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# THE ROLE OF FORMAL AND INFORMAL SEX EDUCATION SOURCES ON SEXUAL ATTITUDES

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Campus Assault

Comprehensive Sexual Education

Rape Myths

Sexual Double Standards (SDS)

Sexual Resourcefulness

Design

Expectations

OVERVIEW

## KEY TERMS

- NSEs – Nonconsensual Sexual Experiences
  - Sexual assault
  - Sexual abuse
  - Rape
  - Sexual harassment
  - Any Unwanted sexual experience

# CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT

- 1 in 5 Female University Students
- Recent Rise in Research – Thanks, Obama!



**PLEDGES  
TAKEN:  
400K**

**CAMPUS  
EVENTS:  
2K**

**PARTNER  
ORGANIZATIONS:  
95**

**IT'S ON  
US  
IS A  
CULTURAL  
MOVEMENT  
AIMED AT  
FUNDAMENTALLY  
SHIFTING  
THE WAY  
WE THINK  
AND TALK  
ABOUT  
SEXUAL  
ASSAULT.**

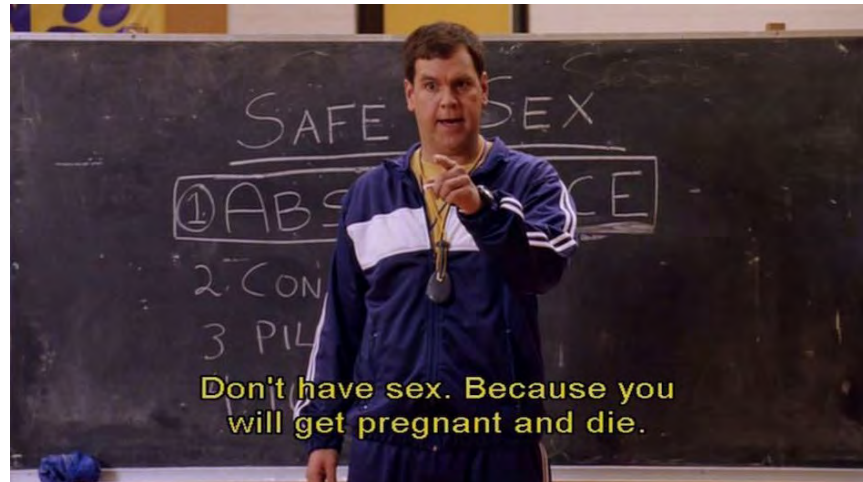
It's a rallying cry, inviting everyone to step up and realize that the solution begins with us. Launched in September 2014, It's On Us works to educate, engage, and empower students and communities across the country to do something, big or small, to end sexual assault. The campaign has three core pillars – consent education, increasing bystander intervention, and creating an environment that supports survivors.

## COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL EDUCATION

**Sexual Education** – “Sexuality education is a lifelong process of acquiring information and forming attitudes, beliefs, and values. It encompasses sexual development, sexual and reproductive health, interpersonal relationships, affection, intimacy, body image, and gender roles.” – SIECUS (Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States)

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# COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL EDUCATION

**Comprehensive Sex Ed** - Age-appropriate and medically accurate information ranging from Kindergarten through 12th grade

- Reduces STIs and unplanned pregnancies
- Promotes healthy interpersonal relationships
- Reduces Sexual Violence

# RAPE MYTHS

**Rape myths** - Beliefs that both deny and justify sexual violence against women

“If a woman doesn’t physically fight back, you can’t really say it was rape.”

- Linked to socially constructed scripts about sex, consent, and gender
- Effects how sexual experiences are defined
- Can be changed with education

(Payne, Lonsway, & Fitzgerald, 1999, Peterson & Muehlendard, 2004, Foubert & Marriott 1997)

# SEXUAL DOUBLE STANDARDS

**Sexual Double Standards** - An individual's expectations about how a person should behave sexually based on gender.

“It's worse for a woman to sleep around than it is for a man.”

- Reverse double standard – generational?
  - Women are implicate with their bias and men are explicate
- Results in negative sexual and mental health
- Influenced by peers

# SEXUAL RESOURCEFULNESS

**Sexual Resourcefulness** - A person's ability to negotiate unwanted sexual experiences

- Reasons to consenting or “give in”
- Promoted through school and parental education

(Kennett, Humphreys, & Schultz 2012).

## STUDY DESIGN

### Online Questionnaire (~45 min)

- Demographics
- Sexual Experiences Scale (SES)
- Sexuality Topics Addressed by Parents and Schools (STAPS)
  - Sexual Resourcefulness Survey (SRS)
  - Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale (IRMAS)
  - Sexual Double Standards scale (SDSS)

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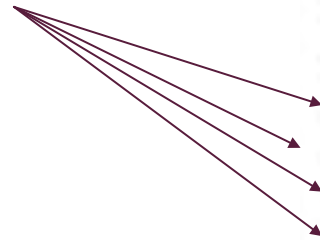


# SEXUALITY TOPICS ADDRESSED BY PARENTS AND SCHOOLS (STAPS)

To what extent did your mother (or female guardian) discuss with you the following topics:

Modified to include:

- Media
- Peers
- Pornography
- Perceived Influence
- Explicit terms



	Not at all 0	1	Somewhat 2	3	Completely 4
Use of condoms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexually transmitted infections	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Abstinence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual pleasure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Unwanted pregnancy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developing intimacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Negotiating sexual activity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dealing with unwanted advances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Building trust in a relationship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual assault	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rape	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# PARTICIPANT RECRUITMENT

## **Undergraduate Sample**

UT SONA

Psychology 301 Students

Student participants receive course credit

## **Community Sample**

Online recruitment

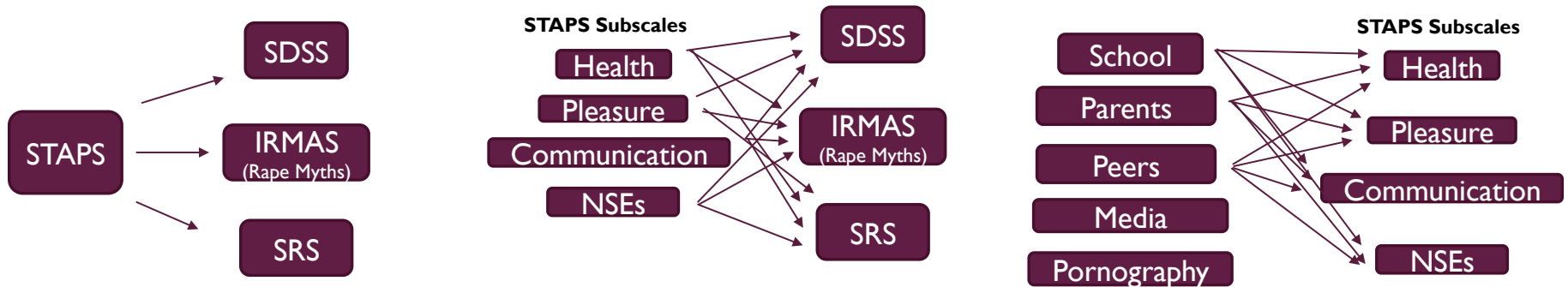
Social Media, Craigslist, Reddit, Email Black,  
MestonLab.com

Community participants can enter a drawing to win a  
\$50 pre-paid visa e-gift card

# STUDY VARIABLES AND ANALYSIS

**Independent:** Sexual Education (STAPS)

**Dependent:** Rape Myth Acceptance, Sexual Double Standard Agreeance, Sexual Resourcefulness



## PREDICTION:

**When more education on pleasure, communication, and NSEs is received from schools and parents:**

Rape Myths ↓

Sexual Double Standards ↓

Sexual Resourcefulness ↑

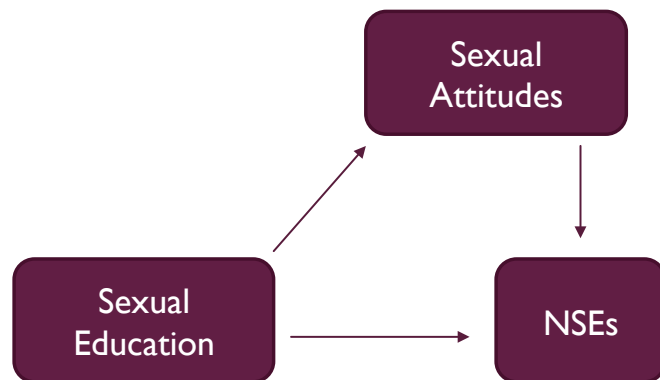
**When more education on pleasure, communication, and NSEs is received from peers and media:**

Rape Myths ↑

Sexual Double Standards ↑

Sexual Resourcefulness ↓

## SECONDARY PREDICTION AND IMPLICATIONS:



Sexual Education can reduce incidences of NSEs by influencing sexual attitudes that perpetuate sexual violence.

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THANK YOU!

