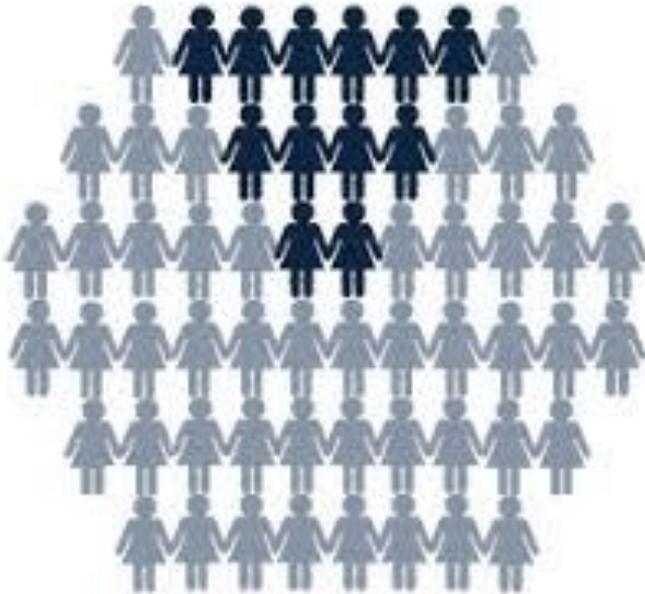


Responding to Power-Based Personal Violence Disclosure at TCNJ



Why Are We Here Today?

20% of U.S. College Women Are Victims of Attempted or Actual Sexual Assault



Source: U.S. Justice Department

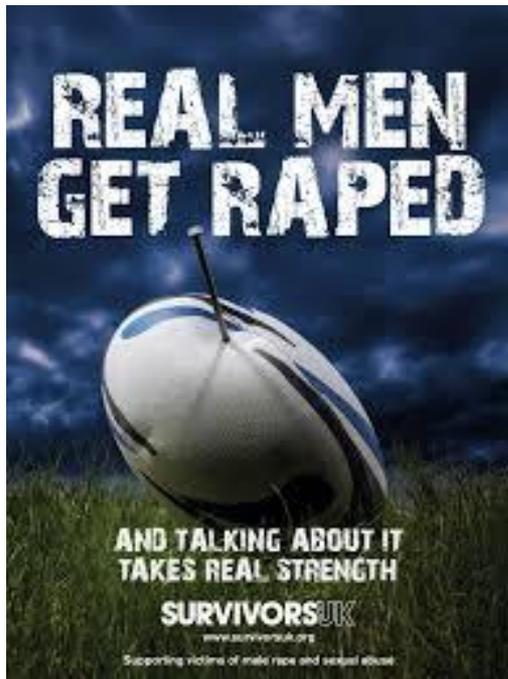
- College-aged women experience the highest rates of stalking, sexual assault and the highest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence
 - ▣ Most often by people they know
 - ▣ Men can also be victims
- White House Report
- The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act

Power-Based Personal Violence

- A form of violence characterized by a person asserting power, using control and/or intimidation in order to harm another
- This includes:
 - ▣ Sexual assault
 - ▣ Domestic/Dating Violence
 - ▣ Stalking
 - ▣ Other uses of force, threats, intimidation, or harassment
 - ▣ Trafficking
- May include the use of alcohol or other drugs to commit any of these acts
- Includes acts committed by strangers, acquaintances, friends, intimates, or other persons
- An average offender has offended 6x before a report is made

STALKING
SEXUAL ASSAULT
PERSONAL VIOLENCE
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
IDENTITY BASED TARGETING

Men Can Be Impacted Too



- It wasn't until 2012 that the FBI changed its definition of rape to include male victims
- 46% of male victims report a female perpetrator
- Men are less likely to report than women
- An erection does not equate to consent

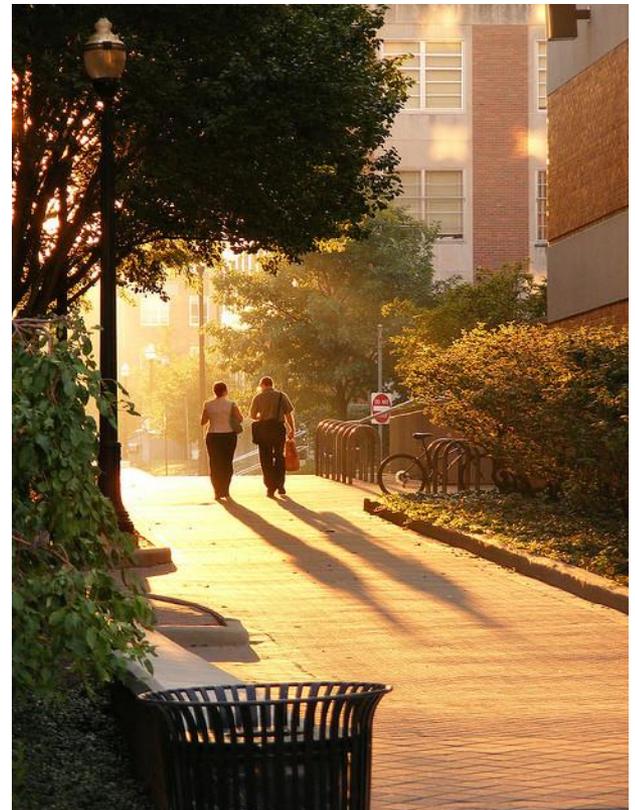
Power-Based Personal Violence at TCNJ

2013

- 0.6% of men and 2.1% of women report being the victim of sexual violence on campus
- 3.3% of men and 6.8% of women report having been taken advantage of sexually on campus while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs
- The Clery Report for this year identified:
 - Four sexual assaults, 3 dating violence and 1 stalking incidents
 - Under-reporting by students on college campuses is a nationwide epidemic

Role of Informal Support

- Informal support providers play an absolutely critical role in victim recovery
 - ▣ But they are typically unprepared for it
 - ▣ Need strategies to prepare and assist them



Upon Disclosure



Your Response Matters

- The benefits of disclosure only occur if:
 - ▣ Victims disclose to formal or informal support providers
- AND**
- ▣ These individuals respond in positive ways



Positive Reactions

- What does positive support look like?
- Inviting vs. pressuring
- Victims in one study described:
 - ▣ Receiving emotional support
 - ▣ Being listened to
 - ▣ Not being blamed
 - ▣ Inviting to share to the degree they feel comfortable
 - ▣ Not being distracted with other things



Faculty/Staff Roles

I am not a mental health professional!

- We do not want you to serve as a mental health professional
 - If you are unsure how to proceed, you can call Anti-Violence Initiatives for advice while still keeping confidentiality
 - You will not be required to share the student's name or information
 - You can also ask the student if you can call together to learn about resources and options they can access if they would like to

Faculty/Staff Roles

I am not a mental health professional!

- You are chosen because you are trusted
- Your student wants you to listen and believe
- TCNJ wants you to listen, support and encourage the student to receive help from an appropriate mental health professional
 - Please respect the student's right to privacy
 - Provide the student with information about the resources available

“Responsible Employee”



What if they don't want me to tell anyone?

- Know your legal obligations
 - Certain people are deemed ‘responsible employees’ by TCNJ under Title IX, and therefore have a legal obligation to report such disclosed assault to a Title IX coordinator or deputy for investigation
 - If you are not a “responsible employee” you do not have to report the disclosure
 - Faculty are NOT deemed “responsible employees” of TCNJ

Resources

CONFIDENTIAL

- Anti-Violence Initiatives
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- TCNJ Clinic
- Student Health Services
- Clergy
- Womanspace
 - ▣ Off-campus

NOT-CONFIDENTIAL

- Student Affairs
- Campus Police
- Student Conduct
- Residential Education
- Title IX Coordinator or Deputies

Benefits of Professional Support

- Research documents benefits of professional support on victim recovery and well-being
 - ▣ Emotional Support
 - ▣ Information
 - ▣ Help with Tangible Needs
- Health Care / Forensic Medicine
- Victim Advocacy
- Counseling / Therapy / Support Groups
 - ▣ WomanSpace response team for TCNJ students on campus
 - Available 24/7



Benefits of Professional Support

- Accessing services of one professional increases likelihood of engaging others – and is the key to engaging the criminal justice system and remaining engaged throughout the process.
- Survivors contacted an average of 2-3 informal or formal supports before reporting to law enforcement.



Source: Patterson, D. & Campbell, R. (2010). Why rape survivors participate in the criminal justice system. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 38, 191-205.

What if they don't want help?!?

- First, your listening to and believing them DOES help
- Second, although we wish students would report the incident for formal investigation, it is absolutely their choice whether or not to do so
- Students CAN receive counseling both at TCNJ, and outside TCNJ without having to report the incident for investigation
 - ▣ Anti-Violence Initiatives
 - ▣ Counseling and Psychological Services
 - ▣ TCNJ Clinic
 - ▣ WomanSpace
- If students choose to tell you and do **NOTHING** further, that is okay; it is their choice to make



You're Not Alone

- Support on campus for employees
 - Employee Assistance Program
 - “TCNJ’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides confidential assistance to employees and their family members”
 - Services include:
 - Individual Counseling
 - Referral Services
 - Support Groups
 - Contact Information:
 - Phone: 609-771-2139
 - After Business Hours – 609-571-0677
 - Location: Forcina Hall 124
 - Website: <http://eap.pages.tcnj.edu/>



"There is no question that sexual assault and violence against women is a huge problem across our country, including on college campuses. We must do everything we can to support these victims."

-R. Barbara Gitenstein, President



TCNJ's Response

"TCNJ cultivates a climate of respect. When someone in our community is in crisis, we need to know how to respond effectively and compassionately."

- Jacqueline Taylor, Provost



"Let us all be diligent in acquiring the proper skills necessary to support and empower anyone on our campus that is in crisis. TCNJ community members should be confident in knowing that they never have to stand-alone."

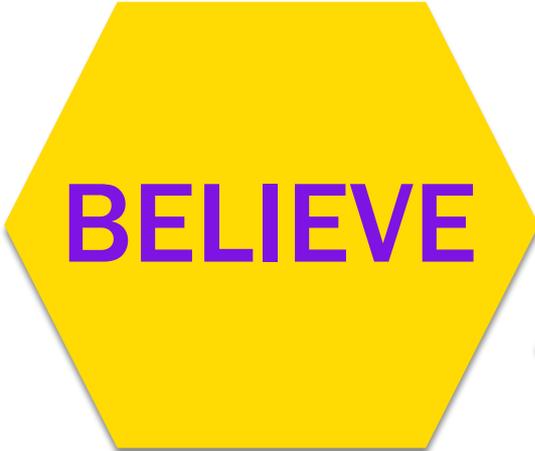
-Jamal Johnson, Center for Student Success

What Can We Do?

- Know campus resources
- Discuss this presentation with colleagues
- Work together to eliminate the stigma around seeking help and taking advantage of resources



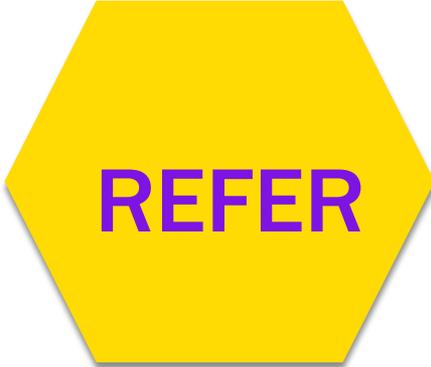
LISTEN



BELIEVE



SUPPORT



REFER