SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION

MINIMIZING THE RISK OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

STRATEGIES TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

- Sexual Violence
- Bodily Autonomy
- Concepts of Healthy Relationships
- Consent

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ABUSE

 Sexual Violence is the use of sexual actions or words that are unwanted or harmful to another person. MN Statute 245D.02 Subd.32a



- The rate of sexual violent victimization against persons with disabilities is this many times higher than the rate for persons without disabilities?
 - The same rate
 - 2.5 times higher
 - 5 times higher

2.5 TIMES HIGHER



BODILY AUTONOMY

The right for a person to govern what happens to their body without external influence or coercion



BODILY AUTONOMY

- Help the participants to understand they have a right of what touch they do and don't receive
- Intimate cares such as bathing, dressing, teeth brushing the participant has the right to refuse those cares and what touches their body
- Teach along the way. Help them feel comfortable knowing its their choice as to what happens to their body

REPORTING ABUSE

- When immediate assistance is needed call 911
- MAARC Minnesota Adult Abuse Reporting Center 1-844-880-1574
- Follow agencies internal reporting procedures



PRIVACY AND DIGNITY

- Maintain a participant's dignity while performing personal cares
 - Drape towels over them, cover them up when they are not in the shower but in the bathroom
 - Keep their body covered as much as possible while giving a bed bath, only uncover parts that are being washed at that time
- Respect their privacy
 - Never open the bathroom door while they are undressed

PRIVACY AND DIGNITY

- Always use proper names of body parts
- Make sure the participant knows the proper names of body parts
 - When a person is knowledgeable about the proper names of body parts, they are better equipped to report abuse and this reduces the risk of abuse because the perpetrator may be more fearful to abuse when they know someone is educated and can communicate the abuse accurately
 - Even when someone cannot communicate verbally always use proper terms

POLL

- Victim Offender Relationship who is most likely to abuse:
 - Intimate Partner
 - Other relatives
 - Well known/casual acquaintances
 - Strangers
 - Unknown

POLL - ANSWERS

- 40% Well known/casual acquaintances
- 30.3% Strangers
- 14.7% intimate partner
- 10% other relatives
- 5% unknown

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

- Strong relationships with others
- Involvement in activities and hobbies
- Good communication
- Supportive and encouraging
- Each partner consents each time

- How do we help participants explore health relationships
- How do we support them to connect to their community
- How do we help to equip them to advocate for themselves

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS

- Isolated from others
- No longer involved in activities and hobbies
- Abusive communication
- Controls and demeans
- Forced sexual activity

POLL

Which of the following is a sign of an unhealthy relationship?

- Both partners enjoy time with other friends, family and time alone
- Partners encourage one another and support one another
- A partner is constantly checking in or requiring the other partner to check in (text, phone calls, video chats to see what is going on)
- Both partners listen and respect the other

UNHEALTHY.....

A PARTNER IS CONSTANTLY CHECKING IN OR REQUIRING THE OTHER PARTNER TO CHECK IN (TEXT, PHONE CALLS, VIDEO CHATS TO SEE WHAT IS GOING ON)

CONSENT

Components of Consent:

- Each time
- Never assumed
- No means no
- Can be withdrawn at any time



- In order to give consent, one must have the knowledge and awareness of what they are consenting to
- Never assume that someone because of their diagnosis can or can't consent
- We rely on family, guardians and team members to help determine what someone understands and what they are comfortable with if they can't tell us

CONSENT

- Each time consent must be sought each and every time
- Never Assumed never assume you know their preference when they don't communicate verbally
- No means no whether it is a sexual activity or personal cares, the individual gets to decide what happens to their body
- Can be withdrawn at any time just because they said yes does not mean if they feel uncomfortable at any time that they can't change their consent to no

EVERY 73 SECONDS, AN AMERICAN IS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

55% OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OCCURS AT OR NEAR THE VICTIM'S HOME

####