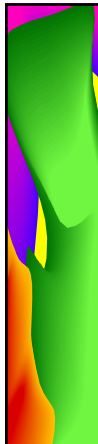


**Mandatory Reporting:
A Victim Advocate
Perspective**

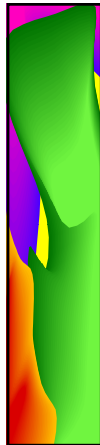
Kristen Howe, MSW

Wednesday November 3rd, 2010



North Carolina Coalition
Against Sexual Assault
www.nccasa.net

**The North Carolina Coalition
Against Sexual Assault is
an inclusive statewide
alliance working to end
sexual violence through
education, advocacy, and
legislation.**



Disclosure

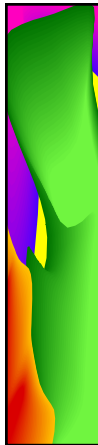
The following people have no relevant financial, personal, or professional relationships to disclose:

Faculty:
Kristen Howe, MSW

Program Planner(s):
Marsha Marecki, EdD, WHNP-BC (Nursing Programs)
Melanie Steilen, RN, BSN, ACRN (Nursing Programs)

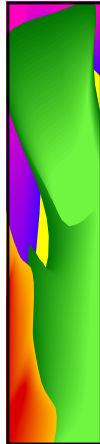
Program Reviewer(s):
Marsha Marecki, EdD, WHNP-BC (Nursing Programs)

There are no commercial supporters of this activity.



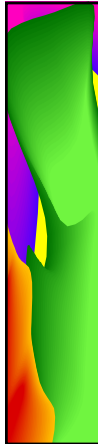
Learning Objectives

1. The learner will be able to differentiate between recanting a story and lying.
2. The learner will be able to identify resources for sexual assault victims and their families.
3. The learner will be able to explain the services offered at a rape crisis center.



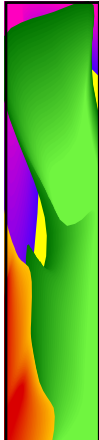
Examples of sexual abuse

- Touching offenses
 - Sexual intercourse
 - Vaginal and/or anal
 - Attempted and completed
 - Penetration
 - Vaginal and/or anal
 - Finger and/or object
 - Oral-genital contact
 - Folding of the child's breasts or genitals
 - Masturbating in front of a child
 - Forcing a child to fondle or stimulate an adult
 - Having "sex" with a person who is not of the age of consent



Consent

What is the age of consent in NC?

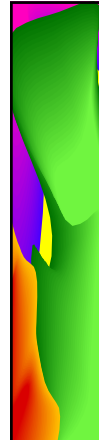


Who are the victims?

Taken from www.darkness2light.org

- 1 in 4 girls is sexually abused before age 18
- 1 in 6 boys is sexually abused before age 18

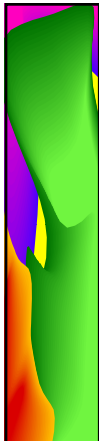
Victims may not recognize their victimization as sexual abuse



Who are the perpetrators?

Taken from darkness2light.org

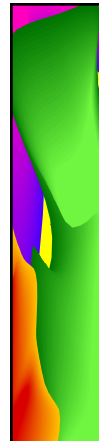
- Children are at the greatest risk of being abused by someone known
 - 30-40% of victims are abused by a family member
 - 50% are abused by someone outside of the family whom they know and trust
 - 10% are abused by strangers



Disclosing sexual abuse


(taken from Darkness to Light)

- 30% of victims never disclose
- 80% initially deny abuse or are tentative in disclosing
- Of those who do disclose:
 - 75% disclose accidentally
 - More than 20% eventually recant
- Fabricated sexual abuse reports constitute only 1% to 4% of all reported cases
 - Of these reports, 75% are falsely reported by adults



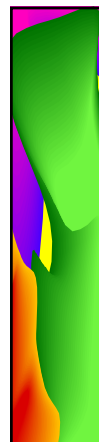
Lying versus Recanting

- What does it mean to lie?
 - “to make an untrue statement with intent to deceive” as defined by Merriam-Webster
- What does it mean to recant?
 - “to withdraw or repudiate (a statement or belief) formally and publicly” as defined by Merriam-Webster
- Why would a child or teen **RECENT** their story?



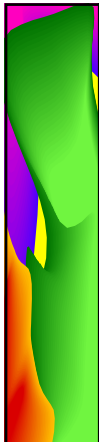
How to respond to a disclosure

- The abuse is not their fault
- They did **NOTHING** wrong
- You believe them
- They are not the only ones this has happened to
- You won't be “grossed out” or uncomfortable hearing their story
- You will help them
- You will take steps to protect them
- What will happen next



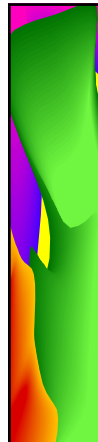
NC Rape Crisis Centers

- Listed on our website by county:
 - http://nccasa.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=45&Itemid=70
 - If you can't find it please call us!
- Services available to victims, secondary victims, and allied professionals



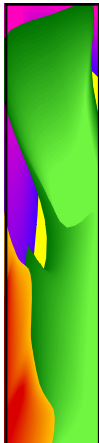
RCC services

- All are free and confidential
- 24 hour hotline
- Crisis intervention
- Support and advocacy
- Hospital and court accompaniment
- Referrals and resources
- Support groups
- Community and professional presentations and trainings



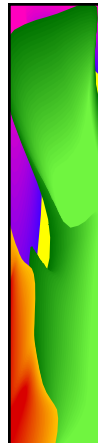
Case #1

Carla is a 14 year old girl who comes to the clinic for STI testing. She tells you that her boyfriend doesn't wear condoms because they don't feel good and she thinks she "has something." During her exam Carla says that he boyfriend plays basketball for the local college.




Case #2

Mona is 12 years old and brought in by her mother. Her mother says that she is wild, sneaks out at night, and is smoking pot. Her mother says that she wants Mona to have a pregnancy test because she doesn't want to be a grandmother. While talking to Mona she says that the only person she has ever had sex with is her mother's boyfriend.



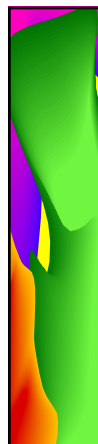
Case #3

Mike is a 17 year old who is waiting outside of the clinic before it opens with his 13 year old sister. He tells you that his father used to beat and "touch" him and that last night he saw his father go in his sister's room. Mike's sister says nothing- she just nods her head yes and cries.



Resources

- Children's Advocacy Centers of NC
<http://www.cacnc.org>
- Darkness to Light
<http://www.darkness2light.org/>
- Rape Abuse Incest National Network
<http://www.rainn.org/>
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center
<http://www.nsvrc.org/>
- NC International Association of Forensic Nurses
<http://www.nciafn.org/>



THANK YOU!!

Thank you for your time today and for the incredibly important work you do!

Kristen Howe, MSW
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Kristen@nccasa.org