

Vandy POP
Raising Awareness Protects Everyone

The Office of Victim Services, a division of the Vanderbilt Police Department, is located at 1114 Edgehill Ave, the Commons Precinct. The Victim Services Coordinator and Peer Advocates provide advocacy and support to members of the Vanderbilt community who are victims of crime, as well as provide trainings and educational programs about issues involving dating/domestic violence, hate crimes, internet safety, rape/sexual assault, stalking, theft, date rape drugs, identity theft, healthy relationships and related topics.

Vandy POP Peer Advocates

Vandy POP peer advocates are a group of specially trained students who provide interactive workshops and programs to educate and increase awareness regarding the issues of dating/domestic violence, hate crimes, internet safety, rape/sexual assault, stalking, theft, date rape drugs, identity theft, healthy relationships and related topics, as well as to provide advocacy services to victims of these crimes on campus. Vandy POP is comprised of a diverse group of both male and female students.

Advocacy

The Office of Victim Services provides support, information, and advocacy services to victims of crime from the Vanderbilt community, as well as to the friends, family members, roommates, co-workers, and employers of survivors of crime. We provide advocacy to a large number of victims via the telephone and in-person. Individuals are encouraged to meet with the Victim Services Coordinator and/or a Peer Advocate in order to find support and relief as victimization can be overwhelming, emotionally upsetting, inconvenient, and sometimes costly. The Office of Victim Services has built and continues to enhance relationships with various campus partners to include Academic Departments, Athletics, Bishop Johnson Black Cultural Center, Dean of Students Office, Employee Assistance Program, GLBT, Greek Life, International Student and Scholar Services, Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, Office of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Prevention, Office of Housing and Residential Education, Office of Religious Life, Project Safe, Psychological and Counseling Center, Vanderbilt Police Department, Vanderbilt Visions, etc.

Programs

What not to provide-September

All too often, students neglect to make their Facebook and MySpace profiles private. As a result, anyone is able to access their personal information such as their full name, address, date of birth, telephone number, etc. The Peer Advocates will pass out Internet safety cards to students in the Residence Halls at the beginning of each school year.

Every Sole has a Story-September/October

At the beginning of each school year, the Victim Services Coordinator and the Peer Advocates ask all members of the Vanderbilt community to participate in “clean out your closet.” “Clean out your closet” encourages people to donate their shoes in order for the Peer Advocates to display Every Sole has a Story during the month of October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Once Vanderbilt community members unite to provide the Peer Advocates with a variety of men, women, and children shoes, the students attach domestic violence survivor stories to each pair of shoes in order to raise awareness on the issue of domestic violence. The Peer Advocates place hundreds of shoes on the steps of Sarratt in order to make a visual impact on the Vanderbilt community. Once the exhibit closes, the shoes belonging to women and children are donated to an area domestic violence shelter and the shoes belonging to men are donated to a local homeless shelter.

Poetry Project-November/December

The months of November and December encourage students, faculty and staff to compose poetry on issues such as dating/domestic violence, rape/sexual assault, stalking, date rape drugs, healthy relationships, suicide prevention and related topics. The poems are compiled into a booklet and distributed around campus as another vehicle for creative expression.

There are multiple you’s running around-January

Identity theft strikes nearly 10,000 consumers annually. Every January students are invited to review a film entitled, “Identity Theft Prevention | Credit Reports & Fraud Alerts.” In addition, a Detective from the Metro Nashville Police Department’s Fraud Unit will be on site after the film to educate students on identity theft, as well as to answer any questions they may have for him or her.

Talking Picture-January

The month of January gives rise to the playing of a free movie that depicts the ongoing issues of dating/domestic violence, rape/sexual assault, stalking, date rape drugs, healthy relationships, suicide prevention and related topics. Following the movie, Peer Advocates lead a discussion on the film.

Sex Signals-February

Every February the Peer Advocates will conduct a lecture program (skits) that blends a unique combination of improvisational comedy, education, and audience participation. Sex signals provides a provocative look at the issues of dating, sex, and ultimately date rape on college campuses.

Healing Hearts-April

April (Sexual Assault Awareness Month) promotes the design of wooden hearts by students, faculty, and staff as an artistic expression of their emotions regarding rape/sexual assault and domestic violence. The hearts are a powerful tool both as an outlet for victims, friends, and advocates, as well as a means to educate and raise public awareness for those who view them throughout the campus community. This project began in 2001 as a creation of Arte Sana, a non-profit organization based in Texas, and was inspired by the Corazon, Lastimado.

Ignorance is not always bliss...Let's march it out!-April

Ignorance leads to hate and hate leads to hurt. A hate crime can be defined as a criminal act or attempted criminal act against an individual or group of individuals because of their actual or perceived ethnicity/race, skin color, religious affiliation, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, or disability. Every April peer advocates band together to educate the Vanderbilt University campus on the prevalence of hate crimes on college campuses by inviting students to join in a march across campus. The march represents the Office of Victim Services and the peer advocates' inability to tolerate the ignorance that evolves into hate crimes.

Informational Booths/Awareness Bags

Throughout the school year the Peer Advocates will set up informational booths which seek to provide the members of the Vanderbilt community with awareness bags that include information on campus and community legal, medical, and counseling resources, as well as pens, pencils, chip clips, pads of paper, and lollipops all of which are labeled with the program logo and slogan.

Programs in a Box

The Victim Services Coordinator and the Peer Advocates unite to provide any student group and/or organization with multiple program ideas on issues such as dating/domestic violence/healthy relationships, internet safety, rape/sexual assault, stalking, theft, date rape drugs/drug-facilitated rapes, etc. The programs are readily available for facilitation by the Victim Services Coordinator and Peer Advocates.

- ***Dating/Domestic Violence/Healthy Relationships:***

Program Presenter – i.e. Tom Santoro

On July 29, 1994, Tom Santoro's 18 year old daughter, Lisa, was murdered by her ex-boyfriend. In three weeks, Lisa would have been a first year student at the University of Iowa. Turning his pain into a mission to end dating violence, Tom has shared Lisa's story at over 250 high schools and colleges throughout the country. Tom has appeared on the

Oprah Winfrey Show and *Montel Williams* as a father who kept his daughter's spirit alive. In Chicago, Channel 2 highlighted Tom as "Someone You Should Know."

Before starting the "Dear Lisa" Program, Tom was a Deputy Fire Chief outside of Chicago. He also worked for the Circuit Court of Cook County in Illinois in the Domestic Violence Unit helping victims with Orders of Protection. Tom currently speaks full time, devoting his energy to educating students about dating violence as well as the characteristics of healthy relationships. Tom's program rarely leaves a dry eye in the room, and students are consistently empowered by his words of strength.

Contact information: (610) 989-0651

Highlights: a discussion, an explanation, and a father's story about the loss of his daughter

To Live or Die You Decide

This video reveals a domestic violence survivor's account of life before, during, and after the nightmare. In addition, a psychologist discusses her work with domestic violence batterers. Upon completion of the video, a peer advocate will lead a discussion on the film.

Pick a Name and Take a Journey...

Each student is required to retrieve a piece of paper with a name of a domestic violence victim from a box and at the end of each journey (to include props, 911 calls-National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence), the student will learn if he or she lives, dies, or goes to prison.

- ***Internet Safety***

You are being watched...

The Victim Services Coordinator and/or a Peer Advocate will conduct an interactive workshop to include a presentation and two videos entitled, "Dateline NBC to Catch a Predator: Predator edition" and "DATELINE NBC: To Catch A Predator - Boot Fetish Guy and more" which emphasize the prevalence of online predators.

What not to provide...

All too often, students neglect to make their Facebook and Myspace profiles private. As a result, anyone is able to access their personal information such as their full name, address, date of birth, telephone number, etc. The Peer Advocates will pass out Internet safety cards to students in the Residence Halls.

- ***Rape/Sexual Assault:***

YouTube Videos

Students review a variety of videos to include the following: Stop Rape and Sexual Assault (Set Me Free), Female Sexual Violence, and Sex Abuse Slide Show. Upon completion of the movie series, the Peer Advocate will lead a discussion on the material viewed with the residents.

You Have The Power

Students review a video entitled, "I Never Thought It Was Rape," created by You Have the Power (A Nashville Community Domestic Violence Organization created by Andrea Conte). Upon completion of the movie, the Peer Advocate will lead a discussion on the material viewed with the residents.

Clothesline Project Shirts

In support of the efforts of the Women's Center and Project Safe to educate Vanderbilt University on the issue of sexual assault, students create shirts to support fallen victims and survivors of sexual assault. The shirts will then be hung around the residence halls as an artistic expression of support and a vehicle of education on the issue of sexual assault.

Sex Signals

The Peer Advocates will conduct a lecture program (skits) that blends a unique combination of improvisational comedy, education, and audience participation. Sex signals provides a provocative look at the issues of dating, sex, and ultimately date rape on college campuses.

- ***Stalking:***

In the Shadows

Students engage in an open forum led by the Victim Services Coordinator, a Peer Advocate, and/or an Office of Housing and Residential Education staff member. The group leader and the students discuss what it means to be stalked and what they can do to protect themselves.

On the Net...

Students review a video entitled "Women's Awareness." Upon completion of the video, the Peer Advocate will lead a discussion on the material viewed with the residents.

- ***Date Rape Drugs/Drug-Facilitated Rapes:***

Let's Talk About "IT!"

Kelly Addington (survivor) and Rebecca Tieder provide an original program entitled "Let's Talk About 'IT'!" The speaker fee is \$3,500-\$4,000 and is all inclusive. (CAMPUSPEAK contact: Amy 303-745-5545). Are you ready to have an honest discussion about sex and sexual assault? Do you know someone who has been assaulted? How do you help a friend? If you were assaulted, what would you do? In their original program, "Let's Talk About IT" Kelly and Becca provide the answers you are looking for. One of these women was sexually assaulted in her bedroom by a "friend." Learn how they answered these questions, what happened afterward and how it inspired them to share their story with you.

Kelly Addington and Becca Tieder provide students with the drive, tools and knowledge to make a difference on today's college campus. Kelly and Becca address the issues of sexual violence as they have never been seen before. They share their experience with date rape and talk about how students can prevent sexual assault, offer support for survivors and provide specific information about how to help a friend. Kelly and Becca do not believe sexual assault is a man against woman issue. They have no doubt that together we can ALL change the culture of violence and encourage true sexual empowerment.

The Scary Truth...

Students review a video provided by Dateline which emphasizes date rape drugs. Upon completion of the video, the Peer Advocate will lead a discussion on the material viewed with the residents.

7 out of 10

Research indicates that 30% of female date rape victims are attacked by a stranger, which means that 70% of female date rape victims know their attacker. The students are encouraged to engage in an open forum facilitated by the Victim Services Coordinator and/or a Peer Advocate on the issues of date-rape drugs and drug-facilitated rapes. The more students engage in open conversation regarding difficult issues such as those previously mentioned, the more they will speak out when they are faced with reality.

Male Component

- Male peer advocates are strongly encouraged to attend two classes (a total of 9 hours) of RAD (Rape Aggression Defense) training per year. Vandy POP further promotes that all men partake in RAD training. RAD training for men seeks to educate them on their role in ending violence against persons by instructing them on how to deescalate hostile situations either verbally or via the use of self-defense.

- The male peer advocates will work with Brothers United in Christ to create an alcohol-free event that promotes awareness on dating violence/healthy relationships and provide education pertaining to the male role in alcohol-facilitated rapes/alcohol-facilitated behaviors.
- The male peer advocates will create safe tip cards and distribute them in and throughout the residence halls and sororities/fraternities. The safe tip cards will include information such as 1. Be alert for possible use of “date rape drugs.” Monitor your drinks when in the company of others, 2. Always remember 2 are better than 1...never leave a friend behind-use the buddy system, 3. Encourage your friends to not leave a party with an unfamiliar person, 4. Always carry cash just in case you need to leave a suspicious situation via taxi, 5. Never take drinks from other people and don’t leave your drink unattended, 6. Tell someone you trust your date’s name, destination, and planned time of return, 7. Program VPD and MNPD phone numbers into your cell phones, 8. etc.