#### FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

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#### Problem

- Dating violence affects as many as 30% of college women, ages 18-25.
- Dating violence violence occurring in social interactions of older adolescents. Most commonly sexual assault and IPV
- Prevention programs limited
- Few programs to help peers to respond and help a friend

Complicating factors in response



#### Background

- Peer /Community response programs effective for sexual assault
  - Bringing in the Bystander
  - Green Dot
- Could hold promise for dating violence

#### Aims

- 1. Determine the efficacy of Friends Helping Friends, a bystander education based program, in improving peer response to dating violence
  - Program will: decrease rape myth acceptance;
  - Increase recognition of interpersonal violence as a situation of intervention, perceived responsibility to act as a bystander, skills, confidence, and intention to act as a bystander
- 2. Determine the feasibility of the program.

#### Methods

- Pilot study
- Pre- and post-test design with control group



## Methods: Sample

- 101 college women, aged 18-25 years
- Treatment (n=37 & Control (n=64)
- Convenience sample
- Three sessions held with 10-18 participants in each.
- Received refreshments and movie tickets for participation in intervention

#### Methods: Data Collection

- IRB approval obtained
- Study measures completed electronically
- Code name provided on pre- and post-tests
- Program evaluation measures completed pen and paper

## Bystander Framework

Notice the event

Recognize situation as one requiring assistance

Decide to take personal responsibility

Decide how to help

Act to intervene

**Latane & Darley, 1970 Burns, 2010** 

Concept-	Content	Learning	Measures
Bystander		Strategies	
Notice the event	Recognizing IPV	Video clips Didactic Group discussion	Notice item (Burns)

Concept-	Content	Learning	Measures
Bystander		Strategies	
Recognize situation as one requiring assistance	Help to identify as high risk of danger	Video clips Group discussion Campus scenarios	College Date Rape Attitudes Scale (Lanier) High Risk Scale (Burns)

Concept-	Content	Learning	Measures
Bystander		Strategies	
Deciding to take personal responsibility	Assume responsibility	Video clips Perpetrator behavior Victim worthiness	Responsibility to Act Scale (Burns)

Concept-	Content	Learning	Measures
Bystander		Strategies	
Deciding	Pros and	Scenarios	Bystander
how to help	cons of acting	Didactic	Efficacy
	Skills to	techniques	(Banyard)
	intervene	Group	Skills
		discussion of	(Burns)
		techniques	
		Role playing	

Concept-	Content	Learning	Measures
Bystander		Strategies	
Act to	Reinforcing	Handouts	Intention to
intervene (Latane &	behavior	with information	Help Scale (Banyard)
Darley,		on Dos and	
<b>1970</b> )		Don'ts of	
		intervening	

# Methods: Feasibility

- Rate overall program
- Extent to which they learned valuable information
- Degree of relevance of the program
- Open ended questions what liked most and least

# Methods: Data Management & Analysis

- Downloaded from Qualtrics into SPSS
- Secure transfer
- Correlations, repeated measures ANOVA, frequencies, content analysis

# Results: Sample

Characteristics	Total Sample N (%)	Treatment N (%)	Control N (%)
Race/ethnicity			
White	86 (85)	32 (84%)	54 (86)
Asian/Pacific Islander	7 (7)	2 (5)	5 (8)
Hispanic	5 (5)	2 (5)	3 (5)
Mixed race/Other	3 (3)	2 (5)	1 (2)
Family Income			
\$0 - \$24,999	9 (9)	3 (8)	6 (10)
\$25,000 - \$49,999	3 (3)	1 (3)	2 (3)
\$50,000 - \$74,999	14 (14)	6 (16)	8 (13)
\$75,000 - \$99,999	18 (18)	6 (16)	12 (19)
\$100,000 - \$249,999	31 (31)	12 (32)	19 (30)
\$250,000 & over	25 (25)	10 (26)	15 (24)

# Results: Hypotheses

Measures		Pre Test	(CD)	Post Tes		e	df
		Mean	(SD)	Mean	(SD)	f	(II
<b>College Date</b>	Treatment	30.73	(4.97)	27.43	(6.21)	7.72*	1
Rape	Control	34.20	(7.67)	31.82	(8.53)		
Attitudes							
Scale							
ID Risk	Treatment	7.92	(2.56)	10.56	(2.80)	2.52	1
	Control	8.65	(2.40)	11.36	(2.59)		
Responsibility	Treatment	33.11	(9.02)	34.35	(9.18)	4.86*	1
	Control	38.64	(9.51)	38.42	(7.43)		
Skills	Treatment	9.57	(4.17)	11.57	(4.19)	7.26*	1
	Control	13.00	(4.48)	12.45	(4.17)		
<b>Intention to</b>	Treatment	39.86	(9.21)	43.57	(10.74)	4.58*	
Help	Control	44.02	<b>(7.79)</b>	49.16	(7.79)		

## Results: Feasibility

#### Overall program

- Excellent (61%, n = 22)
- Good (38%, n = 14)

# Learned valuable information

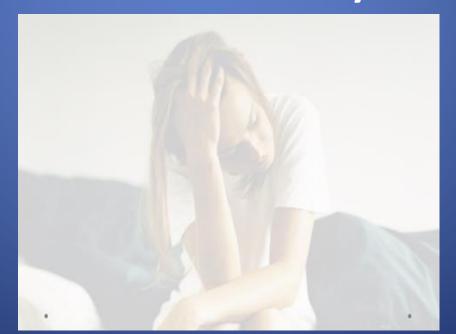
- Very much agree (67%, n = 25)
- Agree (25%, n = 9)

# Relevant for campus life

- Very much agree (70%, n = 26)
- Agree (25%, n = 9)

#### Discussion

- Decreased rape myths acceptance
- Increased responsibility to act
- Increased bystander skills
- Increased intention to act as bystander



#### **Discussion:** Limitations

- Convenience sample
- Lack of random assignment
- Measured intention
- No long term follow up

## Discussion: Implications

 More research with larger sample, random assignment, & long term follow up

 Holds promise as dating violence program



# THANK YOU



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