



**SANTA BARBARA RAPE CRISIS CENTER
CENTRO CONTRA LA VIOLACION SEXUAL**

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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STUDY: SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT U.S. COLLEGES (REUTERS)

Nearly two-thirds of U.S. college students are affected by sexual harassment -- ranging from offensive jokes and gestures to touching and grabbing, according to a study released on Tuesday. Men are more likely to harass than women, but women and men are equally likely to be harassed on U.S. campuses, according to a report by the American Association of University Women. Researchers found that 62 percent of college students experienced sexual harassment, and 32 percent of college students said they were victims of physical harassment. "The primary form of harassment that we're seeing is actually non-contact: it tends to be remarks, gestures and jokes," Elena Silva, the report's co-author, said. "But the fact that one-third of college students are experiencing some form of physical harassment is certainly a concern." In a representative survey of 2,036 undergraduates at U.S. colleges and universities, 41 percent said they had sexually harassed someone. "In most cases, these students say that they thought it was funny, the other person liked it, or it is 'just a part of school life,'" the report found. Common types of physical harassment include being touched, grabbed or pinched in a sexual way, or intentionally brushing up against someone in a sexual way, the study found. Flashes of frontal or rear nudity, calling someone gay, lesbian or a homophobic name or spreading sexual rumors about someone also were reported as sexual harassment in the survey.

IN MEMORIAM

- Coretta Scott King, widow of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and lifelong defender of social justice, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 31. Ms. King rose from rural poverty in Alabama to become an international symbol of the civil rights revolution of the 1960's and a tireless advocate for social and political issues ranging from women's rights to the struggle against apartheid in South Africa that followed in its wake. Ms. King married Dr. King in 1953, then a young minister from a prominent Atlanta family, beginning a remarkable partnership that ended with his assassination in Memphis on April 4, 1968. King became a symbol, in her own right, of her husband's struggle for peace and brotherhood, presiding with a quiet, steady, stoic presence over seminars and conferences on global issues. In 1969, she founded the multimillion-dollar Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change. King saw to it that the center became deeply involved with the issues that she said breed violence -- hunger, unemployment, voting rights and racism. In recent years, King spoke out against racial profiling, mandatory minimum sentences and attacks on affirmative action. She became increasingly critical of businesses such as film and television companies, video arcades, gun manufacturers and toy makers she accused of promoting violence. She called for regulation of their advertising.
- Betty Friedan, one of the founders of the modern women's movement and the National Organization for Women (NOW) passed away on February 4th. Friedan's 1963 book, *The Feminine Mystique*, detailed the frustrating lives of countless American women who were expected to find fulfillment primarily through the achievements of husbands and children. The book made an enormous impact, triggering a period of change that continues today. Friedan has been central to this evolution for women, through lectures and writing (*It Changed My Life: Writings on the Women's Movement* in 1976 and *The Second Stage* in 1981). She was a founder of the National Organization for Women, a

convener of the National Women's Political Caucus, and a key leader in the struggle for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. Friedan published her latest book, *The Fountain of Aging in Fall*, in 1993 and was co-chair of Women, Men and Media, a gender-based research organization that conducts research on gender and the media. Betty Friedan was central to the reshaping of American attitudes toward women's lives and rights. Through decades of social activism, strategic thinking and powerful writing, Friedan was one of contemporary society's most effective leaders.

LAWSUIT CALLING FOR EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION ACCESS AT WAL-MART

At the same time Wal-Mart faces the largest gender discrimination class action lawsuit in U.S. history, affecting 1.6 million women, three Massachusetts women are now suing Wal-Mart over its failure to provide access to emergency contraceptive pills. Wal-Mart's decision not to stock or sell emergency contraception -- also known as Plan B or the "morning-after pill" -- unnecessarily denies women everywhere their right to access a legally-approved drug. The lawsuit charges that Wal-Mart is violating a Massachusetts policy requiring pharmacies in the state to dispense all "commonly prescribed medicines." Wal-Mart's CEO Lee Scott should not decide what medicines women may or may not take. Wal-Mart's actions are clearly an outrageous intrusion into the health and privacy of all U.S. women. When a doctor prescribes emergency contraception for a woman, Wal-Mart does not have the right to overrule that decision. To be most effective, emergency contraception should be taken within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse or contraceptive failure. Because Wal-Mart has put so many smaller stores out of business, in a number of areas it is the only pharmacy for miles. No woman at risk for unintended pregnancy, be it the result of a broken condom or sexual assault, should be turned away by Wal-Mart and forced to find another pharmacy while the clock is ticking. "We strongly support the lawsuit brought in Massachusetts and will fight to make sure all women who work at Wal-Mart or choose to shop there are treated fairly and equally and have access to all legally-approved medications. We call on Wal-Mart to stop discriminating against women, reverse their policy on blocking access to emergency contraception pills, and to ensure, in the future, all legal medicines are provided to women at Wal-Mart pharmacies across the U.S.," said Kim Gandy, President of the National Organization for Women.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH ADVOCATE MEETING: MARCH 13, 2006: 6-8 PM

This month's meeting will be on March 13, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A representative from the Mental Health Assessment Team (MHAT) will present on the dynamics of the program. Please let Yesenia know if you will be attending this meeting.

REMINDER FOR ALL ADVOCATES

If you are unable to cover your shift – for any reason - it is YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY to find a replacement. Find a substitute from among the list of trained Advocates on the Hotline Telephone Roster. If possible, offer to take the other Advocate's shift at another time. If you are aware of the hotline conflict and/or shift change with advance notice (for example, you are planning to go on vacation for two weeks), contact Yesenia Curiel, Crisis Intervention Coordinator, during business hours to inform her that you will not be available and who have found to cover your shift. If an emergency arises near or during your shift, you must contact the On-Call Staff Member immediately so she can inform the answering service of any changes. This communication is necessary in order to help prevent a call from reaching a dead end. (*This policy is also included in your Crisis Intervention Training Manual*).

NOTE FROM SBRCC'S NEW OFFICE MANAGER

Hello everyone! I'm Penni Louise, Office Manager extraordinaire. I am very excited about my new position with SBRCC and aim to provide great program and staff support, as well as maintaining general office and center functionality. I look forward to meeting volunteers as I become more familiar with my work and all of the people involved. You may hear me on the phone occasionally or see me frowning intently at my computer screen. Please feel free to say "Hi" in either situation. Blessed Be. – Penni

MEN CAN STOP RAPE! ENGAGING MEN IN PREVENTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

SBRCC invites you to kick off Sexual Assault Awareness Month early with us by participating in two upcoming events-- the Strength Training for those who work with young men, and the Our Strength Community Forum. These events are part of the My Strength Campaign, a statewide effort that encourages young men to play an active role in preventing sexual violence. Please join us in these critical conversations about engaging men in building healthier communities - and help us spread the word!

Our Strength: Engaging Men in Ending Sexual Violence and Building Healthy Communities **Wednesday, March 22nd, 6:00-8:00pm**

Featuring:

- Patrick Lemmon, Executive Director of Men Can Stop Rape (Washington, DC)
- Congresswoman Lois Capps, First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal, and UCSB Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs, Michael Young
- Panel discussion with local leaders in sexual violence prevention

Location: County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Fourth Floor, 105 E. Anapamu St.

Admission is FREE; Spanish language interpretation will be provided; Light refreshments

This forum is for all community members interested in ending sexual violence and is an extraordinary opportunity for men of conscience to find out how they can make a difference!

The Strength Training: Engaging Young Men in Preventing Sexual Violence **Thursday, March 23rd, 3:30-6:00p.m.**

The Strength Training is designed to build the capacity of educators, coaches, counselors and other professionals to effectively engage young men in efforts to prevent sexual violence.

Facilitator: Patrick Lemmon, Executive Director of Men Can Stop Rape

San Marcos High School Cafeteria, 4750 Hollister Ave. in Santa Barbara

The training fee is \$30.00, and partial scholarships are available. Course meets the requirements for 2 units of continuing education credit for MFCCs and LCSWs as required by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. The cost is \$5.00 per unit. Space is limited, and registration is on a first come, first served basis. Please register as soon as possible by completing and sending in the attached registration form.

Patrick Lemmon is Executive Director of Men Can Stop Rape, a Washington D.C. based organization that empowers male youth and the institutions that serve them to work as allies with women in preventing rape and other forms of men's violence. He has been involved in anti-rape education for more than 10 years, conducting hundreds of workshops and speaking nationwide about men's roles in preventing men's violence against women.

To register for the Strength Training, or to get involved as a volunteer for the Our Strength Community Forum, please contact Alena at 963-6832 ext. 29 or alena@sbrcc.net.



Happy Birthday to:



- Jessica B. on March 7th
- Megan Z. on March 7th

MANDATORY TRAINING: LATINA SURVIVORS

The Human Relations Training (HRT) for 2006 will focus on Latina Survivors, and this training is just around the corner! This is a MANDATORY training for all Advocates, and counts towards the 12 hours needed to maintain certification as a Sexual Assault Counselor each year.

The HRT will be offered twice, and Advocates need only attend one. The dates to choose from are:

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

OR

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

both from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Location TBA.

This training will be conducted entirely in Spanish, with English interpretation provided through headsets. Because we have a limited number of headsets available, all Advocates who do not speak or understand Spanish must RSVP to Heather regarding which training night you will attend. Please keep in mind that *if you attend a training to which you did not RSVP, there may not be enough headsets left over for you.* Anyone who is bilingual in English and Spanish will be asked to forgo the use of headsets in order to make sure that all English-speaking Advocates can use them.

Please note that the HRT will take the place of the April Advocate Meeting.

Return the bottom portion of this form to RSVP for the HRT night you will attend. Send it via postal mail to 111 N. Milpas St. Santa Barbara, CA 93103, email to heather@sbrcc.net, or drop it off at SBRCC in person. You can also call Heather at 805.963.6832 x28 to RSVP by phone.



My name is _____, and I will attend the 2006 Human Relations Training about Latina Survivors on the following date (check one):

_____ Wednesday, April 5, 2006 6:00-8:00 p.m.

OR

_____ Thursday, April 13, 2006 6:00-8:00 p.m.