

# **The State of Campus Bystander Intervention Efforts**

**Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007**

**1:00pm to 3:00pm Eastern Time**

**Presented by:**

**Brett A. Sokolow, J.D.**

**David Lisak, Ph.D.**

**Victoria Banyard, Ph.D.**

## **WHAT IS BYSTANDER INTERVENTION?**

If we accept the premise offered by researchers such as David Lisak and Toni Abbey that a significant number of those who perpetrate sexual violence are repeat offenders (40-60%) of multiple acts of violence, we also have to accept that these individuals are likely to be sociopaths and/or predators. Prevention efforts on college campuses have historically involved education aimed at those who might perpetrate, but these interventions are not appropriate for repeat sex offenders. We need educational efforts to reach those 40% to 60% of perpetrators who are one-time offenders, because they may be educable via modalities such as empathy-induction, a better understanding of rules/laws or normative dissonance. What do we do with the sex offenders? The path to prevention for them is Bystander Intervention. We look to their peers and community and ask them to identify those whose behaviors are high-risk. We ask them not to be bystanders to the acts of aggression and trespass of the sex offenders. We ask them to intervene. Many campuses have committed to programmatic efforts at empowering bystanders, and some are starting to show positive results.

This webinar examines the state of the art in campus bystander intervention efforts, highlighting the research on repeat perpetration and the model program underway at the University of New Hampshire. This webinar is divided into three parts:

- 1) David Lisak, a forensic psychologist from the University of Massachusetts, Boston will lay the foundation for why bystander intervention efforts are necessary.
- 2) Victoria Banyard, a psychologist from the University of New Hampshire will provide detailed information on the model program being implemented at UNH and how that model can be replicated at other campuses.
- 3) Brett Sokolow, a higher education attorney who works with student groups on bystander intervention will discuss the challenges of motivating bystanders, the impediments to bystander engagement, effective techniques for impelling bystanders to act, and effective means for intervention.

## **THE TOPICS**

### *THE NEED FOR BYSTANDER INTERVENTION*

- Profiling the one-time offender
- Profiling the repeat offender
- How many times does a repeat offender repeat?
- What types of violence are typical of repeat offenders?
- Can we detect the undetected rapist?
  - Who can identify them?
  - How can they be stopped?

### *EMPOWERING INTERVENTION*

- What students need to know:
  - Rapists are extremely adept at identifying “likely” victims, and testing prospective victims’ boundaries;
  - Rapists plan and premeditate their attacks, using sophisticated strategies to groom their victims for attack, and to isolate them physically;
    - What do these strategies look like?
  - Use “instrumental” not gratuitous violence; they exhibit strong impulse control and use only as much violence as is needed to terrify and coerce their victims into submission;
  - Use psychological weapons – power, control, manipulation, and threats – backed up by physical force, and almost never resort to weapons such as knives or guns;
  - Use alcohol deliberately to render victims more vulnerable to attack, or completely unconscious.

### *THE UNH MODEL FOR BYSTANDER INTERVENTION*

- The community of responsibility concept
- Inclusive scope
  - Breaking down the “men as perpetrators women as victims” dichotomy
- Two-pronged approach:
  - In-person educational programs
  - Outreach public awareness campaign
- Peer-led efforts
- Single-sex groups
- Booster sessions
- Community-specific scenarios
- A commitment to intervene
- Measured efficacy of model program
  - Persistence of effect

### *ARE YOU A BYSTANDER OR AN INTERVENER?*

- What kind of bystander?
- What kind of intervener?
  - Are interveners ratting our their friends?
  - Do interveners need to be preventers?

### *HOW DO WE EMPOWER BYSTANDERS?*

- What motivates them to act?
- What inhibits them from acting?
  - Fear of reprisal
  - Fear that they are misjudging the situation
  - Fear of entanglement
  - Fear of self-endangerment
  - Fear that it will be not effective
  - Fear that they do not have allies
  - Fear of being politically correct
  - Failing to recognize the common roots of all "...isms"
  - Lack of personal interest or connection to the behavior
  - Failure to identify the behavior as problematic
    - Seeing it as normative
    - Social norms implications for bystander intervention
- How can we help bystanders to overcome inhibitions
- How do you benefit from intervening?
- How does your community benefit from intervention?
- Intervention is an act of leadership, loyalty and relational living
  - Intervention as an act of resistance to peer pressure
- Can we use inspiration and role-modeling to catalyze a culture of intervention?

### *THE WIDER IMPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS OF INTERVENTION MODELS*

- Not just sexual violence
- Alcohol and other Drugs
- Intolerance, hate acts and bias
- Other implications for future directions?

### **HOW A WEBINAR WORKS**

Webinars are cost-effective because everything you need is already in your office -- a telephone and a computer. Webinars are large-group conference calls where you can follow along online with our PowerPoint. You can even project the PowerPoint via an LCD projector for group participation by your staff. Each registrant can call in from one telephone line on campus, so you might arrange to use a phone in a conference room, where your staff and administrators can listen and participate via speakerphone. You can also purchase additional lines for multiple campus call-in locations for a moderate surcharge. You will receive a call-in 800 number and a PIN for the day of the event.

Once you join the call, you will be able to hear the presenters and ask questions via phone, while viewing the Power Point online.

### **INTENDED PARTICIPANTS:**

- Student Affairs Administrators,
  - Judicial Administrators, Hearing Officers and Boards
  - University Counsels and Risk Managers,
  - Residential Life Administrators,
  - Campus Law Enforcement
  - Health Service Staff,
  - Counseling Staff,
  - AOD Prevention and Education Specialists
  - Health Educators,
  - Campus Sexual Assault Response Coordinators
- 

### **PRESENTERS:**

- **Brett. A. Sokolow, J.D.** Brett Sokolow is the President of NCHERM and the author of ten books on student affairs law and policy topics. Mr. Sokolow serves nine campuses as outside counsel and is a consultant to hundreds of others. He is the Editor of the *Report on Campus Safety and Student Development* and is Legal Issues Editor of the *CLHE Student Affairs Law & Policy Weekly*. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Council on Law in Higher Education (CLHE). He is on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *College and University Law Advisor* published by the Civic Research Institute. Mr. Sokolow is Vice-Chair for Education of the Directorate Body of ACPA's Commission on Judicial Affairs and Legal Issues. He has provided risk reduction, prevention and bystander-focused programs on over 1,400 college campuses.
- **David Lisak, Ph.D.** David is an associate professor of psychology at the University of Massachusetts Boston and director of the Men's Sexual Trauma Research Project. He conducts and supervises research on the causes and consequences of interpersonal violence. In particular, he has studied the motives and characteristics of "undetected" rapists – men who rape but who are never prosecuted. He also studies the long term effects of childhood abuse in adult men, and the relationship between early abuse and the later perpetration of interpersonal violence. His research has been published in leading journals in psychology, trauma and violence, and he is the editor of the journal, *Psychology of Men and Masculinity*. In addition to his research and teaching, Dr. Lisak is a consultant to judicial and prosecutor education programs across the country, he maintains a private practice specializing in the treatment of men, and serves as an expert witness in death penalty cases in which child abuse issues are raised.

- **Victoria L. Banyard, Ph.D.** Vicki is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of New Hampshire with affiliations in Justice Studies and Women's Studies Programs. She is also the co-director of Prevention Innovations: Research and Practices to End Violence Against Women on Campus, a research and development unit in the College of Liberal Arts. She received her doctorate in clinical psychology with a certificate in Women's Studies from the University of Michigan. She completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at the Family Research Lab at UNH and postdoctoral clinical training at The Trauma Center in Boston. She conducts research on long-term consequences of trauma and interpersonal violence. She was the principal investigator on an experimental evaluation of the efficacy of a college rape prevention program focused on empowering bystanders. She has also developed a number of new evaluation tools to be used in understanding the role of bystanders in violence prevention.

# NCHERM Webinar Registration

THURSDAY, JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2007  
1:00PM TO 3:00PM Eastern Daylight Time

THE STATE OF CAMPUS BYSTANDER INTERVENTION EFFORTS

USE THIS FORM FOR PAYMENT BY CHEQUE, ONLY.

PLEASE REGISTER BY WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2007

CREDIT CARD PURCHASERS PLEASE REGISTER  
ONLINE AT [WWW.NCHERM.ORG](http://WWW.NCHERM.ORG)

\_\_\_\_\_ Webinar Fee \$249.99 for one campus call-in line  
\_\_\_\_\_ Registration rate for Agencies/Advocacy Organizations -- \$149.99  
\_\_\_\_\_ Registration entitles you to one call-in line per campus. Additional lines  
can be added for \$79.99 each (please indicate quantity of additional lines  
needed)  
\_\_\_\_\_ CD-ROM of Seminar & Materials--\$199.99 each for registrants:  
\_\_\_\_\_ CD-ROM of Seminar & Materials for non-registrants \$249.99 each  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ Total

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ INSTITUTEION  
\_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS  
\_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS  
\_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL

(Call-in numbers & materials will be e-mailed to the institutional representative listed in the email address above once your registration is received by NCHERM)

---

---

Please make cheques payable to: NCHERM

**COMPLETE THIS FORM AND FAX OR MAIL TO (fax just this page, please):**

NCHERM • 20 Callery Way • Malvern PA 19355-2969  
Phone -- (610) 993-0229 • Fax -- (610) 993-0228  
E-mail: [ncherm@aol.com](mailto:ncherm@aol.com) • Website: [www.ncherm.org](http://www.ncherm.org)