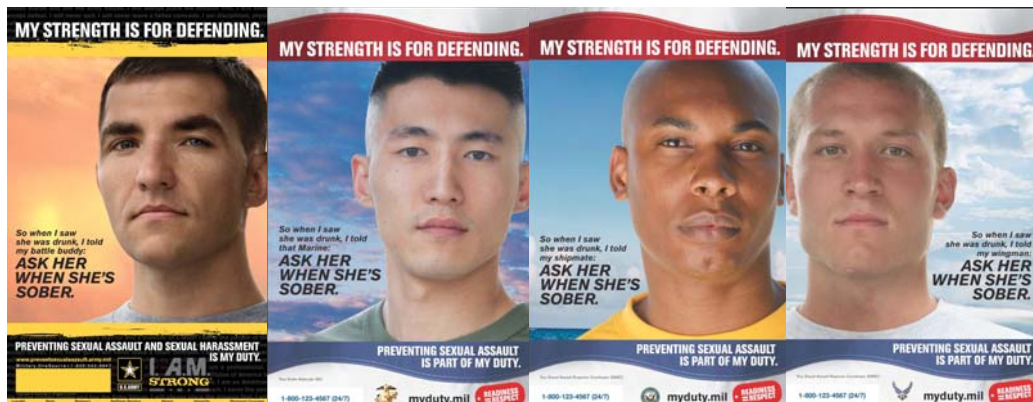


Department of Defense Social Marking Campaign Facilitator's Guide



Poster Theme: “Ask her when she’s sober”

Introduction

Purpose of the SAAM 2009 posters:

- Demonstrate concepts in bystander intervention and response/reporting
- Model supportive behavior for victims of sexual assault
- Provide educational tools for SARCs
- Suggest services SARCs can provide, and
- Provide contact information for additional resources

This lesson plan is meant to assist SARCs and VAs that use the DoD social marketing campaign posters in trainings and briefings.

Instructions:

1. We recommend that you start your discussion with elements at the top of the poster, and move down the poster, ending at the bottom of the page.
2. Use the posters as training aids to help reinforce what people may have only briefly seen and read. People need to see a message as many as seven times before they fully capture the information.
3. Ask the following questions to get your audience started. The bullets following the questions can be used to prompt them or validate their responses.

1. Theme: “My Strength is for Defending”

- What do we defend as military members?
 - The nation
 - Our interests/Democracy
 - Probe: Whom do we defend?
 - The people of the US
 - Our families

- Our allies
 - *Desired answer: Our fellow men and women in uniform, our co-workers, and those that fight along side us.*
- Why do you suppose the Department picked a “defense” based theme for sexual assault prevention?
 - *Desired answers:*
 - *To emphasize the duty we have to keep each other safe*
 - *To expand how we think about defense – that it requires vigilance both on and off the battlefield*
 - *To help everyone understand that the effects of sexual assault are similar to “friendly fire” casualties - and we must keep that from happening*
- Why do you think “Strength” is mentioned in this poster?
 - *Desired answers:*
 - *Because strength is a quality that we admire in each other as warfighters*
 - *Because it takes strength of character to do the right thing*
 - *Because it takes strength to challenge others to make the right choices*
 - *Because it takes strength to do something when you see someone acting inappropriately*
- Why do you think the Department is trying to get our help? Isn’t this why we have cops and investigators – to stop sexual assault?
 - *Desired answers:*
 - *Most sexual assaults occur between people that know each other – friends, acquaintances, co-workers*
 - *Very few sexual assaults are committed by “strangers” in dark alleys*
 - *Most sexual assaults are never reported to police*
 - *The DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response office estimates that less than 10% of sexual assaults are ever reported to law enforcement or SARCs*
 - *Police rarely have a chance to “prevent” a sexual assault*
 - *Interaction between people that might eventually lead to a sexual assault often begins in social settings – parties, gatherings, clubs, etc.*
 - *You might have the opportunity to say or do something that keeps events from escalating*
 - *You can make a difference in someone’s life by preventing them from becoming a victim or a perpetrator*

2. **“So when I saw she was drunk, I told my (use Service specific name here, ex: Battle buddy, Marine, Sailor, Shipmate, or Wingman): Ask her when she’s sober.”**

- Alcohol and Sexual Assault: Many sexual assaults in the Department of Defense involve the use of alcohol by the victim, the perpetrator or both parties.

- According to the 2006 DoD Gender Relations Survey, about one third of sexual assaults involve alcohol. Other data suggests the actual number of alcohol-facilitated sexual assaults is much higher – over 50%.
- Beginning with the first drink, alcohol changes behavior and judgment and is thought to often play a role in sexual assault because:
 - Research shows that men frequently drink to feel less inhibited, more powerful, aroused, and aggressive. Society, media, and peers tend to encourage unrestrained and aggressive behavior when drinking.
 - Alcohol impairs judgment: Research on men who drink shows that men are:
 - More likely to assume that a woman who drinks is a willing sex partner
 - More likely to interpret her behavior, dress or body language as evidence a woman wants to have sex
 - Alcohol lowers inhibitions – it makes it easier to force sex on an unwilling partner and to ignore “No’s”.
 - Alcohol impairs the ability to recognize potentially dangerous situations. When drinking, one may not notice someone’s persistent attempts to get them to an isolated location or to get them to consume more alcohol.
 - Intoxication also makes it more difficult to successfully resist a sexual assault.
 - The majority of sexual assaults are planned –even those that occur between people that know each other. The use of alcohol to facilitate a sexual assault may at first appear a coincidence – but the perpetrator often tries to ensure that alcohol is available.
- Tips for spotting or avoiding an alcohol-facilitated sexual assault:
 - You should be suspicious of someone’s behavior when he/she keeps buying drinks for a person who is already intoxicated.
 - A perpetrator may try to “corner” the person he is targeting – that is, keep the potential victim away from friends, co-workers or others that might come to assist.
 - Perpetrators may try to put drugs in alcoholic beverages; if you see this happen, you need to alert the victim, the bartender or an authority. Do not try to confront the perpetrator by yourself.
 - Probe: How
- The poster says, “Ask her when she’s sober.” Ask her what?
 - **Possible Answers:** *If she wants to have sex, find somewhere private to have sex, go back to the room, etc.*
 - **ASK:** *If a person agrees to go back to someone’s room or leave with someone, does that mean the person is consenting to have sex too?*
 - Ensure the audience comes to the conclusion that this is NOT consent for sex.
- Why is “asking” important?
 - *It’s respectful*

- *It's the "right" thing to do.*
- *You may avoid legal trouble in the long run*
 - If you have sex with someone without their consent, that is considered a sexual assault
 - If you have sex with someone who has passed out, that is also considered a sexual assault.
 - What is consent?
 - Words or overt acts indicating a freely given agreement to have sex by someone who is mentally clear enough to make such a decision.
 - When might someone's actions be considered a sexual assault?
 - When a person has been drinking too much to be mentally able to make such a decision to agree to sex or has passed out
 - When has a person been "drinking too much" to be able to consent? When they have become "substantially incapacitated." This legal point has no set number of drinks behind it, and to explain all the legal reasoning that would take a great deal of time. If you have any doubt that the person has had too much to drink, you're safest if you wait until you're both sober to talk about having sex.
 - ***ASK: What are some key warnings that the person can't make a decision about whether to engage in sex?***
 - Ensure these answers are discussed:
 - **Person is passed out**
 - **Person is slurring words and appears intoxicated or drunk**
 - **Person is stumbling, falling down, or otherwise appears to be affected by alcohol**
 - **Person seems confused or sleepy**
 - **Person is vomiting**
 - **Person is too drunk to drive.**
 - Bottom line: If you're in doubt as to whether the person can "consent," then ASK the person WHEN he or she is SOBER.
 - When someone is using force, threats, fear, or rank to coerce someone else to engage in sex. (Lack of verbal or physical resistance to these behaviors does not mean the person is consenting).
 - When someone assumes that having had prior sex with the person means they can do so again without asking.
 - When someone assumes that based on a person's dress and appearance they want to have sex.

- When someone ignores a request to stop having sex. People can change their mind at any point about wanting to participate. You should stop sexual behavior if someone asks that you do. Don't think of consent as a one time binding contract, rather as an ongoing conversation between partners.

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- OPTIONAL Teaching Point: Participants may state: "Asking for sex ruins 'the mood.'"
 - Recommended responses:
 - It's not that simple. A little creativity could help you *not* ruin the mood and *not* ruin your life, either.
 - As people progress in a relationship, it may become clearer when they do and don't want to have sex. Until you reach that point, you should ASK.
 - If you don't know the person, or if the person appears too drunk to make a choice, shouldn't you protect yourself? If you're going to engage in sex with someone you don't know very well, you need "Two C's" for protection:
 - Consent
 - Condoms (and safer sex practices)
 - There are ways to ask for consent that don't spoil the mood. Get creative. **ASK:** *What are some ways to ask for sex that won't spoil the mood?*
 - *Some suggestions to start the conversation:*
 - *Tell me you want me, baby!*
 - *You are so hot, I want to _____. Is that okay?*
 - *You have me so turned on – I really want to _____. Are you with me on that?*
 - *Would you like to have some mind blowing sex?*
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- Probe: *If you were in this situation, what else could you say to your friend to keep them from making a mistake that could put them in prison?*
 - Compliment those responses that tend to "de-escalate" the situation
 - Responses that appear overly confrontational could be risky – point out the risk associated with confronting friends who have been drinking.
 - Discuss concepts associated with trying to "move in" on someone else's date
 - This behavior has a number of colorful – and offensive -- references
 - Probe: *How might you make it clear to your friend that you don't want to move in on his/her date?*
 - De-escalatory responses are best
 - Suggestion: Get a couple of people together to approach the friend to express concern.
 - Suggestion: Keep the conversation based on trying to look out for the friend's best interest: "I know you like him/her, but I'm afraid for you – what if you have sex with him/her tonight and you find out later that he/she was too drunk to make that choice – it could end your career. Try to hook up with her/him again when she/he has a clearer head. "
 - Suggest they go to the www.thatguy.com website for more information about responsible alcohol use.

3. “Preventing Sexual Assault is Part of My Duty.”

- What is duty?
 - Explain: *What is duty in the broad sense – not your daily chores or “to do” list.*
 - One example: Duty means something that is expected or required to do by moral obligation.
- What factors go into our deciding if we will act on our duty?
 - Social psychology research has shown that it’s hard for people to take the initiative and act on their own when they believe the group or the social expectations are to “stay out of it.” One experiment placed a person into a situation where a group of people were waiting in a room. The group of people was in on the experiment and was told to not react when fake smoke was pumped under a door into the room. When the person who didn’t know about the experiment saw the group not react to the smoke, the person often didn’t do anything about the smoke and just sat with the group, or waited a lot longer to react to it. This is what we mean when we say social expectations influence how we will react in certain situation.
 - Is it our responsibility? If not ours, whose is it?
 - Is/Are those people around to do it? Can we alert those people? If not, then do we have a requirement to do the duty in their absence?
 - Can we do the duty given the risks involved? If very risky, is there a way to make it safer? Who can help us with the duty?
 - What is the cost of not acting? If you choose not to act in some way, how does that impact someone’s life?
 - Preventing sexual assault is a MORAL duty. A duty we should do because “it’s the right thing to do.” Sometimes it may help to think of others as a sister or brother – what would you do to protect your family?
 - Note: Do not engage attorneys in your audience on “moral” versus “legal” duty to act. If you have attorneys that ask about this situation, let them know that it is up to them to decide if a legal duty exists. As a SARC, you’re not here to debate the legal issues, just to motivate people to do the moral thing – which is prevent a sexual assault in the safest way that they can. Right now, the Department is speaking to the moral duty we owe each other to keep each other out of harm’s way.

4. Readiness = Respect

- What do you think this red dog tag means, “Readiness = Respect”?
 - Readiness refers to how prepared you are to perform your duty or accomplish your mission.
 - Respect, in this context, refers to how you treat your fellow service members.
- How do they relate to each other?
 - Possible Answers/Discussion Points:
 - Readiness goes way beyond just combat capability. We are talking about the total person.

- If one of your colleagues is out or unable to concentrate on the job because he/she has been assaulted, you may have lost a very important member of your team. If there are any medical problems or injuries, the person may be off duty for quite awhile. Losing a person and their skills degrade mission readiness.
- The person accused of committing the crime might also be in the unit. Rumors, “side-taking,” and misunderstandings might all distract from the mission. If the person is convicted, they may be sent to prison or put out of the service. Losing a person and their skills degrade mission readiness.
- Unit cohesion is negatively impacted when unit members are witnesses against each other
- Commanders and unit leadership are taken away from the mission due to having to deal with military justice system issues, safety planning, and other matters relating to the assault.

5. Wrap up.

- Encourage attendees to visit MyDuty.mil (which takes them to www.sapr.mil)
- Encourage attendees to call you and discuss if they have questions or reporting
- Encourage attendees to step up and do something when they see friends getting into trouble.