

Bystander Intervention Situations

For the following scenarios think about:

- What type of abuse, harassment, or assault is occurring in the situation?
- At what point in the situation does it become abuse, harassment, or assault?
- As a bystander how would you intervene to help?
- How can you support the victim?
- What parts of the scenario might be difficult for you?

Jason and Megan

- Jason invited several of his friends and his girlfriend, Megan, to his house to watch movies on Friday night. Jason asked Megan if she would put out some chips and drinks for everyone. She said that she didn't mind. When Jason's friends arrived, they all sat down to watch movies.
 - When someone finished a drink or when the bowl of chips was empty, Jason would tell Megan to go to the kitchen for refills. When this happened for a third time, Megan said that she wouldn't be their waitress. She wanted to watch the movie, and they could help themselves to the food in the kitchen if they wanted it.
 - Jason got angry. He ordered Megan to get his friends' drinks. When she refused, Jason hit her across the face and pulled her into the kitchen. Jason's friends had seen Jason and Megan fight like this many times before
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Emily and Stephanie

- Emily has a group of very close friends. She enjoys going to the movies with them. When she met Stephanie and they fell in love, the couple began spending every spare minute together– that was three months ago. All of Emily's friends like Stephanie, but they miss being able to spend time with Emily and she misses them too.
 - Every time Emily tells Stephanie that she is going to go see her friends, Stephanie tells her she misses her when she's gone and always wants her by her side. When Emily does go out with her friends, Stephanie constantly calls and texts her. If she doesn't answer her calls or texts, Stephanie gets angry and accuses Emily of wanting to be with her friends more than her. Emily loves Stephanie and never wants to hurt her. As a result, though, she feels too guilty to leave Stephanie even for a few hours to spend time with her old friends.
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

New Trend

- A new trend starts at school that includes grabbing people's butts when passing by in the hall. Everyone seems to be doing it and no one is saying they are uncomfortable or that it should stop.
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Carla

- Carla comes to class wearing a short skirt. A few guys in class are texting each other and laughing. They follow her out of class and are talking about how hot she looks and are repeatedly trying to get her to go to a party with them. She ignores them and keeps walking. They keep following her and are calling her names because she won't talk to them.
-
-
-
-
-

Chris

- You and your friends are eating lunch together at school. Your friend Chris just got a girlfriend. He says, "It's typical that I only got a girlfriend after I got a job because all girls want is money. I won't buy her anything until she does her part in the kitchen and makes me a sandwich." He and a couple of your friends laugh and agree.
-
-
-
-
-

Josh and Michelle

- Josh and Michelle making out on the couch at a house party, both clearly intoxicated. Josh starts putting his hand up Michelle's skirt. Michelle subtly pushes his hand down, but he immediately starts again.
-
-
-
-
-

Kyle and Sarah

- Kyle and Sarah have been dating for a year. Kyle needs to go everywhere with Sarah and he takes her phone and checks her messages. He says that since she is pansexual everyone is competition and he gets jealous if she is around anyone else. He says it's because he loves her so much. When she asks why he doesn't trust her he says he trusts her and he does it to protect her from everyone else.
-
-
-
-
-

Christina and Jordan

- Christina and Jordan have been dating for a few weeks. Jordan likes Christina, but he isn't in love with her. He wants to date another girl in his health class. When he tells Christina that he wants to break up, she gets angry. Then she starts crying and threatens to hurt herself. Jordan is uncomfortable. He doesn't know what to say but he doesn't want to be in a relationship with Christina anymore.
-
-
-
-
-

Jenn and Joe

- Jenn and Joe are in a study group with a few people from their class. Jenn has had a crush on Joe for a while and thinks he likes her too. She arranges to have the others cancel study group and asks Joe if he wants to study anyway since there is a big project coming up. When Joe shows up Jenn won't stay on task and is making sexually suggestive comments at him. He tells her he just wants to study. She gets mad at him asking if she isn't pretty enough and saying he must be gay if he doesn't want to have sex with her.
-
-
-
-
-

Dave and Nicole

- Dave bought Nicole a gift card to her favorite store for her birthday. Nicole opened the gift card and at first she seemed to love the gift. Then, however, she asked where the rest of her gifts were. When Dave said that he just got the gift card for her birthday present, Nicole got angry. She started screaming at him. She said that she expected more than a stupid gift card for her birthday, and she threw the gift card across the room.
-
-
-
-
-

Matt and Jeremy

- Matt and Jeremy have been dating for a month. Jeremy is comfortable with kissing, hugging, and holding hands, but isn't comfortable going further. Matt says he understands, but then he pressures Jeremy saying he's being immature and that everyone has sex. After a school dance, Matt and Jeremy go to a party at their friend's house and have some drinks. Matt and Jeremy are kissing and Matt says they have been dating for a month and if they don't have sex that it means Jeremy doesn't love him. Jeremy doesn't really want to, but he doesn't want Matt to break up with him so they have sex.
-
-
-
-
-