

Sexual Assault 101:A Primary Prevention Program for First-Year, Residential Students

Pepperdine University
Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center



RAPE TREATMENT CENTER
SANTA MONICA • UCLA MEDICAL CENTER

Introductions

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Our Path Today

- Rationale
- Program History and Development
- Content
- The Collaborative Process
- Student Experience
- Lessons Learned/ Next Steps
- Q and A



Rationale

- Increased Risk during first 6 weeks of college
- Desire to empower students to be active in taking care of themselves (risk reduction) and others (bystander intervention)
- Campus Save Act
- Recommendations from key resources



Program Design and Improvement

Research

University Values

Residence
Hall
Presentation

Student Culture

Legal
Requirements

2005 NIJ Report – *Sexual Assault on Campus: What Colleges and Universities Are Doing About It*

- The school has a campus sexual assault prevention program which includes:
 - Comprehensive education about rape myths
 - Common circumstances under which the crime occurs
 - Prevention strategies
 - Rape trauma responses and the healing process
- The school has a clearly defined sexual assault policy which
 - Defines all forms of sexual misconduct
 - Describes circumstances in which sexual assault most commonly occurs
 - Advises what to do if the student is sexually assaulted
 - Lists resources available on campus and in the local community
 - Provides for and lists available reporting options
 - States the school's sanctions for violating sexual misconduct policy
 - Provides an official statement noting the separate actions available to the victim



- 2005-2006 - Counseling Center/ Student Affairs Staff reviewed best-practices literature - gender specific, scenario based
- 2006 - Implemented first series of residence hall talks
- 2011 -
 - attempted online course in some halls
 - began greater coordination with HRL



AY 2012-13

Strategic Initiative: Conduct a thorough review of the sexual assault program and revise it as needed.

- Literature review
- Benchmarking
- Review of online modules
- Focus groups in September and February in one men's hall and one women's hall

Student Learning Outcome: Assess learning outcomes in the areas emphasized in the presentations.

- Post-tests in all residence halls after the presentation
- Pre-tests in one male and one female hall
- Follow-up post-tests in September and February in two halls



AY 2013-14

Student Learning Outcome: Assess learning outcomes in the areas emphasized in the presentations.

- Post-tests in all residence halls after the presentation
- Pre-tests in three male halls and three female halls
- Follow-up post-tests in November and March/April

Program Design and Improvement

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The “Talks”

- Flowed from research and other quality references
- Gender Specific - some differences in focus in men/ women’s halls, but most of the material the same
- Specific Flow
 - Discuss Sexual Assault Policy and its Relationship to University Mission
 - Defining Sexual Assault/ Consent
 - Scenarios - 4-5 detailed scenarios, involve victims of both genders
 - Social Norming
 - Reducing Risks (Emphasis on no victim blaming)
 - Bystander Intervention
 - Available Resources
 - Reporting Opportunities
 - Sexual Misconduct Policy



Collaborative Process

- Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center
- Student Volunteers
- Housing and Residence Life Professional Staff
- Resident Advisors





Rape Culture

- Devaluation of the feminine
- Viewing sex as a commodity (sex is regarded as “thing” not an interpersonal shared experience)
- Portraying violence against women as “sexy”
- Slut-shaming
- “Jokes” about rape & intimate partner violence
- Exaggerating false reporting statistics
- Normalizing rape (Excusing the assailant)
- Blaming the victim

RTC Comprehensive Services

- Emergency Medical Care and Forensic Exams
- Counseling
- Advocacy and Accompaniment
- Primary Prevention and Outreach
- Specialized Training
- Conferences
- Community Engagement
- Bystander Engagement and Training
- Policy Reform
- Consultation

Resources and Response

- **Emergency/Acute (96 hours or less)**
 - Forensic Medical Exam
 - Prevention Medication
 - Advocacy and accompaniment
 - Crisis intervention
- **Non-acute (beyond four days)**
 - Reporting
 - Counseling
 - Advocacy and accompaniment

Rape Treatment Center Access to Services

- No geographic restrictions
- No fees for any services
- Client may come on their own
- Client may be brought by advocate
- Client may be brought by police
- RTC can assistance with transportation to our emergency medical clinic
- Client has choices and options at all times

Questions?

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Implementation



- Students volunteers are recruited from housing staff and other student leadership positions on campus.
- Student leaders receive 6-10 hours of training.
- All Counseling Center (CC) full-time staff are involved in practice sessions.
- SMRTC representative gets the script ahead of time and joins us for the presentations.
- 3 gender-balanced teams of professional staff and trained students perform 5-6, one-hour mandatory presentations over 2 nights to all first year residence halls

The Student Experience

- Student as Recipient and Presenter

Implementation



- Brandon coordinates with the Counseling Center to set the schedule for the residence halls. RDs and RAs are required to be present for their halls.
- RDs work with the RAs to advertise the presentations to the residents and prepare for the event.
- Attendance is taken and those not attending are required to attend make-up sessions

Housing and Residence Life

- Preparing the staff and halls
- Coordinating with the Counseling Center

Challenges/ Next Steps

- It's Hot!
- Selection and Training of Student Volunteers
- How much is too much information?
- More infusion of LGBT friendly case scenarios and content
- Align more effectively with male groups
- Others?



Conclusions

- Q and A