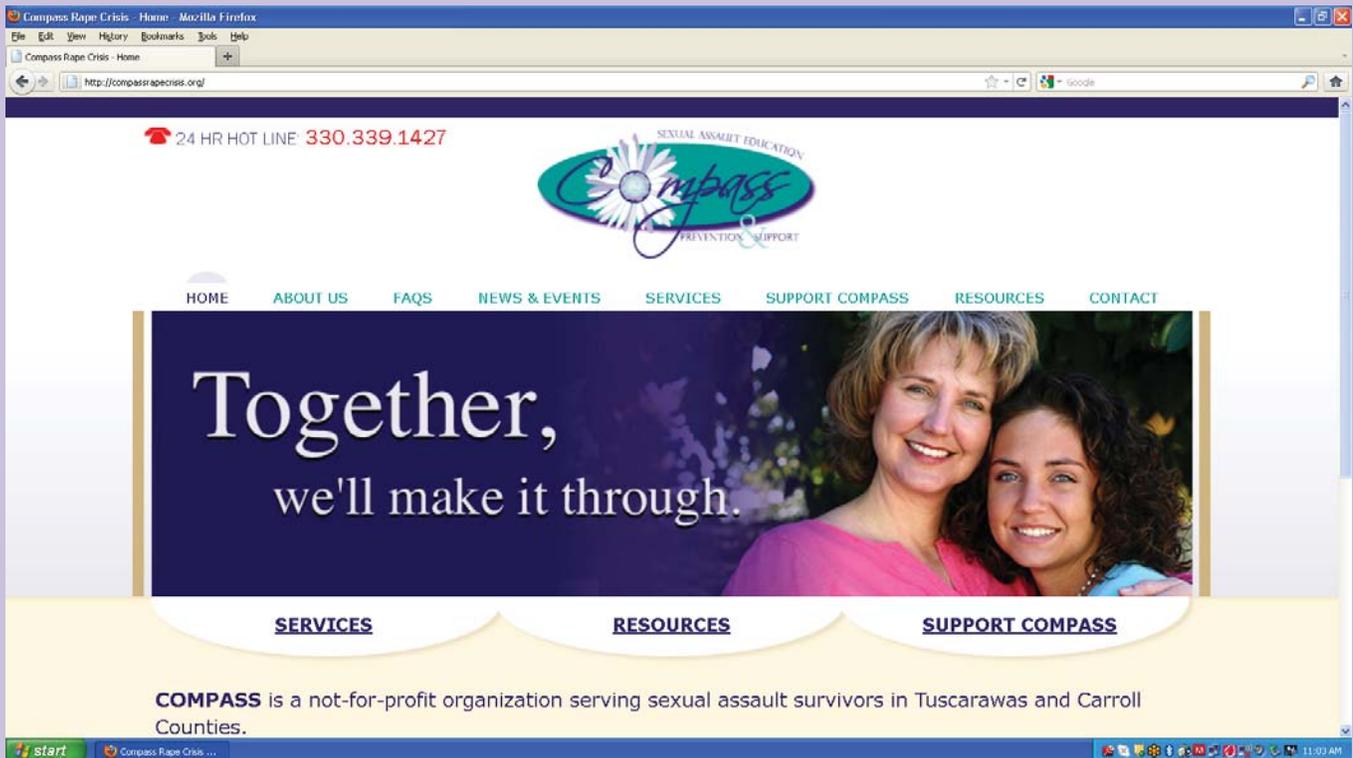




FIND COMPASS ON THE 'WEB'

Looking for a resource? Check out the COMPASS, Inc. website: www.compassrapecrisis.org.



Looking for quick tips and a way to reach out? 'Like' COMPASS, Inc. on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/CompassSupport

VAWA REAUTHORIZATION NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER

Written by: Katie Hanna, Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

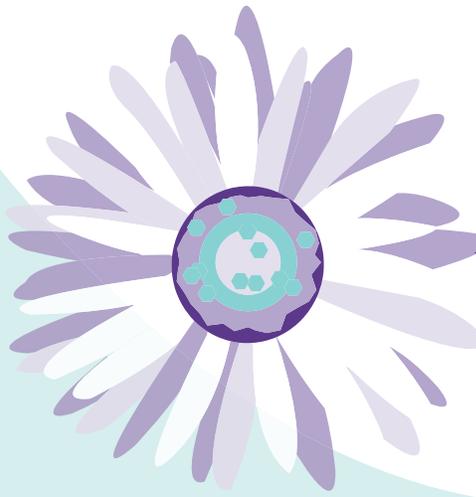
As we head into election season, keep this question in the forefront:

What is your U.S. Representative doing to end sexual violence and intimate partner violence?

Although the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) recently celebrated its 18th birthday (from its initial passage in 1994), it has not yet been reauthorized to ensure future protections for all survivors. The National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women released a statement on VAWA's birthday, including this message:

"Without the new version of VAWA, an 18 year old victim of sexual assault will not be able to secure safe housing. Without the new version of VAWA, an 18 year old victim of dating violence will find it difficult to obtain justice on campus. Without the new version of VAWA, many underserved communities, including the LGBT community, immigrant victims, and Native women, will have no place to go for help."

We need your help. From now through the end of the year, we need you to tell your story. Tell the story of your agency, of your own experience, of your sister's, your brother's, or your mother's story. Tell the story of your best friend or your partner. Each one of us has been impacted by sexual and intimate partner violence. We encourage you to call your U.S. Representative and let them know why VAWA Reauthorization is important to you and what it means in your community. Ask them where they stand on supporting survivors and ending sexual and intimate partner violence. Encourage them to support the real VAWA that serves ALL victims and contains NO rollbacks to the current VAWA, and closely mirrors the VAWA Reauthorization bill passed by the Senate. VAWA saves lives, it funds both prevention and response to sexual and domestic violence, and we need VAWA passed in 2012 to support all survivors.



2012 MARKS THE **15TH** ANNIVERSARY FOR COMPASS, INC.

BULLYING

Taken from: American Academy of Pediatrics

Bullying is when one child picks on another child repeatedly. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social. It can happen at school, on the playground, on the school bus, in the neighborhood, or over the Internet.

When Your Child Is Bullied

- Help your child learn how to respond by teaching your child how to:

1. Look the bully in the eye.
2. Stand tall and stay calm in a difficult situation.
3. Walk away.

- Teach your child how to say in a firm voice:

1. "I don't like what you are doing."
2. "Please do NOT talk to me like that."
3. "Why would you say that?"

- Teach your child when and how to ask for help.

- Encourage your child to make friends with other children.

- Support activities that interest your child.

- Alert school officials to the problems and work with them on solutions.

- Make sure an adult who knows about the bullying can watch out for your child's safety and well-being when you cannot be there.

When Your Child Is the Bully

- Be sure your child knows that bullying is never OK.

- Set firm and consistent limits on your child's aggressive behavior.

- Be a positive role model. Show children they can get what they want without teasing, threatening, or hurting someone.

- Use effective, non-physical discipline, such as loss of privileges.

- Develop practical solutions with the school principal, teachers, counselors, and parents of the children your child has bullied.

When Your Child Is a Bystander

- Tell your child not to cheer on or even quietly watch bullying.

- Encourage your child to tell a trusted adult about the bullying.

- Help your child support other children who may be bullied. Encourage your child to include these children in activities.

- Encourage your child to join with others in telling bullies to stop.

HANDLING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN SCHOOLS

<http://parenting.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/11/08/handling-sexual-harassment-in-schools/>

By KJ DELL'ANTONIA

What would you tell a daughter who said she was being "sexually harassed" at school?

The American Association of University Women surveyed 1,965 students and found that nearly half of both boys and girls in Grades 7 through 12 reported experiencing sexual harassment at school, defined by the researchers as "unwelcome sexual behavior" and including everything from sexual comments to being physically intimidated in a sexual way. Boys were most troubled by the same kind of harassment found in any survey about bullying: taunts about being gay. For young women, though, what bothered them most was something different, and far less likely to be covered under the common rubric of the bullying prevention program: unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, or gestures.

My memory of the late middle school and high school is that sexual comments, jokes and gestures pretty much defined the experience, and quickly became so commonplace that the question of "welcome" was moot. If I had a nickel for every time a classmate made the tongue motion associated with oral sex at me, I could have paid for college. I never told my mother or a teacher. I couldn't imagine anything good coming out of that conversation. The only defense was to become equally crass while affecting an attitude of indifference, and I did this so well that it is still difficult for me to have a conversation with a high school friend with my children in the room.

No matter how much we profess to be against sexual harassment as a society, we've never shown ourselves to be particularly supportive of those who blow the whistle on someone who's inevitably just trying to make a "joke..."

But the sexual harassment conversation, like the bullying conversation, is much more available to teenagers now. It's possible to imagine a school implementing and teaching a sexual harassment policy, and some have. What's harder to imagine is a girl who might be willing to stand up to a bully complaining about the boy with the loose tongue. No matter how much we profess to be against sexual harassment as a society, we've never shown ourselves to be particularly supportive of those who blow the whistle on someone who's inevitably just trying to make a "joke", and girls know it.

The allegations against Herman Cain have once again highlighted how much fun it is to be the girl who points the finger, with one woman who has come forward with a description of an encounter already the subject of middle-school-type mockery while another has said she won't be making a public statement because she doesn't want to be another Anita Hill.

Against that all-too-familiar backdrop, I'm wondering how I'd advise a daughter who came to me with a description of school hallways she hates to walk down because every fourth boy has found a fresh new way of making a lewd gesture. Would I tell her to go to school administrators, who are required by Title IX to prevent the creation of a hostile environment? Or would I suggest she perfect her eye roll?

I don't think I like my answer. What's yours?

FAMILY CELL PHONE CONTRACT (adapted from Savvy Parents Safe Kids)

My cell phone will be used with the discussed following rules:

- ___ All Contacts in the Phone Book must be reviewed by Mom or Dad.
- ___ No calls/texts after ___ weekdays, ___ weekends (unless pre-approved).
- ___ Our Plan allows ___ text messages and ___ minutes per month.
- ___ I will not download Apps or programs without permission first.
- ___ No Cell Phone at any meal or during family time (unless pre-approved).
- ___ Web surfing has been Disabled ___ Activated ___.
- ___ If asked to turn off/stop playing/get off cell phone, I must do so immediately.
- ___ At home, I will ___ use the regular phone or ___ cell phone to make calls.
- ___ I will carry my cell phone and it will be turned "on" so an adult can reach me.
- ___ We have an open ___ closed ___ text viewing policy for all family members.
- ___ I will text my parents if I need a "way out" of a risky peer situation.
- ___ I will put my phone ___ during bedtime hours.
- ___ I will not text or use the phone while operating a vehicle.

The following consequences will be implemented if the rules are broken:

- ___ If I go over in texts/minutes, I must pay the difference for that month.
- ___ If asked more than twice to turn off/put down the cell, then phone privileges will be removed for one day.
- ___ This is a one-month trial period, if all rules are followed for 30 days, mom and dad will _____.
- ___ This contract will be reevaluated every six months to evaluate privileges such as: added texts, web surfing or extra money for ring tones, etc.
- ___ If I am caught texting/calling while driving, I will _____.

Signed: _____

Date: _____



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Victims of federal crimes will be served.

Would you like to become a volunteer for COMPASS?

Volunteers are needed to staff our 24-hour crisis hotline, which provides immediate support and information to sexual assault victims. Crisis hotline volunteers receive comprehensive training and will receive a volunteer reference manual. Crisis line volunteers can use a pager provided by COMPASS or use their personal cell phone for crisis calls. Crisis hotline volunteers also serve as hospital advocates. Area hospitals contact COMPASS when they are treating a sexual assault victim in their emergency rooms. Hospital advocates provide support and information to the survivor at the hospital. Volunteers also may be asked to accompany a victim to a law enforcement agency as an advocate. The purpose of the volunteer advocate is to offer support, accurate information and referral services for those affected by sexual violence.

COMPASS also does community awareness activities, such as health fairs, speaking engagements and school functions. Volunteers also may be asked to assist with these events.

Although COMPASS cannot compensate volunteers with dollars, there are many benefits to becoming a volunteer:

- education and awareness about sexual assault and related crimes and how it effects individuals
- experience in working with a diverse group
- group discussions about sensitive and confidential issues
- meeting new people and locating county resources
- recognition for a job well done
- time can be used on resumes and applications for jobs or enrolling in schools
- the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at COMPASS, Ronda Phillips, at 330-339-2504 or email advocate@compassrapecrisis.org.