

Rape: Advocacy, Prevention & Education

Center

Edited by JoLynn Hamilton

Syracuse University
Division of Student Affairs

Volume I, Issue 2
January 2004

111 Waverly Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13244
(315) 443-RAPE (7273)

Meet The GAs!

By Beth Anne Roy and Melissa Bornstein, R.A.P.E. Center/S.A.P.H.E. Office GAS

"You've reached the voicemail of Melissa Bornstein and Beth Anne Roy, Graduate Assistants in the Substance Abuse Prevention and Health Enhancement Office (S.A.P.H.E.) and University R.A.P.E. Center. We're not available at the moment, but please leave a detailed message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Have a great day!"

That's a long message with a huge title, but what does it all mean? Just who are these graduate assistants and what do they do? Well, let's start with the basics. The SAPHE office and University R.A.P.E. Center employ graduate assistants to help educate the campus community on issues regarding sexual assault, alcohol and other drugs, relationships, STIs, and various topics concerning wellness.

We visit classrooms, sororities, fraternities, sports teams, and other groups on the SU and ESF campuses, with the promise that we'll "keep it real." We address "real" issues that face young adults in today's society, especially on college campuses, topics that people think about but may not always talk about: hooking up, sexuality, lessening one's vulnerability around alcohol and other drugs, and much more. We tailor our program to meet the needs of any group, and we always make learning fun!

As young adults ourselves, we realize that there can be a presumption of "I've heard it



Melissa Bornstein and Beth Anne Roy

all before"; but we guarantee you'll leave our programs with at least one new bit of information!! Are you in a group or a class that you think would benefit from having us visit? Are there issues on your mind? You can reach us by email at baroy@syr.edu, or mbornste@syr.edu, or give us a call at 443-2680. We can't wait to hear from you!

Beth Anne and Melissa are both graduate students in the Counselor Education Department. Beth Anne is a Counseling in Higher Education Settings (CHES) major and Melissa is majoring in Rehabilitation Counseling and Community Counseling.

Inside this issue:

SANE Program 2

Did You Know? 2

Advocate Voices 2

Myths/Realities 2

Featured Volunteers 2

Things Men and 3
Women Can Do to
End Sexual Violence

TKE Cares About Our 3
Safety

R.A.P.E. Center 4
Services and Contact
Information

Upcoming Programs

Wednesday
April 14, 2004

Take Back The Night!

Watch for more
information!

We're on the web!
sumweb.syr.edu/health/rape.htm

First Meeting, Spring 2004

Thursday, January 15
7:15 p.m.
Shaw Hall Classroom



We welcome new faces and look forward to seeing old ones.

For more information, contact Tremayne Robertson at trrobert@syr.edu or 443-3002.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY MEN AND WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE...

CALL FOR ACTORS/ACTIVISTS



A PERFORMANCE TROUPE DEALING WITH ISSUES OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING, 2004

For more information, contact Jill Sneider, 443-7126 or jasneide@syr.edu

Myth: Only gay men are sexually assaulted.

Reality: Heterosexual, gay and bisexual men are equally likely to be sexually assaulted. Being sexually assaulted has nothing to do with one's current or future sexual orientation. One's sexuality has no more to do with being raped than being robbed.

Myth: Only gay men sexually assault other men.

Reality: Most men who sexually assault other men identify themselves as heterosexual. Sexual assault is about violence, anger, and control over another person, not lust or sexual attraction.

Featured Volunteers

Matthew Carlberg

e5m Member



I've just started volunteering at the R.A.P.E. Center, but I have already benefited so much from being there. The staff and other volunteers have all been amazing to work with, and I'm glad that I have been able to take part in increasing safety and knowledge of human sexuality on this campus (and beyond)!

Katie Deak

e5m Member



The R.A.P.E. Center has helped shape who I am today. Working with people has helped me identify with the person I strive to be. I enjoy volunteering at the R.A.P.E. Center because of the sense of control I feel from being able to help other people in an area that I feel very strongly about. Volunteering gives me a sense of control in a world of chaos, in a positive way.

Onondaga County SANE Program By Anne Galloway, SANE Coordinator

Victims of sexual assault are encouraged to go to a hospital emergency department as soon as possible after an assault to undergo a thorough exam. Specially trained nurses from the Onondaga County Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner's (SANE) Program are on-call and available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to assist with the evaluation.

The evaluation consists of a forensic exam, which includes the collection of evidence from the victim's body to be used in a

criminal prosecution, should the victim wish to report the crime. Biological evidence may be present several hours after the assault and can be collected up to 96 hours after the incident. However, the likelihood of recovering the evidence decreases over time and with such activities as bathing.

In addition to evidence collection, a number of other considerations are also addressed, including assessment of the victim's medical needs, assessment and documentation of injuries that may have been sustained

during the assault, and administration of medications that may decrease the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted infection, or of becoming pregnant.

These evaluations are crucial to the health and well-being of the sexual assault victim. Consent for an exam involving the collection of evidence does not mean that the police will automatically be notified. Please contact the R.A.P.E. Center if you have any questions about the need for such an exam.

Did you know? It's not just a women's issue...

Syracuse University provides support and advocacy services to male and female students who have been sexually assaulted.

- About three percent of American men — a total of 2.78 million men—have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.
- In 2002, one in every eight rape victims were male.

2002 National Crime Victimization Survey, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice

Advocate Voices By Samantha Pitre, Coordinator of Undergraduate Recruitment, College of Human Services and Health Professions/Volunteer Advocate, R.A.P.E. Center

I became involved in the advocate program in 2001, shortly after I arrived here at Syracuse University. One of my co-workers was an advocate and suggested that I consider it. I thought that it was a wonderful opportunity for me to not only make an impact in the new community that I was now a member of, but also to honor the survivor in my life. The issues that rape survivors face are very important to me. When I was in college, my roommate was abducted from a campus parking lot and raped. I remember her journey to recovery and the ways that we dealt with her emotions following the attack. At night, she would awake crying or in a panic. Even months

following the attack, something would jar her memory and make all of the emotions come flooding back. I was there with her through that time and we worked together through that time. One day, years later, she told me how much it meant to her that she knew that there was someone who cared, someone that she could turn to at whatever time. I thought that it would be great to give that to so many others who had a similar experience.

Throughout my time as an advocate, I have come to understand how important it is to a survivor to know that there is someone there to listen to them. I am amazed at the number of people who call and all they want is to have a friendly ear on the

other line. I have gone to the hospital 3 times with victims of sexual assault. My work with sexual assault survivors has caused me to have a whole new appreciation for the things that these individuals go through. I am amazed at the courage of the students that I have assisted.

I love the contribution that I am able to make to this community as an advocate. I think that there is nothing like knowing that you have touched someone's life and realizing you may never have an appreciation for how much.

The R.A.P.E. Center provides 24-hour support and assistance to Syracuse University students who have been sexually assaulted. R.A.P.E. Center Volunteer Advocates, who are specially trained Syracuse University staff members and graduate students, are an integral part of the crisis response team, assisting in providing on-call crisis response services evenings, nights, and weekends.

Things Men and Women Can Do to End Sexual Violence

Adapted From Jackson Katz. www.jacksonkatz.com

As a Man, You Can...

- Approach gender violence as a MEN's issue involving men of all ages and socioeconomic, racial and ethnic backgrounds. View men not only as perpetrators or potential offenders, but also as empowered bystanders and possible allies who can confront abusive peers.
- If a brother, friend, classmate, or teammate is abusing his partner – or is disrespectful or abusive to girls and women– don't look the other way. If you feel comfortable doing so, try to talk to him about it. Urge him to seek help. Or if you don't know what to do, consult a friend, a parent, a professor, or a counselor. **DON'T REMAIN SILENT.**
- Have the courage to look inward. Question your own attitudes. Don't be defensive when something you do or say ends up hurting someone else. Try hard to understand how your own attitudes and actions might inadvertently perpetuate sexism and violence, and work toward changing them.
- If you suspect that a woman close to you is being abused or has been sexually assaulted, gently ask if you can help.
- If you are emotionally, psychologically, physically, or sexually abusive to women, or have been in the past, seek professional help NOW. (Syracuse Area Resources: Vera House, 425-0818; S.U. Counseling Center, 443-4715; S.U. Goldberg Couple and Family Therapy Center, 443-3023)
- Be an ally to women who are working to end all forms of gender violence. Support the efforts of campus and community-based women's centers. Attend "Take Back the Night" rallies and other public events. Raise money for rape crisis centers and battered women's shelters. If you belong to a team or fraternity, or another student group, organize a fundraiser.
- Recognize and speak out against homophobia and gay bashing. Discrimination and violence against lesbians and gays are wrong. This abuse also has direct links to sexism (e.g. the sexual orientation of men who speak out against sexism is often questioned, as a conscious or unconscious strategy intended to silence them. This is a key reason few men speak out).
- Mentor and teach boys about how to be men in ways that don't involve degrading or abusing girls and women. Lead by example.
- Attend programs, take courses, watch films, and read articles and books about multicultural masculinities, gender inequality, and the root causes of gender violence. Educate yourself and others about how larger social forces affect the conflicts between individual men and women.
- Don't fund sexism. Refuse to purchase any magazine, rent any video, subscribe to any Web site, or buy any music that portrays girls or women in a sexually degrading or abusive manner. Protest sexism in the media.

As a Woman, You Can...

- Talk openly about sex, and keep talking as you get further into a relationship.
- Be careful not to let alcohol or other drugs decrease your ability to take care of yourself or make sensible decisions.
- Trust your gut feelings. If a place feels dangerous or the way a date acts makes you nervous or uneasy, get out.
- Go out on a first date or a blind date with friends. Insist on going to a public place, like a movie, sporting event, or restaurant. Carry money for a phone call and taxi, or take your own car.
- Don't leave a party, concert, game or other social occasion with someone who you just met or don't know very well.
- Take a look at the people around you and be wary of anyone who puts you down, or tries to control how you dress or your choice of friends.
- Talk with friends about social issues and social pressures and share expectations with one another.

TKE Cares About Our Safety

By Michael T. Christie, TKE Vice President

It's no secret that students living off campus enjoy throwing parties, and fraternities are no exception. We, the brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon, are worried about the lack of concern for the female party guests at these large events. The disturbing, yet very real truth is that women are drugged and/or sexually assaulted with more frequency than most people realize. Hosts must be aware of this and take responsible actions at every single social event where large groups of unknown guests are present.

Security needs to be the number

one concern of the group throwing the party. The host must exercise caution with the people who are permitted in their parties. The more people who get let in, and the less strict you are about who gets in and who doesn't, the higher the risk of a dangerous situation. Although large parties can bolster a reputation on campus, an incident at one of your parties will destroy that reputation just as fast. In short, hosts must be aware of their guests and the actions of their guests during each party.

We know that partying is not going

to go away anytime soon. It is our hope that both those throwing parties and those attending parties will behave in a responsible manner. Taking precautionary steps will make the social aspect of SU life safer and more enjoyable for everyone. Please take time and think about this issue when you are planning a party or when you are getting ready to go out for the night. Tau Kappa Epsilon cares about our community.

Rape: Advocacy, Prevention & Education Center, Volume 1, Issue 2

Syracuse University R.A.P.E. Center Services

Free, confidential services

Advocacy: Medical, Legal/Judicial, Counseling, Academic, Residential

- Provide support to survivors of sexual assault
- Discuss all available medical, counseling, legal, criminal, and judicial options with survivors
- Accompany students to area hospitals
- Accompany students to area police departments and/or the Syracuse University Department of Public Safety
- Accompany students to the Office of Judicial Affairs
- Facilitate referrals for follow up health care and counseling
- Contact academic deans for academic assistance
- Facilitate referrals to the Office of

Residence Life and/or the Housing Office regarding residential concerns

For more information, contact Janet Epstein, epsteinj@syr.edu, 443-7098.

Prevention and Education: We provide education about sexual assault, human sexuality, relationships, and communication.

Peer Involvement: The Syracuse University R.A.P.E. Center welcomes students as volunteers in many capacities, including staffing information tables; joining e5m, the peer interactive theater troupe; becoming active in AMI, the new men's group; training to become peer educators; and helping to organize special events.

To schedule an educational program and/or for a volunteer application, contact Jill Sneider, jasneide@syr.edu, 443-7126.

Contact Information

On Campus Resources

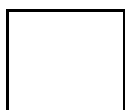
Emergency- Dial 711
University R.A.P.E. Center-443-7273
University Health Center-443-2666
Public Safety-443-2224
Counseling Center-443-4715
Hendricks Chapel-443-5044
Psychological Services Ctr.-443-3595
Goldberg Couple and Family Therapy Center-443-3023
Judicial Affairs-443-3728

Community Resources

Emergency-Dial 911
Upstate Medical University-464-5540
Community General Hospital-492-5011
St. Joseph's Hospital-448-5111
Syracuse Police Department-442-5111
District Attorney's Office-435-2470
Victim Resource Center-422-7273
Rape Crisis Center of Syracuse-422-7273
Onondaga County Sexually Transmissible Disease Clinic-435-3240

R.A.P.E. Center Staff

Janet Epstein, Associate Director
Jill Sneider, Sexual Health Coordinator



R.A.P.E. Center
Syracuse University
111 Waverly Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13244
(315) 443-RAPE