

The women of Gamma Phi Beta sorority formally invite the following men to the Moonlit Masquerade Winter Formal 2000:

- Abe Gardner, Alberto Saraz, Alex Glick, Brandon Tomkins, Bryan Adam, Bud Caplan, Chris Ewonok, Christian Peterson, Dan McMenamin, Devon Streed, Dewey Fromosu, Doug Hamilton, Dustin Aman, Eddie Arbuckle, Elliot Key, Ethan Walker, Garet Luebbert, Heath Cornick, Jacob Fenner, Jake Baum, Jake Nowakowski, Jared Martin, Jason Bolitho, Jason Larson, Jason Merck, Jeff Colletta, Jeff Combs, Jeff Star, Jeremy Hinds, Joe Wombacher, Ken Engstrom, Kyle Eliason, Luke Hamilton, Mike Weston, Nick MacIvreen, Paul Williams, Randy Heater, Seth Johnson, Tennille Terry, Therese Hilton, Trevor Stelson, Tucker Bounds, Wes Melbo, Will Acosta



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Sex crimes

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Office of Student Life.

Dr. Jean Blanchard, who teaches the Creating a Rape-Free Environment (C.A.R.E.) seminar each term, said addressing the issues first at the individual level through education is also the first step toward any broad changes in policy.

"Personal change precedes social change," she said.

And while it's imperative for women to educate themselves about risk and prevention, she said it is equally as important for men to understand what a "rape culture" is. Blanchard said very few men enroll in the class, but that they too are a target audience for the subject matter involved.

"We're trying to debunk the stereotypes, to understand it's not a woman's problem," she said.

Nesha Kennaday, who organized this week's awareness and prevention activities as fund raising coordinator for the YWCA, also focused her efforts on bringing men into the process.

She said studies show some men don't even know they've committed rape in many instances, and that education on the issue is the only way to combat this.

"I would love to get male allies in here to support women," she said. "New boundaries need to be set and victim blaming needs to stop."

Kennaday is also taking the self defense for women class this term and said learning skills for protection has given her a new feeling of strength.

"It's empowering. I went from being afraid to feeling a sense of power, of self-confidence," she

Rape resistance

The best defense you can use against an attacker is common sense. Think, don't panic. Remember that you are not trying to fight the attacker but are attempting to divert the person long enough to get away.

If the attacker has a weapon, fighting against it could be dangerous:

Stay calm and try to convince the person to put the weapon down.

Talk to the attacker, make them see you as an individual, not an object.

If the attacker is unarmed, you may be able to scare, distract or injure

the person enough to make your escape:

Scream "Fire," or "Police" to create a disturbance that will attract attention.

Assert yourself and fight back if you can do so safely.

Break away and run toward populated areas.

Be observant so you will be able to remember and identify the assailant.

Report the incident to police as soon as possible.

SOURCE: National Violence Against Women Prevention Research Center

said. "It's about finding and then using your voice."

Finding their voice in a different way are women who take advantage of the counseling center's Sexual Assault Survivors Group sessions, offered on a continuing basis throughout the school year.

"It's something we think is very useful," Sepi Afrakhteh, a counselor at the University Health Center said. The group "provides a safe environment to express their feelings about the event. It gives them a place to meet others and not feel alone."

Though rape has occurred throughout history, the first rape crisis center in this country wasn't established until 1972 in San Francisco, Calif. Since then, as awareness has spread, many things have improved, including legislative reform, better funding for crisis centers and a deeper understanding of the impact on victims.

The U.S. Department of Justice, along with several national non-profit organizations, tracks rape and assault statistics and annually publishes the findings. One

corollary that can be drawn from the numbers is that rape still far outranks all other crime as the least reported in the nation.

So while both the treatment of victims is vastly improved over the last three decades and prosecutorial measures have increased, much remains to be done in the legal, mental health, medical and victim services arenas.

On campus, the 1997 adjustments to the student conduct code sparked much discussion as well as awareness on the notion of consent and boundaries between students. The code's language was amended to include a definition of "explicit consent" that reflects the definition of criminal statutes.

Blanchard said the restructuring that more specifically deals with sexual assault and harassment at the University is a good example of individuals' affecting change.

"It was a big move when we tightened the conduct code and changed policy," she said. "It makes all of our work more effective."

Want to be the Editor?

The Oregon Daily Emerald, the independent student newspaper at the University of Oregon, is accepting applications for Editor in Chief for 2000-2001.

Editor is responsible for all editorial operations and editorial content of the newspaper.

Interested parties should pick up an application packet, which includes a job description, at the ODE front desk in Suite 300 EMU or call 346-5511 for more information.

Application deadline is Tuesday March 28 at 5 p.m.

Candidate must be a student at the University.



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