



Sexual Violence Prevention with Fraternity Men: Examining the “Ethos” Program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute

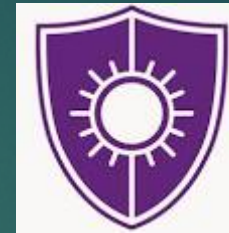
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Overview

- ▶ Who is in the room?
- ▶ Sexual violence on campus
- ▶ Fraternity culture and toxic masculinity
- ▶ Development of Ethos at WPI
 - ▶ Incident and community response
 - ▶ Program development
 - ▶ Curriculum outline
 - ▶ Sample activities
- ▶ Evaluation
- ▶ What's next?
 - ▶ Continued engagement
- ▶ Questions?

Our background



Alpha Chi Rho

Alpha Tau Omega

Beta Theta Pi

Lambda Chi Alpha

Phi Gamma Delta

Phi Kappa Theta

Phi Sigma Kappa

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Sigma Pi

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Theta Chi

Zeta Psi

Your background

- ▶ We'd like to ask you a few questions
 - ▶ Text WPISDCC to 22333
 - ▶ Go to pollev.com/wpisdcc







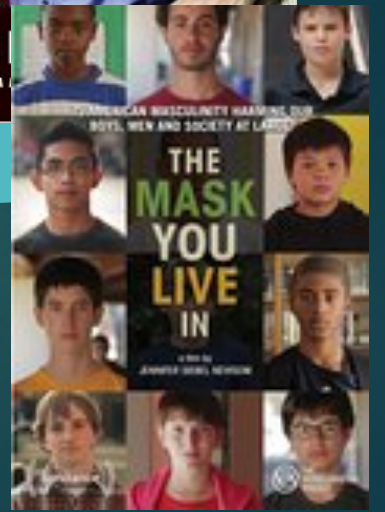
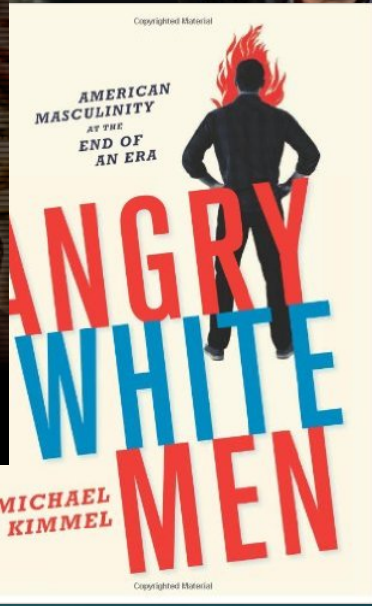
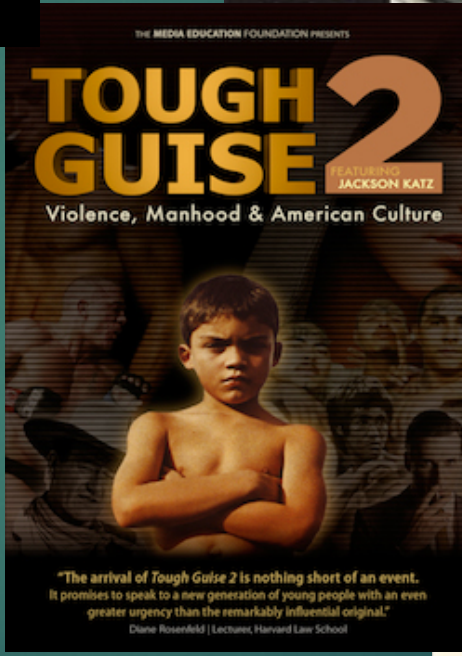
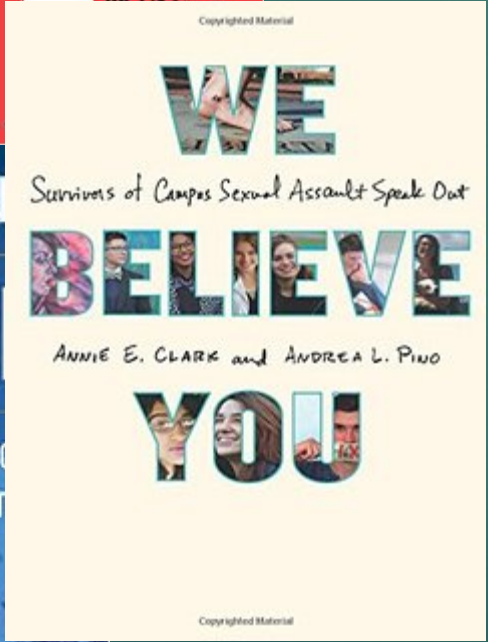
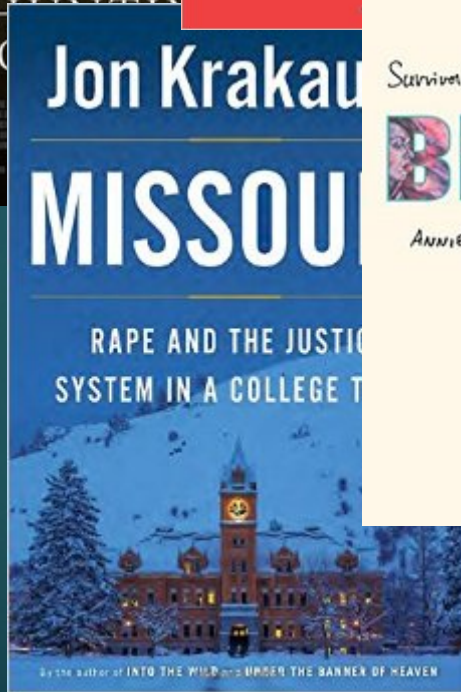
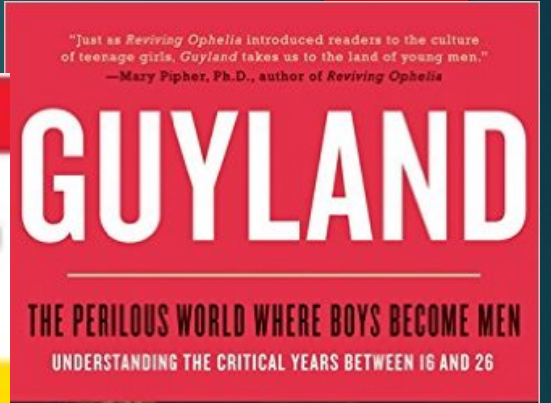
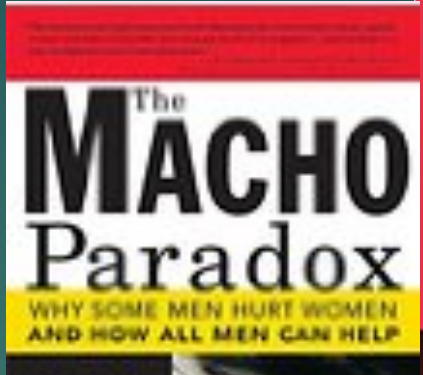
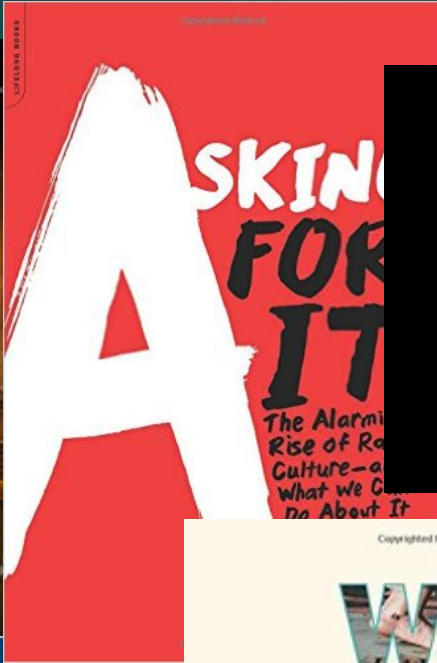




Sexual violence on college campuses



- ▶ Approximately 23% undergraduate women experience non-consensual sexual contact during college career
(Cantor et al., 2015)
- ▶ Approximately 5% undergraduate men experience non-consensual sexual contact during college career
(Cantor et al., 2015)
- ▶ Men involved in fraternities are more likely than non-Greek affiliated peers to perpetrate sexual assault
(Loh, Gidycz, Lobo, & Luthra, 2005)



The Fault in Our Schools

- ▶ <http://www.cc.com/video-clips/z2b627/the-daily-show-with-jon-stewart-the-fault-in-our-schools>



Discussion:

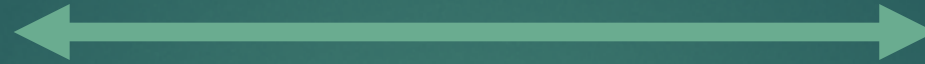
What is fraternity culture like at
your institution?





Fraternities are
the problem

- ▶ Banning fraternities
- ▶ Mandating gender neutral chapter



Fraternities are
unfairly blamed

- ▶ Defensiveness
- ▶ Minimum education compliance

Fraternities are
a big part of
the problem

&

Fraternities are
a big part of
the solution

- ▶ Voluntary engagement
- ▶ Leadership opportunities
- ▶ Using social capital
- ▶ Meaningful culture change



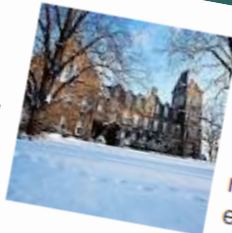
WPI Investigates Sex Abuse Allegations

University Herald - Mar 18, 2014

The claims were made on a **WPI** Facebook confessions page, where ... School officials said the incident is not **sexual assault**, but under the ...

Official investigation launched at Worcester Polytechnic Institute ...
Daily Mail - Mar 17, 2014

[View all](#)



Official investigation launched at Worcester Polytechnic Institute ...

Daily Mail - Mar 17, 2014

... if true, this behavior 'does not have a place in the **WPI** fraternity community.' ... Some who commented on the postings questioned whether **WPI** ... true - a culture must exist at **WPI** where students can come forward. Former Arkansas state employee who accused Bill Clinton of **sexual harassment** says ...

WPI Investigates Sex Abuse Allegations
University Herald - Mar 18, 2014

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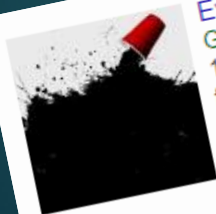
WPI investigating after women report sex abuse on website

WCVB Boston - Mar 12, 2014

—A local **fraternity** is under investigation, accused of subjecting women ... School officials said the incident is not **sexual assault**, but under the ...

WPI investigates **sexual** humiliation reports
Worcester Telegram - Mar 12, 2014

[View all](#)



Every Rape Reported at Fraternities This Year

Gawker - Dec 22, 2014

12/13: Stanford suspends SAE's housing privileges for "sexual harassment" of female guests, including exposing guests to material containing ...



The Dark Power of Fraternities

The Atlantic - Feb 19, 2014

But the **fraternity** lawsuit is a lucrative mini-segment of the personal-injury The second is the issue of **sexual assault** of female undergraduates by their male ...

What we created:

- ▶ Six-week workshop
- ▶ 50 minute sessions
- ▶ Staff and student co-facilitators
- ▶ Optional material between sessions
- ▶ Continued engagement after completing series
- ▶ Multi-chapter representation with participants nominated to participate



Program goals:

- ▶ Develop a personal definition of healthy masculinity.
- ▶ Explore the pressures associated with gender norms.
- ▶ Reject sex as a form of power and reject sexual experience as a form of status.
- ▶ Increase comfort in discussing sexual violence.
- ▶ Identify resources related to sexual violence prevention and response.
- ▶ Think critically about why sexual violence occurs, why members of our community choose not to intervene, and how to promote a culture of respect and intervention.
- ▶ Increase confidence and skills to intervene when sexual violence is promoted.
- ▶ Increase confidence and skills in supporting survivors of sexual violence.
- ▶ Commit to reducing the occurrence of sexual violence in WPI's community.



Curriculum





- ▶ Week 1: What is masculinity?
- ▶ Week 2: Masculinity – privileges and pressures
- ▶ Week 3: Sexual violence
- ▶ Week 4: Bystander intervention
- ▶ Week 5: Supporting survivors
- ▶ Week 6: Leadership & prevention

Curriculum - Examples



- ▶ From Week 2: Agree, Disagree, Unsure
 - ▶ Participants physically move around the room to indicate and then explain their reaction to statements like:



Women have more emotions
than men.



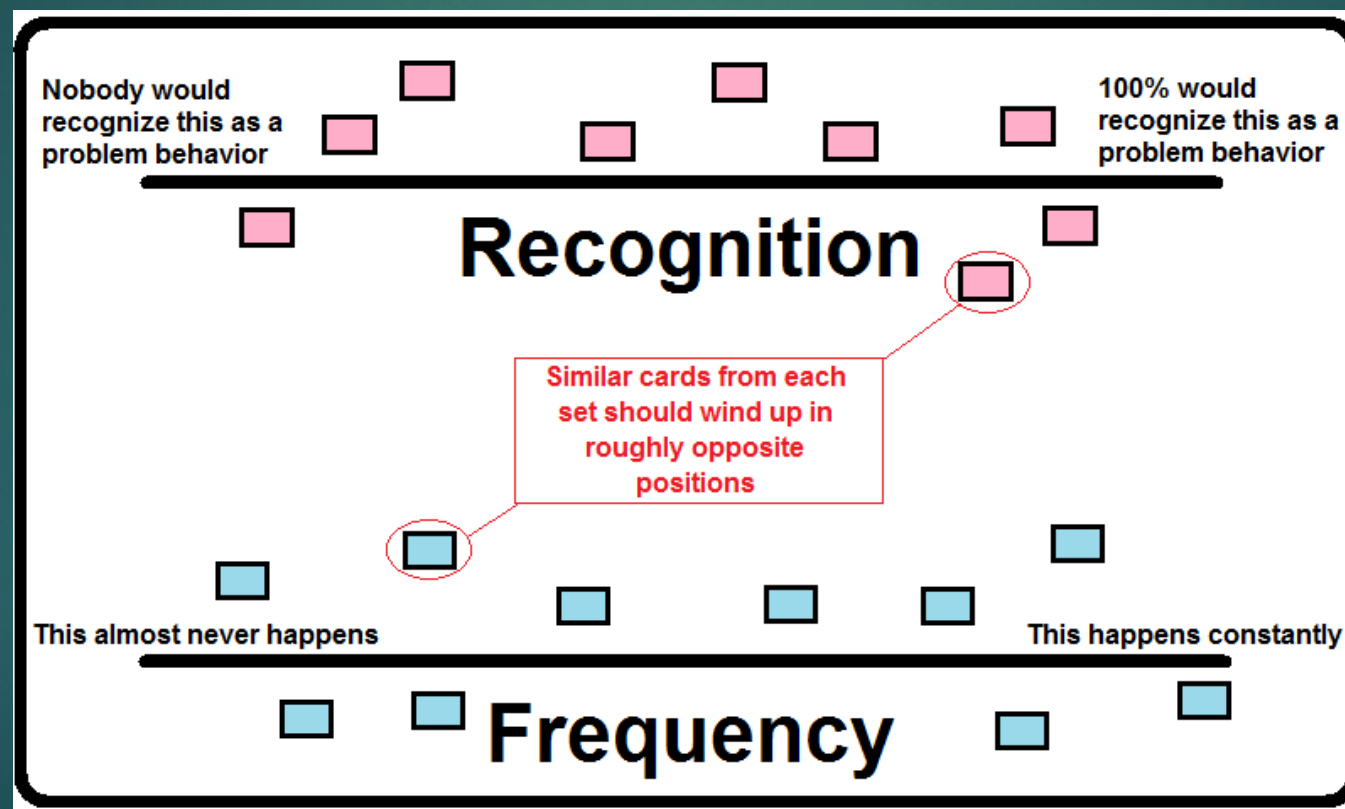
I feel pressure to appear
heterosexual, regardless of my
sexual orientation.



I worry that I won't be taken
seriously because of my
gender.

Curriculum - Examples

- From Week 3: The Continuum of Sexual Violence



Curriculum - Examples

- ▶ From Week 6: Values

- ▶ Participants come up with 7 core values, assisted by a list of some possibilities like:



- ▶ Reduce your list to just five.
 - ▶ Now just three.
 - ▶ Now one.

CRIME

Police probe whether UWM fraternity members put drugs in party

3 women, 1 man taken to hospital for intoxication; 1 student

Two Lawsuits Allege Rape at the "Rapebait" Frat

COLLEGE

Texas Tech Frat Loses Charter Following 'No Means Yes, Yes Means Anal' Display

COLLEGE

Frat Guide Includes Freshman Hotness Scale To 'Get You Guys Laid'

Frat suspended over 'freshman daughter' scandal



COLLEGE

it's keep this low kev."

Morning Mix

Penn State suspends Kappa Delta Rho fraternity for 3 years following findings of hazing and sexual harassment

Roil Campus



Today's choices write tomorrow's
headlines.

Evaluation

“It can be hard to talk about these subjects, but that does not mean that we should avoid them”

“Thank you for opening up this dialogue, most men in fraternities are afraid of the topic. Recognizing the issue is the first step to a solution.

“Becomes more valuable each session as we begin to go deeper but also as we get to know the others in the group better.”

“Really makes you think about things with a new perspective. Strongly encourage every fraternity member to participate.”

“Different perspectives were provided that I wouldn't have thought of before. I liked that it was so interactive.”

Where from here?

- ▶ A lovely new problem to have: A growing number of engaged, aware, and interested fraternity men without a plan to harness that energy.
 - ▶ Secondary programming for entire chapters with Ethos men as ambassadors?
 - ▶ Formal structure within the IFC (Interfraternity Council) system?
 - ▶ Campus events?
 - ▶ How do we as the staff/administrators make more time as the program grows?

Questions?

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