

Gender Based Violence on College Campuses: Past, Present and Future

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GENDER, POWER, AND VIOLENCE

Responding to
Sexual and Intimate
Partner Violence in
Society Today

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I used to say that I was attacked by my classmate, but I was raped by my college.

—Classmate of one of the authors.

THE INSTITUTIONS

- College campuses (Fraternities and SportsWorld)
- US Military
- Prisons
- SportsWorld (college and professional)
- The Catholic Church
- Hollywood and Politics



THE TYPES OF VIOLENCE

- Sexual violence (all forms, including sexual harassment and sexual misconduct)
- Intimate partner violence (all forms, including physical, emotional, psychological, sexual and stalking)
- Child sexual abuse

THE APPROACH....

- Sociological approach focused on structures
- Feminist approach focused on power
- Intersectional approach focused on multiple systems of oppression and privilege

What the numbers tell us....

College Campuses: 1 in 4.5 women or >100,000 annually experience sexual violence

In the **Military:** 15,000 rapes are reported annually, half of the victims are men

In **prisons:** 9,000 rapes are reported annually

In the **Catholic Church:** .10,000 reports of child sexual abuse in the US have been made thus far

*Note: all institutions have reporting rates of 10-30%...Rates and risk differ by race, gender identity and sexuality

IPV and mass shootings...

According to a database constructed by **Everytown for Gun Safety**, of the 156 mass shootings that took place between 2009 and 2016 approximately **54% were related to domestic violence...**

STRUCTURES...(Commonality)

- Total or quasi-total institutions
- Fraternal in nature
- Hypermasculine
- Gender/sex segregated
- Active rape culture
- Internal systems of justice



Athlete versus non-athlete sexual coercion

More than half (**54.3%**) of athletes, compared to **37.9%** of non-athlete college men **admitted that they had engaged in sexually coercive or sexually abusive behavior** (Young et al. 2016). And, this difference was highly statistically significant ($p < .001$).

Table 2. Prevalence of Lifetime Perpetration of Sexual Coercion.

	Overall		Athletes		Non-athletes		Comparison χ^2
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Any sexual coercion	173	46.0	101	54.3	72	37.9	10.18***
I made my partner have sex without a condom (no force) ^a	109	29.1	74	39.8	35	18.5	20.56***
I used force (like hitting, holding down, or using a weapon) to make my partner have oral or anal sex	17	4.5	16	8.6	1	0.5	14.20***
I used force (like hitting, holding down, or using a weapon) to make my partner have sex	20	5.3	18	9.7	2	1.1	13.90***
I insisted on sex when my partner did not want to (but did not use physical force)	111	29.5	60	32.3	51	26.8	1.33
I used threats to make my partner have oral or anal sex	19	5.1	18	9.7	1	0.5	16.41***
I insisted my partner have oral or anal sex (but did not use physical force)	101	26.9	58	31.2	43	22.6	3.50
I used threats to make my partner have sex	18	4.8	18	9.7	0	0.0	19.31***

Note. Overall N = 379 (188 athletes and 191 non-athletes). % are valid percentage of positive responses. Inconsistencies across cells reflect missing data. Comparisons were conducted between athletes and non-athletes.

^aThe original item reads "I made my partner have sex without a condom." The addition of "(no force)" was used to ensure clarity and consistency in interpretation by the study participants.

* $p < .05$. ** $p < .01$. *** $p < .001$.

College Athletics and local Law Enforcement

In many college towns, athletic department officials inserted themselves into investigations often and in many different ways.

- Some tried to control when and where police talked with athletes; others insisted on being present during player interviews,
- alerted defense attorneys, and conducted their own investigations before contacting police.
- Some athletic programs have, in effect, a team lawyer who showed up at

a crime scene or jail or police department—sometimes even before an athlete requested legal counsel.

CANTELUPO'S FRAMEWORK ON CAMPUS MISCONDUCT PROCESSES

GOOD REASONS

- Not all sexual misconduct can be easily prosecuted in court
- Many victims would prefer not to have to testify in court which might mean their parents find out
- Many victims want the process over as quickly as possible
- Many victims want a consequence for the sexual assault but may not want to see the offender go to jail
- Most cases of college rape involve alcohol and are difficult to prosecute
- Many victims don't want their parents to know they were drinking or that they were previously sexually active

CANTELUPO'S FRAMEWORK ON CAMPUS MISCONDUCT PROCESSES

PROBLEMATIC REASONS

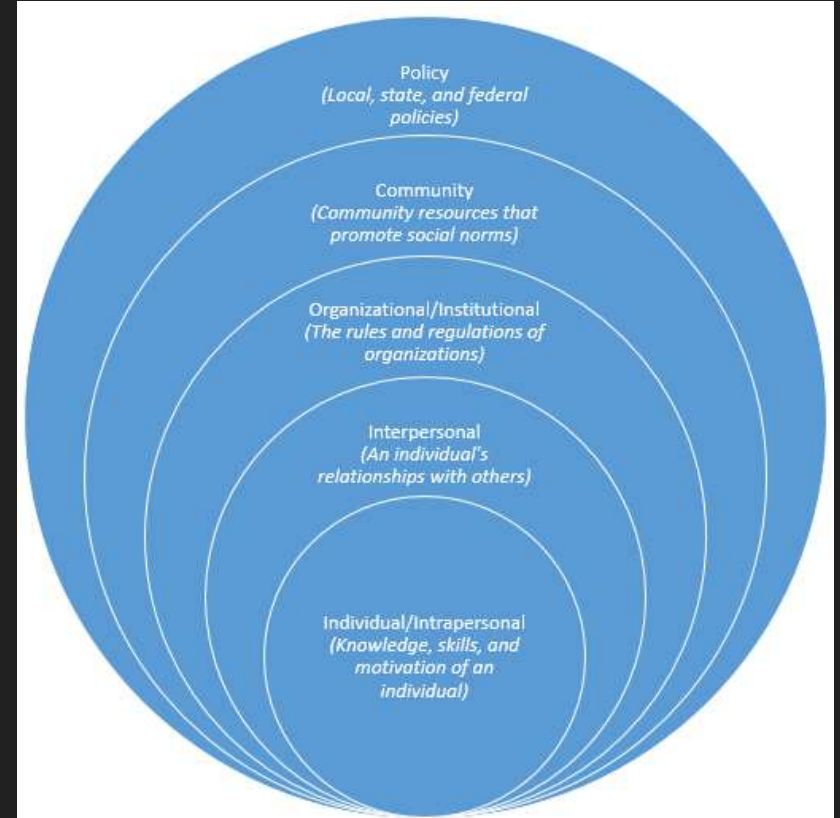
- Colleges and Universities have a vested interest in under-reporting for fear (we argue un-founded) of being ranked as unsafe
- Current best practices for conduct officers is to treat most conduct violations as “teachable” moments
- Conduct officers and conduct board members are not necessarily trained to evaluate felony sexual assault, nor do many have any training with regards to the research on sexual assault on campuses
- Rarely are offenders suspended or expelled and thus, as noted by Lisak's work, they are free to commit more rapes

THINGS TO CONSIDER....WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING ISN'T WORKING

- More prevention efforts
- Change the campus climate
- Improve campus conduct hearings
- Encourage reporting and remove barriers to doing so (medical amnesty)

"RAPE IS THE ONLY CRIME IN WHICH WE TURN THE LENS ONTO THE SURVIVOR, THE VICTIM, AND NOT ONTO THE PERPETRATOR. WHEN SOMEONE GETS SHOT, WE DON'T EVER ASK THEM, 'WHY DIDN'T YOU GET AWAY FROM THAT BULLET?'" THIS INTERCHANGE ILLUSTRATES BOTH THE REASONS FOR UNDERREPORTING AND THE WAYS IN WHICH RAPE ALLEGATIONS ARE OFTEN NOT BELIEVED, DISCOUNTED AS SEXUAL MISTAKES RATHER THAN THE VIOLENCE THEY ARE. P. 23

Consider a multi-level approach



- Use Sexual Misconduct and Assault Response Teams (SMARTs)



Finally,

DeVos' proposal is protecting institutions from being sued and attackers from being held accountable, and discouraging survivors from coming forward.

Thank You



Gillette

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