



BAINBRIDGE
YOUTH SERVICES

askbys.org

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www.askbys.org

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BYS Mission



Since 1962, our mission statement has been the same:
*to promote the social and emotional well-being of
adolescents and young adults.*

BYS Supports Clients on All Sides of the Issue

- Confusion
- Guilt and shame
- Anger
- Trauma responses/symptoms
- Processing complex cognitive and emotional experiences

Gender Identity and Sexual Assault/Harassment

- Sexual violence and harassment, both perpetration and victimization, can impact youth across the [gender identity spectrum](#) - cisgender, trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming
- BYS offers [Sexual Assault Survivor support groups](#) for all youth regardless of gender identity and will work with each individual person to find the most supportive environment for their healing.

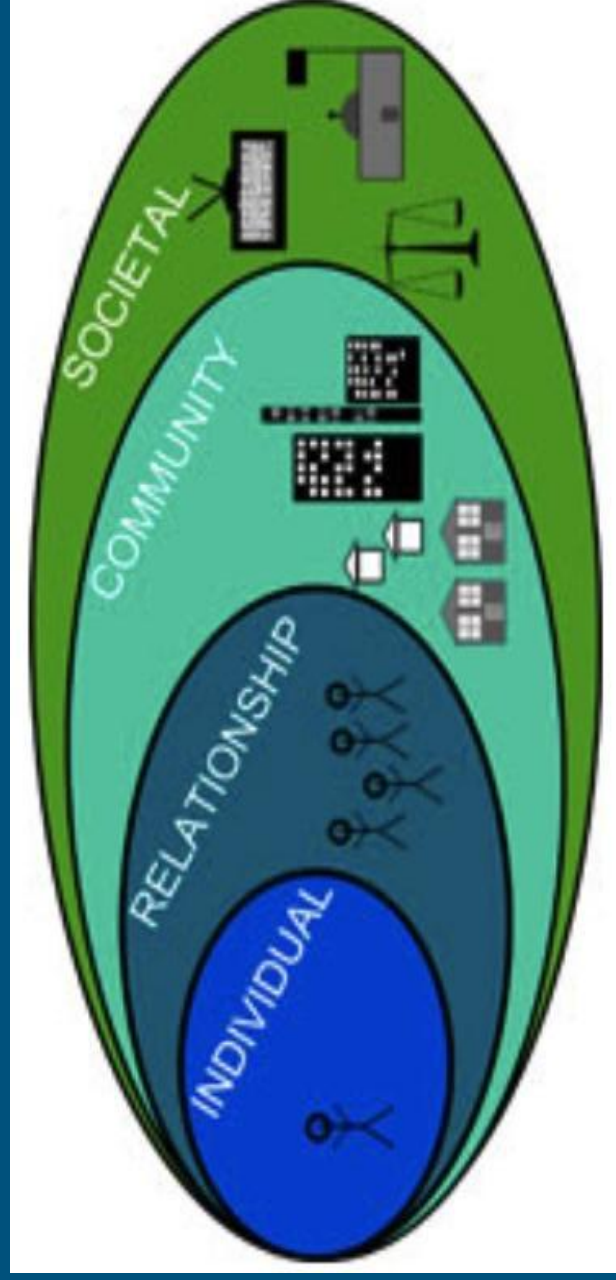
Sexual Assault/Harassment Prevention

“All of us are complicit in a culture that permits and perpetuates sexual harassment; all of us are also capable of coming together to fix it. Thank you for bringing Nevertheless to your community, where it can inspire the kind of storytelling, dialogue and action that can upend deep-seated cycles of gender-based harassment.”

~Sarah Moshman, Director Nevertheless 2019

Sexual Assault/Harassment Prevention

As adults, parents and community members, we can protect our youth by taking ownership of this issue and partnering with schools, law enforcement, health care providers and other youth organizations to work toward primary prevention of sexual violence and sexual harassment



Supporting All Youth

- As parents, we can:
 - Model, promote, and discuss healthy sexuality, CONSENT, interpersonal equality, safety, respect for bodily autonomy, and appropriate boundaries
 - Consider our personal experiences in our family of origin around sexuality, consent, gender roles and sexual violence - get our own support!
 - Ask our kids about their knowledge and experiences - use media, current events to spark conversations; provide resources; LISTEN

Supporting All Youth

- As community members we can:
 - Promote social norms that protect against violence, injustice, inequity
 - Remember one another's humanity and see ourselves as partners and co-creators of a community working together toward greater health and safety of our youth
 - Expand our inherent desire to protect and support our own kids to all the kids in our community, to prioritize the collective wellness of our youth
 - Engage in community involvement that fosters open discussion and prioritizes collective wellness

Social Media, Digital Age and Sexual Assault

Complicated - have an open dialogue with your kids.

- Parents may not be as comfortable in this realm as kids - digital natives
- What we do online vs what we would do in person
- Inappropriate/unwelcome behavior vs criminal/illegal behavior - words matter
- Adolescent brain development primes teens to take more risks and expect positive short term outcomes; may be harder to discern long term consequences
- Have the conversation - help them consider potential outcomes/pros and cons of posting on social media

Why Social Media?

Potential reasons:

- **Victims feel they are not heard or believed by adults**
 - Antidote - listen, be curious, proactively support our youth and connect with resources
- **Victims feel let down/traumatized by reporting process and legal system**
 - Advocate for change directed at support, respect and justice; manage expectations
- **Victims feel alone and powerless**
 - Walk alongside them, value and support peer connection/support groups/therapy
- **Friends/allies want to advocate and support victims**
 - Help youth who may be supporting friends who have experienced sexual assault

Be present - *“Don’t just do something, sit there”*

Legal Consent in Washington

"Consent" means that at the time of the act of sexual intercourse or sexual contact there are actual words or conduct indicating freely given agreement to have sexual intercourse or sexual contact. RCW 9A.44.010(7)

"We can do better than 'not sexual assault'"

[Scarleteen website - Sex Ed for the Real World](#)

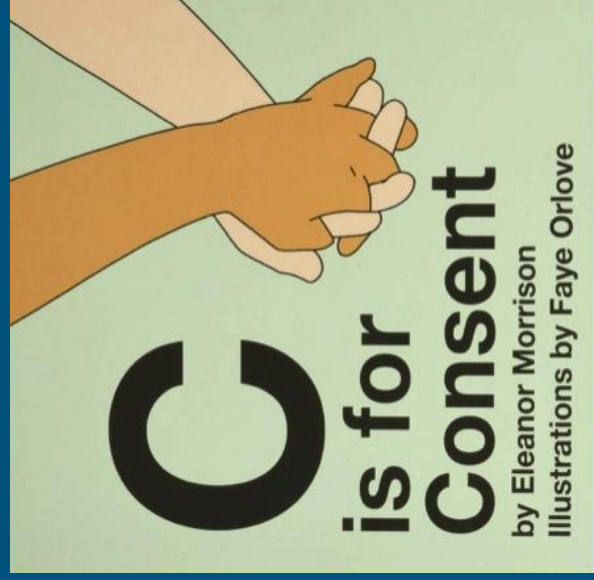
Model Affirmative Consent

“An active, mutual process of willingly and freely deciding and negotiating sex of any kind with someone else. It's also a shared responsibility for everyone who wants to engage in any kind of sexual interaction with someone. When there is a question or invitation about sex of any kind, consent has only been mutually given or affirmed when the answer, on everyone's part, has been a *clear and enthusiastic yes.*”

“A lack of no does *not ever mean yes.*”

[Scarleteen website - Sex Ed for the Real World](#)


Resources



CONSENT



Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

 Planned Parenthood®

Resources

BYS Sexual Assault Support Groups <https://www.askbys.org/youth/support/support-groups/>

Understanding Gender Identity <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/gender-identity>

WCSAP Social Ecological Model of Sexual Violence Prevention
<https://www.wcsap.org/prevention/concepts/social-ecological-mode>

NY Times Article Traditional Masculinity Can Hurt Boys, Say New APA Guidelines
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/10/science/apa-traditional-masculinity-harmful.html>

Consent

Tea and Consent - YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZwvrXVavnQ>

FRIES Model of Consent <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/relationships/sexual-consent>

Scarleteen - Driver's Ed for the Sexual Superhighway: Navigating Consent

https://www.scarleteen.com/article/abuse_assault/drivers_ed_for_the_sexual_superhighway_navigating_consent