Metropolitan Community College
Violence Prevention Presentation
2014
Why is this important?

1 in 3
Women worldwide experience Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in their lifetime

1 in 5
Women is sexually assaulted in college

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=xLdElcv5qqc
Alcohol and Sexual Assault

- On average at least 50% of college student’s sexual assaults are associated with alcohol use (Abbey, 2002)
Statistics

• 80% of the victims of sexual assault are assaulted by someone they know
• 30-60% of perpetrators of domestic violence also abuse children in the home.
• Child and adolescent victims of sexual assault are anywhere from two to 11 times more likely to be raped or otherwise sexually assaulted as an adult
Vulnerable populations: Intimate Partner Violence in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ) communities

• LGBTQ survivors of IPV are significantly underserved:
  – In 2012, more than 61% of LGBTQ survivors were turned away from DV shelters and nearly 1/3 were wrongly arrested as the abusive partner
  – Studies show that only one in five survivors of same-gender sexual assault and intimate partner violence receive victim services
Intimate Partner Violence and Immigrant/Refugee Communities

• Immigrants and refugees experiencing IPV also face additional barriers to services, such as:
  – Undocumented victims fear deportation if they seek help
  – Language barriers and lack of familiarity with U.S. legal system and culture
  – Limited culturally sensitive/appropriate services available
  – Religious/cultural importance of keeping family together
What is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)?

• A pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner.

• Can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological
The diagram illustrates the various types of abuse, including psychological abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal abuse, and financial abuse, all contributing to power and control. Each section details specific behaviors and actions associated with each type of abuse.

**Psychological Abuse**
- Limiting contact with friends and/or family. Restricting access to transportation. Monitoring phone calls.
- Playing mind games. Exploiting immigration status, sexual orientation and/or disabilities. Minimizing concerns, ignoring feelings and placing blame.

**Physical Abuse**
- Hitting, choking and/or burning. Threatening gestures. Forcing victim to abuse alcohol and/or other drugs. Using weapons and/or other objects.
- Always claiming to be right. Giving commands. Using religion, culture and/or gender-roles to impose authority.

**Sexual Abuse**
- Imposing fear by using looks and gestures. Destroying possessions. Threatening to call social service agencies and/or immigration authorities. Making threats involving children.
- Being forceful, threatening or coercive. Physically attacking body parts. Preventing the use of birth control and/or safe sex practices.

**Verbal Abuse**
- Controlling all decisions involving money. Interfering with choices involving work and education. Creating economic dependency.
- Name-calling. Degradation remarks. Using words to instill fear. Yelling and/or swearing.

**Financial Abuse**
- Isolating the victim to prevent them from gaining independence. Controlling the family finances.

Adapted from The Domestic Abuse Intervention Project Duluth, Minnesota. Developed by Casa Myrna Vazquez, Inc. - Boston, MA.
Sexual Assault Defined

In Nebraska:

Any person who subjects another person to sexual penetration
(a) without the consent of the victim
(b) who knew or should have known that the victim was mentally or physically incapable of resisting or appraising the nature of his or her conduct
(c) when the actor is nineteen years of age or older and the victim is at least twelve but less than sixteen years of age is guilty of sexual assault in the first degree.
NE Statute 28-318

Does not define “consent” but states the below

**Without consent means:**

(a)(i) The victim was compelled to submit due to the use of force or threat of force or coercion, or (ii) the victim expressed a lack of consent through words, or (iii) the victim expressed a lack of consent through conduct, or (iv) the consent, if any was actually given, was the result of the actor's deception as to the identity of the actor or the nature or purpose of the act on the part of the actor;

(b) The victim need only resist, either verbally or physically, so as to make the victim's refusal to consent genuine and real and so as to reasonably make known to the actor the victim's refusal to consent; and

(c) A victim need not resist verbally or physically where it would be useless or futile to do so
Speaking of Consent...

Some Definitions of Consent include:

• when one person agrees to or gives permission to another person to do something

• positive, unambiguous, and voluntary agreement to engage in specific sexual activity throughout a sexual encounter
Circumstances in which a person can NOT give consent:

• The person is intoxicated
• The person says “no” regardless of what kind of sexual activity has happened previously
• The person was coerced into saying “yes”
• The person is under 16 years of age (legal age of consent in NE)
Guess what?! 100% of incidents of intimate partner violence and sexual assault are preventable.
Good news!!!

• Bystanders outnumber those that do harm by 20, 30, and sometimes 40:1. Imagine how much violence we could prevent as bystanders if we had the skills to intervene…
We know it’s not easy to step in…

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieYm0sKogkY
There are options for everyone:
Just remember the Three D’s

• Direct

• Distract

• Delegate
At a party, you see your highly intoxicated friend leaving with someone who has been hitting on her all night. You recognize this as a high-risk situation for sexual assault. What can you do?

- Direct
- Distract
- Delegate
When friends or family members are being abused:

- Call police if you see/hear abuse
- Ask if they’re safe or need someone to talk to
- Explain that FREE and CONFIDENTIAL help is available
- Offer a ride to a local shelter or victim services agency
- Listen to them, don’t judge them, and continue providing support as a friend
Protect Yourself: Sexual Assault Risk Reduction Techniques

• Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable about a person or situation, remove yourself immediately.

• If you are at a party, don’t leave with a person you don’t know well. Plan ahead and commit to leaving with friends.

• Remember that alcohol and drugs compromise your ability to defend yourself.

• Don’t leave your drink unattended.
Protect Yourself in Your Relationships

• Be aware of warning signs in a relationship (review Power & Control wheel)
• Set strong boundaries in dating relationships and do not do anything that makes you uncomfortable
• Create and maintain a strong support system of people who love you and care about your wellbeing
• Ask for help if you find yourself in an unhealthy situation!
Campus Resources

- Campus Police: 531-622-2222
- Title IX Coordinator: 531-622-2681
WCA

Stay Safe, Grow Strong…

• Advocates available 24/7 to help with safety planning, protection orders, referrals, etc.
• 24/7 hotline: 402-345-7273
• Spanish hotline: 402-672-7118
• www.wcaomaha.org
Thank you!!!