

## ACTIVE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### **ACTIVE KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

This activity provides a way for students to have instant involvement in the subject matter. You can also use it to assess the knowledge level of the students. It promotes team building, knowledge, sharing, and immediate learning.

#### Sample Questions

1. What two areas of the body should you strike in case you are in immediate bodily danger?
2. What should be your first reaction if you receive an obscene phone call?
3. You are alone shopping and think you are being followed? What should you do?
4. Should you treat a potential attacker like a human being?
5. Are weapons necessary and when are they practical?
6. Should you scream if you are attacked?
7. You are leaving your home for the day, how could you protect your home?
8. Do most victims of rape know their assailants?
9. If you are using public transportation what is one way to keep yourself safe?

### **NOTE TAKING HOME SAFETY**

This activity prompts students to take notes while you are teaching and become engaged with the material.

1. Door locks that will provide more protection and slow down a burglar are usually the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The bad feature of this type of lock is that you need a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. An inexpensive way to secure a door is to use \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ can be secured by laying a piece of wood or metal in the track.
5. Windows and doors can be secured by using \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Ground level windows can be secured with grillwork, but a person could not escape if there is a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Homes with \_\_\_\_\_ should not use grillwork.
8. Secure both sides of a garage door. Make sure that the \_\_\_\_\_ door is very secure.
9. Remember crime is about \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

### **LIGHTENING THE LEARNING CLIMATE**

Explain to students that you want to do a fun opening exercise with before getting serious about the subject matter. Give them an assignment as below that deliberately asks them to make fun of the important topic you are teaching.

Develop a list of the most effective ways to have:

- a. Your back pack stolen

- b. To get hit by a car
- c. Your television stolen
- d. To be beaten up

**ROLE-PLAYING ESCALATION / DE-ESCALATION**

Introduce students to de-escalating behaviors and escalating behaviors. Role-play a variety of scenarios that could develop into potential problems. Have students demonstrate how the situation could be escalated or de-escalated by using a variety of verbal and non-verbal behaviors.

Scenario Examples:

- 1. Student takes your seat in class.
- 2. Student accuses you of stealing their pen.
- 3. Student wants you to give them part of your lunch.
- 4. Student accuses you of talking to your boyfriend or girlfriend.
- 5. Student is bumped in the hallway between classes.

**QUESTIONNAIRE – MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT RAPE**

This activity can be used to stimulate immediate involvement in the subject matter of your class and to clarify important facts.

	Agree	Disagree
1. Rape is the most frequently committed violent crime in the United States.	_____	_____
2. Most rapes happen outside and at night.	_____	_____
3. Rapes happens to people of all ages, races, education, religion, and physical description.	_____	_____
4. Most rape victims are young.	_____	_____
5. Most victims of rape know their assailants.	_____	_____
6. About 10%-20% of all sexual assaults are reported.	_____	_____
7. Rape is motivated by sudden, uncontrollable, Sexual urges.	_____	_____
8. Rapists rarely repeat their crime.	_____	_____
9. Women who fight back are more likely to get raped.	_____	_____
10. It is not necessary for a rape victim to go to the hospital unless there is physical injury.	_____	_____

## **JIGSAW – LEGAL ASPECTS OF SELF DEFENSE**

### **Station 1**

#### **Felony/Misdemeanor:**

Most states divide their crimes into two major groups – felonies and misdemeanors. Whether a crime falls into one category or the other depends on the potential punishment. If a law provides for imprisonment for longer than a year, the crime is usually considered a felony. If the potential punishment is for a year or less, then the act is considered a misdemeanor. In some states, certain crimes, called “wobblers” may be either a misdemeanor or a felony, because the judge has the power to impose a sentence of less than a year (making the crime a misdemeanor) or more than a year (making it a felony).

Behaviors punishable only by fine are usually not considered crimes at all, but infractions – traffic tickets for example. But a legislature may on occasion punish behavior only by fine and still prove that it is a misdemeanor, such as possession of less than an ounce of marijuana for personal use in California.

### **Station 2**

**Self-defense:** A defense to certain criminal charges involving force. The basic rule is that if you, a family member, or a friend is attacked, you can use any reasonable force needed to repel the aggressor. You can use greater force than you face – if it appears “reasonable” to you and you aren’t held to a fine line deciding the difference.

A person must use no more force than appears reasonably necessary in the circumstance.

Force likely to cause death or great bodily harm is justified in self-defense only if a person reasonably believes that such force is necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm.

### **Station 3**

**Self Defense:** You can use force to prevent an attack. If threatened, you need not wait for the blows to be struck. It’s enough that you have a genuine belief that you or your wife or child are in present danger – even if it turns out that you are mistaken.

There are limits to how far you can go on the streets. You are under at least some obligation to try to avoid violence to retreat at least part way, if possible, before striking a blow in self-defense. This is a fine legal line.

The verbal attack calls for restraint; profanity alone may not legally be met with physical force. If you react with force, you become the attacker.

### **Station 4**

In your home a basic rule is that you need not retreat in the face of an intruder, even if to do so would be “reasonable” and avoid violence.

If a person unarmed enters a house to commit a larceny and does not threaten anyone or acts with the intention of hurting anyone, and there are a number of persons present who may easily secure the person, no one will be justifiable to do the person any injury or kill that person.

But, if it is impossible to ascertain the intentions of the intruder, the party assailed may use the most violent means against his assailant, even to the taking of his life.

For trespassers outside your house, the general rule is that your right to use physical force usually begins only when an intruder tries to break in. You have no legal right to use force or otherwise harm a person trespassing on your land. You can only try to chase the person off and call the police.

### **You Be The Judge-Read the following situation and determine who is guilty or not guilty.**

#### **Scenario 1**

Hank is new in school. From the very first day he has been harassed by a group of boys. In the beginning the boys would only verbally harass him by calling him names and bumping into him in the hallways. The situation, however, has escalated and the group of boys threatens that they are physically going to hurt him. After school Hank goes to his car in the parking lot and finds that the sides of his car have been scratched by a set of keys. The group of boys watches Hank from a distance and begins to laugh. Hank runs toward the group and tackles one of them, Joe, and tries to restrain him. He yells for help. Joe fights back, but Hank is able to hit him hard enough to stop the boy’s retreat until the police come. Joe is taken to the hospital with a broken jaw and Hank is taken to the police station.

Who is guilty of assault, Joe or Hank? Is the assault justifiable? Which crime, car scratching or assault, would be considered a misdemeanor or a felony?
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### **EXCHANGING VIEWPOINTS – STAGES OF RAPE**

This activity allows the students to think about and acknowledge their individual responsibilities and actions. It promotes sharing and immediate learning.

#### **Acquaintance Rape**

Tony asks Diane to a party at which he gets drunk at the encouragement of his friends. During the party, Tony kept bringing Diane beers. Diane doesn't like beer but she drinks it anyway because she doesn't want Tony to think she's not fun. Tony makes comments such as how nice and "accessible" Diane would like in a short skirt, but she ignores him. After a while, Tony tells Diane he wants to be alone with her so they can talk. Diane doesn't feel like leaving but she wants to please Tony, so she goes along with it. However Tony is drunk and all he can think about is getting Diane alone, so Tony takes Diane to a deserted street and parks. They start kissing and Diane enjoys it, but in the back of her mind, she is thinking of the time when she will have to tell him that she doesn't want to go any further. Unfortunately, Tony isn't thinking about what Diane wants; suddenly he doesn't care. As a matter of fact, he can tell she is beginning to feel uncomfortable but he is enjoying the feelings he's getting - the feeling of having power over someone. There are two voices having an argument inside Tony's head.

Voice #1

Go for it! She came with you. She knew what would happen. She may say "no" but girls always do. It's O.K. to do it-all the guys do! You have the right to have sex. She's leading you on and asking for it.

Voice #2

She doesn't want to go any further. She seems scared. You should take her home. It's not right to force her.

So what did Tony do?

Tony was able to block out Voice #2 (the alcohol helped). He liked the feeling of power he was getting from forcing Diane. He felt in control and strong; he thought he was doing what men were expected to do.

Tony raped Diane and although he tried not to notice, he saw that she was crying. After it was all over, he just wanted to get her home. They were silent all the way to her house and as soon as they got there, Diane leapt out of the car and ran inside. They were polite to each other at school after the incident, but they never went out again.

Diane blamed herself for the whole thing; how could she have allowed herself to be alone with him? Why did she drink? Maybe if she hadn't drunk she would have had better judgment and therefore would have never left the party to be alone with him. She also felt guilty about kissing him; if she hadn't been making out with him, he would never have expected her to have sex. Consequently, Diane was filled with self-hatred and told no one what happened.

Tony couldn't bring himself to brag to his friends about what had happened because he had seen the tears in her eyes. "Maybe I shouldn't have forced her", he thought. "Oh well!" Tony and Diane's friends thought they had a fight and that's why they no longer dated. Tony put the incident out of his mind, but Diane never forgot and was never the same afterwards.

#### **What do you think?**

**Please get into small groups and discuss the following questions. Be honest about your remarks and listen to everyone's opinion.**

- Do you think the rape was Diane's fault?
- Did Tony have a right to have sex with Diane since he thought she "led him on?"
- How could this rape have been prevented?

**DATING: A PANEL DISCUSSION-GENDER STEROTYPING**

A panel discussion can be used to help students discuss and analyze issues concerning dating, rights and how to trust one's feelings.

**If you are asked out, you are obligated to go on the date.**

- a. Does a girl or boy have the right to turn down a date?
- b. What are appropriate ways to refuse a date?

**If you are on a date a girl should not have an opinion on what movie they will see, because the boy is paying for everything.**

- a. Does a girl have the right to express her opinion on what movie they should see?
- b. How should they decide on which movie to see?

**After a date, the girl is obligated to kiss the boy good night.**

- a. Does a girl have to kiss the boy good night?
- b. What are some good strategies that a girl can do to prevent getting kissed after a date?

**All boys must present themselves as being strong and aggressive.**

- a. What is your reaction to a boy who begins crying during a sad portion of a movie?
- b. Why can a girl be emotional, but a boy cannot?

**You cannot go to a school dance by yourself.**

- a. What would be the reaction of your friends if you went to a dance by yourself?

**Girls at all times must be wearing the current fashion, but boys can get away wearing anything they want.**

- a. What importance does clothing have on your popularity?
- b. Are girls asking for "it" if they are wearing a very revealing outfit?

**Demeaning words toward girls don't really hurt anyone or mean anything.**

- a. Do the words and messages in current music really mean anything?
- b. Are the lyrics criticizing and demeaning women?

**When boys "check out" and rate girls it is only a game. It doesn't mean anything.**

- a. Do boys really only look at the outside and not really care about what the person is really like?
- b. Is this true for girls too?