL MOTION

At a party, you see a guy from your floor trying to get an obviously drunk woman to have sex with him. She’s not just buzzed; she’s stumbling over her own feet. You know the woman and she seems reluctant.

Train of thought:
They’re both adults. But she can’t be fully consenting if she’s drunk, can she? ...I’ve heard about too many cases of sexual assault that start out like this... Could this be one in the making? What about my relationship with the guy? We have a lot of the same friends....What will they think? Will he even listen to me?.....Is it part of my responsibility as his friend to provide him with some guidance? What, if anything, am I supposed to do in a situation like this?

Options:
• Nothing none of my business.
• Talk to the guy. Remind him that he has to be real careful in dealing sexually with a drunk woman.
• Gather some of the other guys from the floor and get him to leave her alone.
• Find one or more of her friends and urge them to take her home.
• Tell the people who are having the party that I’m worried about the situation, and warn them that they might have some legal responsibility to act.

Personal option.

_____________________________________________
Online Resources


http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/bystander-intervention-resources

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