

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

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Types of Violence

- There are many- but this presentation will focus on
  - Sexual Assault
  - Dating /domestic violence
  - Stalking



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Statistics- These crimes are prevalent on college campuses

- For women who have been raped or sexually assaulted, 9 of 10 offenders were known to the victim (Fisher et al., 2000)
- A national survey indicated that 8% of women and 2% of men reported being stalked at some time in their life (Tjaden, 2000)
- 1 in 5 females have experienced physical or sexual dating violence (Silverman et al., 2001)

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## Prevention

- Prevention is NOT how to avoid these crimes
- Prevention is about social change and education

Risk Reduction	Vs.	Prevention
<p>Focus is on the target of assault (primarily women)</p> <p>Cautions people to avoid certain situations or behaviors</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Telling women not to drink and/or do drugs beyond your ability to control your body or environment</li> <li>Telling women they should learn how to fight off an attacker</li> <li>Telling women they should communicate "no" more clearly</li> </ul>		<p>Focus is on social change</p> <p>Examines and addresses the root causes of sexual violence</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a culture where it's clear that it is not ok to use alcohol and/or drugs to get someone to have sex with and that it is not ok to harm a drunk person</li> <li>Speaking up against sexist, objectifying, or stereotyping behavior</li> <li>Have discussions on how we as a community hold perpetrators responsible by reporting it and speaking up.</li> </ul>

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## Campus Compliance

Legislative and UC Regents-supported initiatives require minimum levels of support and education related to sexual and domestic violence. These requirements include:

- Education programs, provision of victims' options, procedures to follow for law enforcement notification, procedures to follow for disciplinary action including accuser and accused rights (due process), campus outcomes, sanctions, notification of available counseling services, and academic and living accommodations. (Campus Sexual Assault Victims Bill of Rights. U.S. Congress : Higher Education Amendments of 1992)
- Removal of hostile environment for any institution that receives federal funding for financial aid (Title IX)
- Support, advocacy and counseling for those affected by sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking (CA ED Code 67385,67390, CA Evidence Code 10335.2, CA Penal Code 293, federal Violence Against Women Act)

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## Campus Compliance, Cont.

- Ongoing education to prevent sexual assault, stalking, and dating/domestic violence (CA ED Codes 67385.7, 67390, federal Violence Against Women Act)
- Orientation for incoming students on dating/domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking (CA ED Code 67385.7, federal Violence Against Women Act)
- Training/consultation for staff and faculty on responding to related student concerns (CA ED Code 67390, federal Violence Against Women Act)
- Sexual violence prevention and education information on university website (CA ED Code 67385.7, federal Violence Against Women Act)
- Sexual violence policies, brochures and informational materials (CA ED Codes 67385, 67390, 76380, federal Violence Against Women Act, federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act)

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### The UCM Bobcat Model

- UC Merced's Violence Prevention Program began in Spring of 2010
  - ▣ OVW funded
  - ▣ Prevention education and advocacy for sexual assault, dating/domestic violence and stalking
  - ▣ Director, Campus Advocate, and 3 paid student interns
  - ▣ The VPP emphasizes *positive* and *proactive* approaches to prevention education



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### Prevention Education for Incoming Students

- 98% of incoming undergraduates attended a mandatory prevention program
  - ▣ 25 programs in 2 weeks
  - ▣ In collaboration with Counseling Services, Health Promotion, Student Life, and Residential Life
- Graduate students trained during Graduate Orientation



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### Learning Objectives- "4 R's"

- RECOGNIZE: Participants will be able to recognize signs of sexual violence, dating/domestic violence, and stalking before, during, or after event takes place.
- RESPOND: Participants will know how to safely step in and speak up against these acts- before, during, or after event takes place.
- REFER: Participants will know on and of campus resources and feel comfortable referring survivors/bystanders to these resources.
- RAPE CULTURE: Participants will have a better understanding of how attitudes, norms, practices and media normalize acts of sexual violence, dating/domestic violence, and stalking.

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### Prevention Education Results:

- 3.2 out of 4 assessment of how much participants “liked” the program.
- Participants rated the programs with a 2.9 out of 4 for how much they “learned”
- 17% of participants indicated they now better RECOGNIZE these crimes
- 68% of participants indicated they now better know how to RESPOND to these crimes
- 5% of participants indicated they now know resources to REFER
- 12% of participants indicated they learned about some aspect of RAPE CULTURE

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### Memorable Quotes

- “I liked the program and think it’s great that people are encouraged to step up and help someone, especially a friend.”
- “I feel comfortable enough to do something and speak up about what’s happened to me”
- “I liked the proactive approach to prevention”
- “Before I thought I was a good person because I would never sexually assault anyone, but I see now that if I allow rape culture to be established right in front of my face when I have the power to stop it and I don’t- then I’m just as bad”

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### Ongoing Education

- In addition to the mandatory programs, it’s important that students receive ample “dosage” of the prevention message:
  - Tabling events
  - Ongoing programs/campaigns/events
  - Class announcements
- Through these outreach approaches, the VPP has reached an additional 70% of the student population with prevention messages



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## Trainings

- Trainings are provided to potential first responders on campus. This has included:
  - ▣ Campus police
  - ▣ Judicial affairs
  - ▣ Residential Advisors
  - ▣ Community Service Officers
  - ▣ Campus departments
  - ▣ Peer educators



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## Advocacy

- Since the VPP was founded, reporting on these crimes has increased significantly.
  - ▣ In 2011 56 survivors received advocacy services: 19 for sexual assault; 26 for dating/domestic violence; 11 for stalking
  - ▣ 27 of these survivors reported to on- or off- campus police
  - ▣ 9% of the survivors utilizing advocacy services were men
  - ▣ About 25% of the survivors were non-students (staff or faculty)

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## Advocacy, Cont.

- Director and advocate work in the Department of Public Safety but advocacy provided is confidential
- Advocate contracted through the local crisis center to ensure that layer of confidentiality
- This model has actually *increased* reporting to law enforcement



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## Conclusion

- Prevention education trumps risk reduction approaches
- Campus compliance makes for a better community for us all
  - ▣ Increases reporting and accountability
  - ▣ Ensures safety and community sense of wellness



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