

**I'M HERE
FOR YOU.**

LET'S TALK.

Dating Violence • Sexual Assault • Stalking
LUC.edu/ccrt



I'm Here
for You
Newsletter
Fall 2015

ISSUE #8

New Illinois House Bill 821

This spring, School of Law alum and Attorney General Lisa Madigan proposed Illinois House Bill 821, otherwise known as the *Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act*. She said - "For students, college should be about achieving a higher education, not having their goals derailed by sexual assault," Madigan said. "This bill will help Illinois' colleges and universities prevent and respond effectively to incidents of sexual violence."

Loyola staff and administration, along with other neighboring institutions, helped Madigan's office to edit and fine-tune the bill that has since passed. According to the AG's website, The Act will ensure that Illinois colleges and universities:

- Develop a clear, comprehensive campus sexual violence policy, including detailed incident reporting options and university response guidelines;
- Notify student survivors about their rights, including their right to confidentiality and what protections the university can provide to ensure the student's health and safety, such as obtaining an order of protection, changes in class

schedules or campus housing, and the availability of medical and counseling services;

- Provide a confidential advisor to survivors to help them understand their options to report the crime and seek medical and legal assistance;
- Adopt a fair, balanced process for adjudicating allegations of sexual violence; and
- Train students and campus employees to improve awareness and responsiveness to allegations of sexual violence.

Loyola has already made some adjustments to trainings, language, and future plans based on the House Bill, and will continue to stay involved and informed.

Some states have already passed similar legislation and it is likely that other states will, too. New York, who according to Inside HigherEd became the second state to require colleges to note on a transcript if a student was suspended or dismissed for sexual assault, has taken legislation even further. [Bills](#) on college sexual assault the Federal level also continue to be proposed. Stay tuned!

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Self-care Day with Tricoci
Thursday, October 22 from
10am-1pm in the Damen
Student Center

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

Support group for survivors of all
genders, Mondays from 6-7:30pm
Contact Inga at 312-229-7255
to RSVP



Join Apna Ghar for the Stride
Against Violence 5K walk/run
Sunday, October 25 at 9:30am
Starting line on the corner
of Montrose Drive &
Simonds Drive

No-Cost Extension Approved

After six years, the Campus Grant from the Department of Justice was scheduled to end for Loyola this September. However, there were funds left over and a no-cost extension was approved through September 2016. Campus Grant funds have been utilized for a number of initiatives on campus. Including but not limited to:

- Trainings, educational programs, and outreach services. Including the I'm Here For You training, the Loyola Sexual Assault Advocacy hotline, the Here for You smart phone application and more.

- Special events and campus/community collaborations. ☐
- Awareness- raising campaigns. Such as: Speak up Step In, It's On Us," consent doors, and more.

The no-cost extension money will fund some new and exciting projects:

- Updating the "Here For You" App available on Google Play and iTunes.
- The inclusion of national training resources and for faculty, staff, and Campus Safety officers.
- Creating an online training module based on the in-person I'm Here for You training for staff and faculty.

- Social media/poster campaigns.

All of this is very exciting. It is important to also note that aside from grant funding, Loyola has dedicated a budget (as of July 2015) to gender-based violence outreach, training, and services on campus. This says a lot about our Institution's dedication to this important work.

If you have any questions or would like to know how to get involved, please contact Stephanie Atella at satella@luc.edu.

Are You Faculty? Do you want to add Title IX language to your syllabus?

Here is some sample language: *Under Title IX federal law, "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance" (Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972). Given the sensitivity of the topics covered in this class, it is important for you to know the professor has a mandatory obligation to notify designated University personnel of incidents of gender-based misconduct that are shared in private or during class discussions. The reason for this is to keep all students safe and connected to the resources & reporting options that are available. Hypothetical scenarios that are discussed do not require any action.*

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Tom Kelly at Tkelly4@luc.edu.

Updates to Loyola's Community Standards:

Every year terms, processes and definitions are revisited in the spirit of creating a campus culture that is safe and inclusive for all. Additions and edits were made to the 2015-2016 Community Standards. Some of the changes include: an expanded definition of consent, information on confidential vs. private campus resources, and the rights of both parties involved in a formal conduct process. To see the most recent Community Standards, visit [here](#).

Brush up:

- [Domestic Violence Statistics](#)
- [The Association of American Universities \(AAU\) Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct Findings](#)
 - [Rape and Sexual Assault Victimization Among College-Age Females, 1995–2013](#)
 - [Dr. Pelissero's letter to the student body](#)

Check Loyola's New Active Bystander Posters!



These posters were created as part of the active bystander education program, Speak Up, Step In, presented in University 101 and 102 classes. During these classes, orientation for incoming students and throughout the year, we ask students to do something when they hear or see something not-so-good happening in order to contribute to a safer campus and community for all people.

There are three ways we talk about safely taking steps to be an active bystander:

1. **Distract:** Interrupt a risky or bad situation. *Try redirecting to prevent a situation from escalating.*
2. **Delegate:** Get others to help you if you feel unsafe or others are better equipped. *You don't have to act alone. There are people here to help. Call Campus Safety, 911, faculty, staff, friends, or family.*
3. **Direct:** Speak up or step in to interrupt a harmful situation. *Ask someone if they need help or take action by pointing out problematic words or behaviors.*

Active bystander programming and education is being focused on throughout the country on many college campuses. We will continue to revisit these messages each year.

FREE, 24/7, CONFIDENTIAL
NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOTLINE
1(800) 799-7233

Staff Announcement:

The Wellness Center would like to introduce our new Graduate Sam Swart. Sam is a dual MSW/MA in WSGS Candidate with a specialization in children and families and a lean toward the leadership and development track. She is the Editor-in-Chief of Praxis, Loyola's Social Work Journal, and serves as a student advisor/mentor for the Women's and Gender Studies Program. Sam has seven years of experience in the fields of domestic violence and sexual assault and is excited to continue participating in Loyola's commitment to provide support to survivors and end violence on campus. She enjoys working with college students and loves to hear about the creative ways students are growing and engaging in their communities.



Take the White House It's On Us Pledge.

I pledge: To recognize that sex without consent is sexual assault.

I pledge: To identify situations where sexual assault may occur.

I pledge: To intervene in situations where consent has not or cannot be given.

I pledge: To create an environment where sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

It's On Us: all of us. To stop sexual assault.

Learn more and take the pledge at ItsOnUs.org