



U.S. CENTER FOR  
**SAFESPORT**

**CHAMPION RESPECT. END ABUSE.**

Engaging Men and Boys Conference

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September 10, 2018

# Learning Objectives

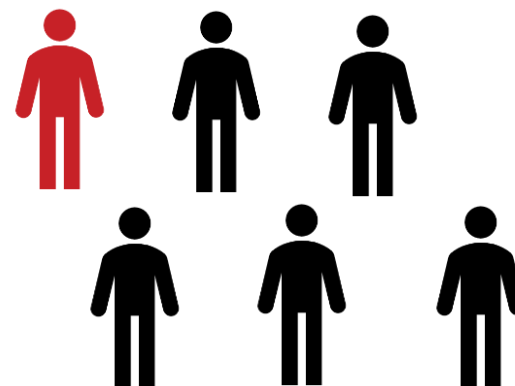
- Historically, masculinity has played a role in sports, and has important implications for ending gender-based violence. The U.S. Center for SafeSport opened in March 2017 and works to prevent and respond to sexual misconduct and other forms of abuse in sport. The important role of boys and men in prevention and athlete survivor support will be discussed.

**1 in 3 Women**



**&**

**1 in 6 Men**



**Experience some form of contact sexual violence in their lifetime.**

Smith, S.G., Chen, J., Basile, K.C., Gilbert, L.K., Merrick, M.T., Patel, N., Walling, M., & Jain, A. (2017). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010-2012 State Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Did you know?

**45 MILLION**

U.S. YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN  
ORGANIZED SPORT EACH YEAR

**1 IN 5**  
REPORT BEING  
BULLIED

**1 IN 10**  
WILL BE VICTIMS  
OF SEXUAL ABUSE

**WE CAN CHANGE THE GAME FOR  
ALL OF THEM**

# How can sport change the game?

Information from Ralliance Overview Report Nov. 2017: How Sport Can End Sexual Violence in One Generation

- Sport is both a **developmental system** and a **powerful cultural influencer**.
- Sport **reaches millions of people** ranging from youth sports to professional leagues.
- Because of this, sport can make an **extensive impact** on sexual violence prevention.
- The sport community can become **part of the solution** to support a culture that **prevents sexual violence**.



# Who We Are

- **Independent** nonprofit
- Headquartered in **Denver**
- **First** and **only** national organization of its kind.
- Focus is on ending **ALL** forms of abuse in sport.



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# Our Mission

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To make athlete well-being  
the **centerpiece** of our  
nation's sports culture  
through prevention,  
education and  
accountability.

The background of the slide is a photograph of ice hockey players on an ice rink. The players are wearing white jerseys, black pants, and black skates. They are holding hockey sticks and are in motion on the ice. The image is slightly blurred, giving a sense of action. A large white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text.

# Our Vision

An orange traffic cone icon is positioned to the left of the text, partially overlapping the white circle.

Every athlete will be  
**safe,**  
**supported**  
and **strengthened**  
through sport.



# What does that mean?

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- **SAFE**→ Athletes are protected from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse.
- **SUPPORTED**→ Athletes enjoy welcome, respectful environments, and diversity is actively embraced.
- **STRENGTHENED**→ Athletes use the skills they've learned in sport to contribute to the well-being of their communities. Every athlete thrives, on and off the field of play.



# *What* We Focus On

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Hazing
- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual misconduct and abuse



# Who We Focus On

- Education and Outreach:
  - Sports participants at **EVERY** level
    - From rec leagues to the pros
    - All ages
    - U.S.
- Response and Resolution:
  - Safe, professional and confidential place for individuals to report sexual abuse **within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements.**







**S.534**, or The Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017

Designates the Center to serve as the **independent** national safe sport organization,

with the responsibility for developing policies and procedures to prevent the emotional, physical and sexual abuse of amateur athletes.



# SafeSport Code Enforcement Authority

- **Exclusive authority**
  - Sexual misconduct
  - Conduct related to the underlying sexual misconduct
- **Discretionary authority**
  - Other misconduct – bullying, harassment, physical and emotional abuse, etc.

# What We Do

## Education and Outreach



Training



Resources



Consultation

## Response and Resolution



Reporting



Investigating

A blurred background image of several baseball players in blue jerseys with red numbers, huddled together. A large grey arrow with a red outline points from the left towards the right, passing behind the text.

## Education and Outreach



Education and Outreach

# Training

- Online training program used by all 49 NGBs
- Now offered to individuals and organizations outside of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic movements.
- Parent course
- Refresher course
- Courses translated in Spanish & French



# SafeSport Trained Certificate



# **Training Stats**

## **From March 2017- March 2018**

**Individuals Trained**

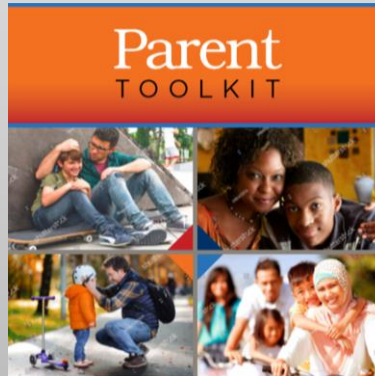
**367,185**

**Center Webinar  
attendees**

**977**

# Resources

- Many resources available online including:
  - SafeSport Handbook → *Recognizing, Reducing and Responding to Misconduct in Sport: Creating Your Strategy*
  - Preventing Bullying: What Great Coaches Need to Know
  - Parent Toolkit
  - Youth Resources





Education and Outreach

# Consultation

- Sharing best practices
- Facilitating idea exchange & support across sport
- Identifying research partners & pilots
- Climate surveys & long-term change
- Collaborating on new projects & ideas



A blurred background image showing a group of people, likely athletes, in a huddle. They are wearing blue and white uniforms. A large, light gray arrow with a dark gray outline points from the left towards the right, passing over the huddle. The text "Response and Resolution" is centered within the arrow.

## Response and Resolution

- **Sexual misconduct →**
  - We respond to any report of a SafeSport Code violation involving sexual misconduct for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements.
- **Other misconduct →**
  - We take on other types of Code violations on a case-by-case basis.

# Online Reporting Form



## Sexual Misconduct Incident Reporting Form

### Background Information

YOU MAY REPORT ANONYMOUSLY. If you choose to report anonymously, please write ANONYMOUS where it says "Your full name." If you would prefer to report by phone, please call [720-531-0340](tel:720-531-0340). Callers may remain anonymous.

Your full name:

Your position/title:

Your phone number:

Your email address:

Date of incident (Required):  

Sport/Organization (REQUIRED):

# SafeSport Helpline (Web + App)

Access live, confidential  
help over the phone

**866-200-0796**

<https://www.safesporthepline.org/>





# Investigating

- **Expert investigation→**
  - Experts in the field evaluate each report and pursue matters within the Center's purview.
- **Sanctions→**
  - Sanctions, up to a lifetime ban across all Olympic sports, can be issued by the Center when a SafeSport Code violation is substantiated.

# Sanctioning Guidelines

- **Sanctions**

- Warning, loss of privileges, behavioral requirement, educational program, probation, suspension or other eligibility restrictions
- *Searchable database*

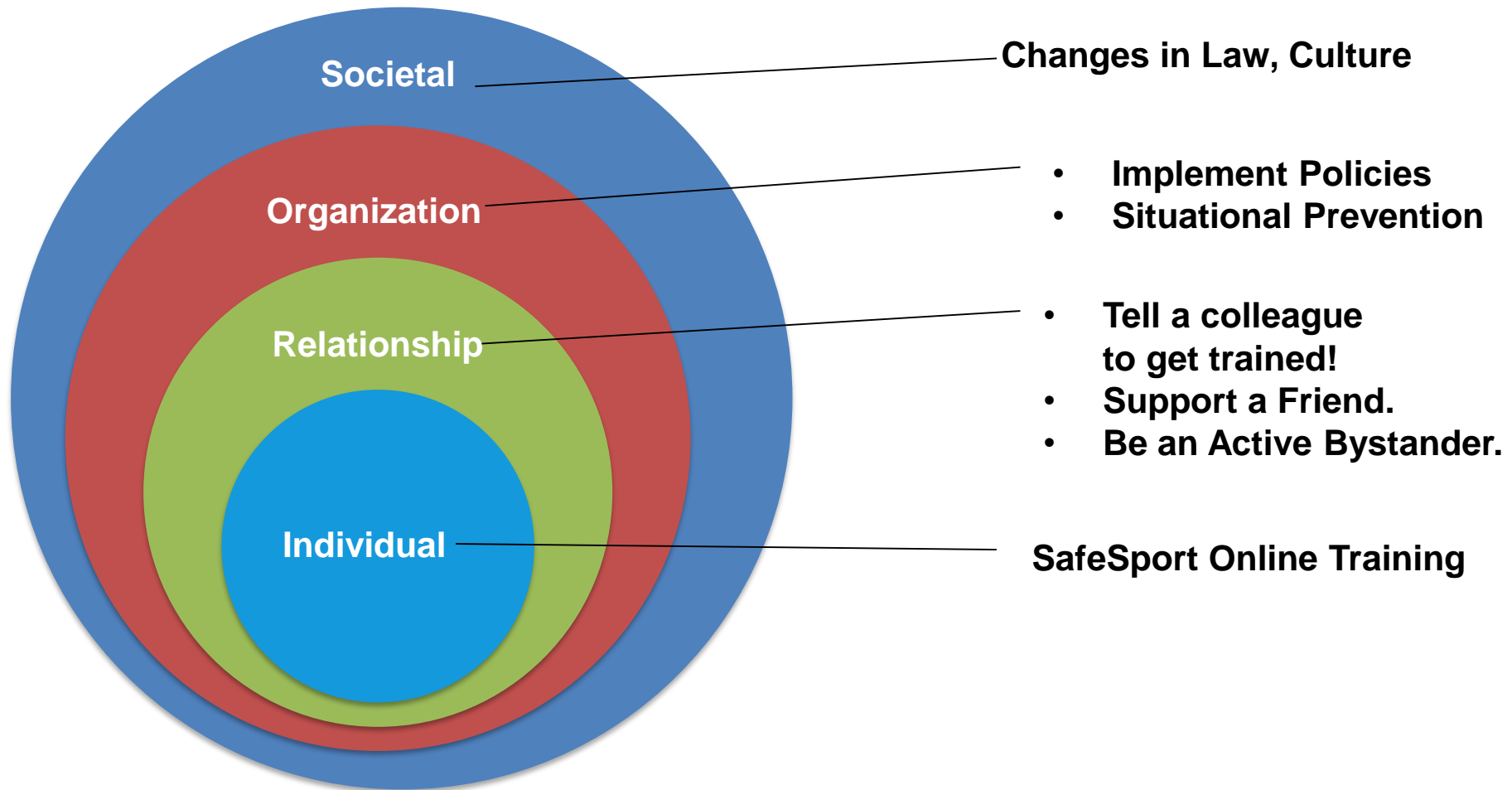
- **Considerations**

- Violation, prior history, age of individuals involved, aggravating + mitigating circumstances

- **Effect**

- Applies across U.S. Olympic Movement (reciprocal)

# What Can You Do?





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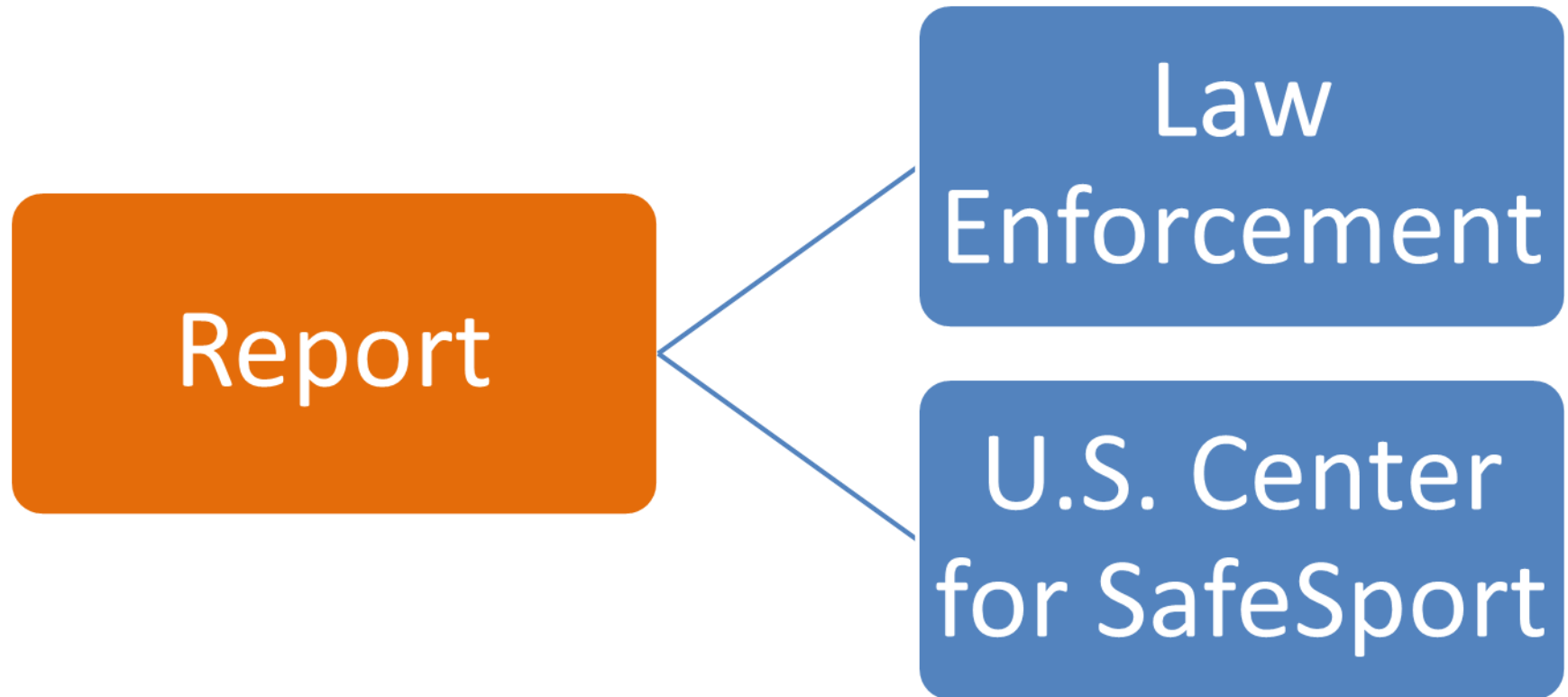
**CHAMPION RESPECT. END ABUSE.**

**Q & A**



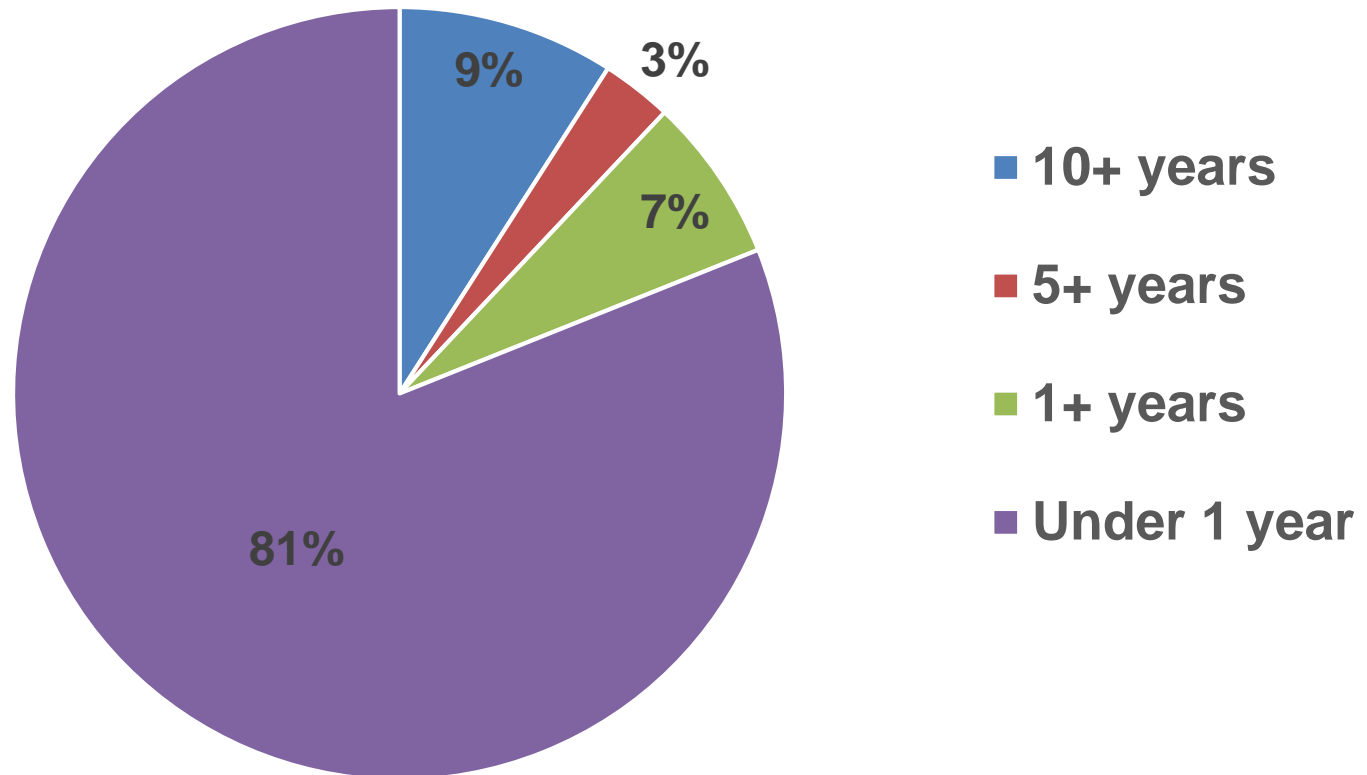
Together we can:  
**Champion Respect. End Abuse.**

# Reporting Process

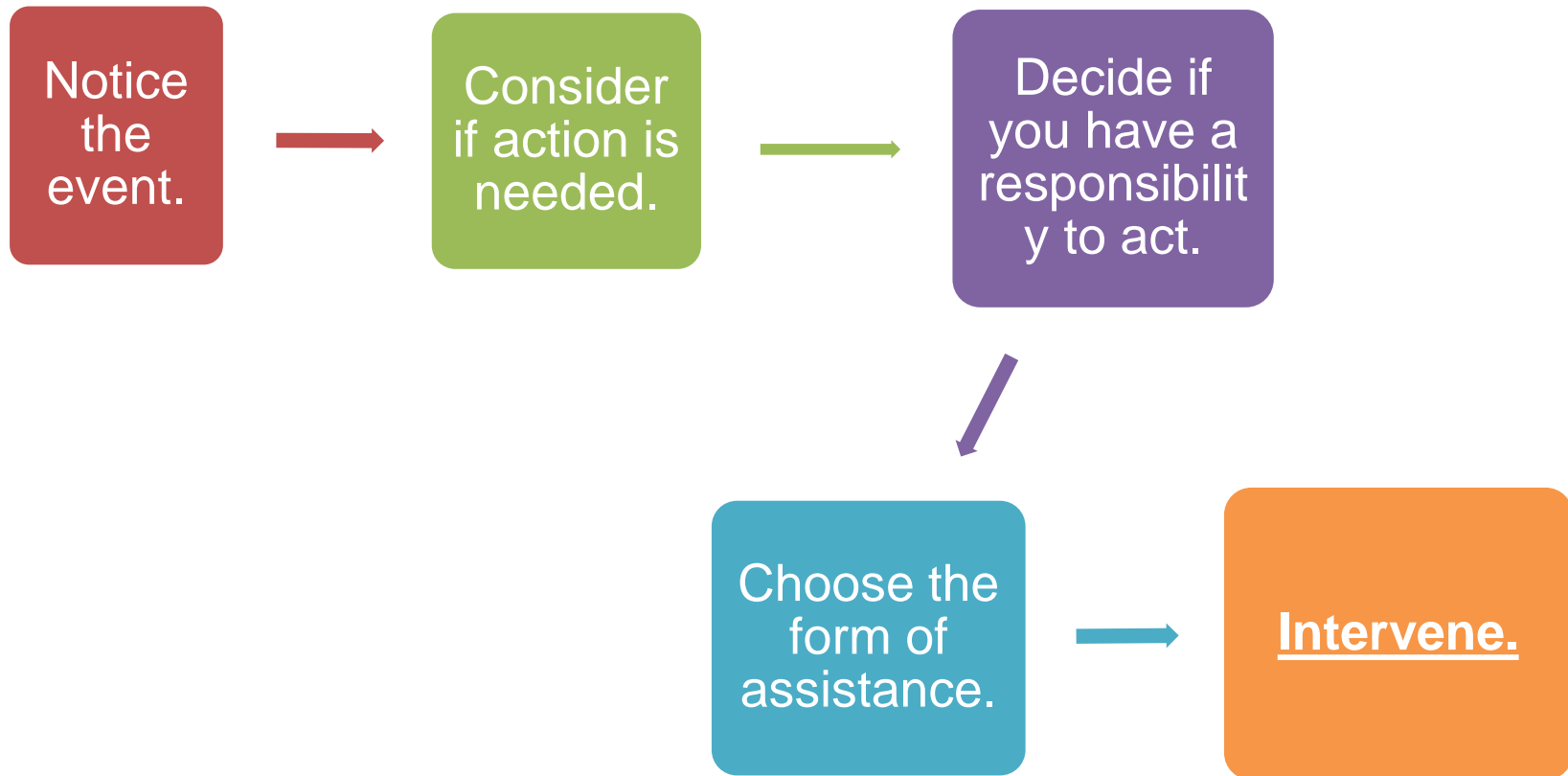




# Incident Dates (n= 540)



# Bystander Intervention



# Group Brainstorm: How could you intervene?

Choose the  
form of  
assistance.

# Risk Factors for Perpetration

Individual	Relationship	Community	Society
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alcohol and drug use</li> <li>Delinquency</li> <li>Empathic deficits</li> <li>General aggressiveness and acceptance of violence</li> <li>Early sexual initiation</li> <li>Coercive sexual fantasies</li> <li>Preference for impersonal sex and sexual risk-taking</li> <li>Exposure to sexually explicit media</li> <li>Hostility toward women</li> <li>Adherence to traditional gender role norms</li> <li>Hypermasculinity</li> <li>Suicidal behavior</li> <li>Prior sexual victimization or <b>perpetration</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family environment characterized by physical violence and conflict</li> <li>Childhood history of physical, sexual or emotional abuse</li> <li>Emotionally unsupportive family environment</li> <li>Poor parent-child relationships, particularly with fathers</li> <li>Association with sexually aggressive, hypermasculine and delinquent peers</li> <li>Involvement in a violent or abusive intimate relationship</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poverty</li> <li>Lack of employment opportunities</li> <li>Lack of institutional support from police and judicial system</li> <li>General tolerance of sexual violence within the community</li> <li><b>Weak community sanctions against sexual violence perpetrators</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Societal norms that support sexual violence</li> <li>Societal norms that support male superiority and sexual entitlement</li> <li>Societal norms that maintain women's inferiority and sexual submissiveness</li> <li>Weak laws and policies related to sexual violence and gender equity</li> <li>High levels of crime and other forms of violence</li> </ul>

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/riskprotectivefactors.html>

# Strategies for Creating Safe Environments





# Strategies for Creating Safe Environments

