



Strategies for Bystander Intervention

Upon completion of your Organizational Assessment, you will identify areas requiring your attention. This paper will assist you with strategies to address negative behaviors pertaining to Bystander Intervention.

How Bystander Intervention is measured on the DEOCS:

1. In the past 12 months, I observed a situation that I believe was, or could have led to, a sexual assault.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
2. *Follow-up:* In response to this situation: (Select the one response that most closely resembles your actions)
 - I stepped in and separated the people involved in the situation.
 - I asked the person who appeared to be at risk if they needed help.
 - I confronted the person who appeared to be causing the situation.
 - I created a distraction to cause one or more of the people to disengage from the situation.
 - I asked others to step in as a group and diffuse the situation.
 - I told someone in a position of authority about the situation.
 - I considered intervening in the situation, but I could not safely take any action.
 - I decided to not take action.

Strategies

Develop programs to prevent sexual assault with a focus on bystander intervention.

- Include all members in sexual assault prevention initiatives and training.
- Provide time lines and measures of success for programs to determine their effectiveness.
- Educate members on techniques as to how and when to intervene (before, during, or after a sexual assault).
- Provide an opportunity for members to express concerns for their physical safety and potential social stigmas surrounding bystander intervention, then discuss how to overcome these hurdles.
- Display posters, videos, and other forms of media to influence attitudes and beliefs about bystander intervention for sexual assault.

Ensure effective strategies are used to educate and influence Service Members knowledge and attitudes.

- Train members to identify high risk situations to recognize when a sexual assault is likely to occur.
- Discuss the pros and cons of intervention in different scenarios.
- Provide training techniques on how and when to intervene (before, during, or after a sexual assault).
- Provide realistic scenarios; have members determine a plan of action and discuss options.
- Create a commitment agreement for members to read and sign as part of their allegiance.
- Dispel sexual assault myths and stereotyping by educating service members on the facts.
- Hold multi-session programs to improve bystander attitudes and increase helping behaviors.
- Provide time lines and measures of success for programs to determine their effectiveness.
- Create realistic training scenarios members find relatable and may encounter.



Resources

- Burn, S. M. (2009). A situational model of sexual assault prevention through bystander intervention. *Sex Roles*, 60(11-12), 779-792.
- Banyard, V. L., Plante, E. G., & Moynihan, M. M. (2004). Bystander education: Bringing a broader community perspective to sexual violence prevention. *Journal of community psychology*, 32(1), 61-79.
- Banyard, V. L., Moynihan, M. M., & Plante, E. G. (2007). Sexual violence prevention through bystander education: An experimental evaluation. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 35(4), 463-481.
- McMahon, S., & Banyard, V. L. (2012). When can I help? A conceptual framework for the prevention of sexual violence through bystander intervention. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 13(1), 3-14.
- Potter, S. J., & Stapleton, J. G. (2012). Translating sexual assault prevention from a college campus to a United States military installation: Piloting the know-your-power bystander social marketing campaign. *Journal of interpersonal violence*, 27(8), 1593-1621.

Additional Resources

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program
Department of Defense DIRECTIVE NUMBER 6495.01 January 23, 2012
Incorporating Change 3, Effective April 11, 2017

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program Procedures
Department of Defense DIRECTIVE NUMBER 6495.02 March 28, 2013
Incorporating Change 3, Effective May 24, 2017

Military OneSource <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/>
<http://www.sapr.mil/>
<https://www.safehelpline.org/>
www.deomi.org
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/index.html>

USCG

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program
COMDTINST M1754.10E

USMC

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program
MARINE CORPS ORDER 1752-5B

USN

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program
OPNAVINST 1752.1C

USAF

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program
AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 90-6001 Incorporating Change 1,

USA

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program
Army Regulation 600-20 CH 8



Additional Reading

Army SHARP Guidebook

<http://www.preventsexualassault.army.mil/>

USN/USMC Commander's Quick Reference Legal Handbook Jan 2015

<http://www.hqmc.marines.mil/>

The Airmen Handbook 1 October 2015

http://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a1/publication/afhandbook1/afhandbook1.pdf

USCG Command Toolkit

<http://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Human-Resources-CG-1/Health-Safety-and-Work-Life-CG-11/Office-of-Work-Life-CG-111/Sexual-Assault-Prevention-and-Response-Program/>

