

Responding to Sexual Abuse of Inmates in Custody: Addressing the Needs of Men, Women, and Gender Nonconforming Populations
Notification of Curriculum Use
April 2014

The enclosed Responding to Sexual Abuse of Inmates in Custody: Addressing the Needs of Men, Women, and Gender Nonconforming Populations curriculum was developed by the Project on Addressing Prison Rape at American University, Washington College of Law as part of contract deliverables for the National PREA Resource Center (PRC), a cooperative agreement between the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards served as the basis for the curriculum's content and development with the goal of the Responding to Sexual Abuse of Inmates in Custody: Addressing the Needs of Men, Women, and Gender Nonconforming Populations curriculum being to satisfy specific PREA standards requirements.

It is recommended that the Responding to Sexual Abuse of Inmates in Custody: Addressing the Needs of Men, Women, and Gender Nonconforming Populations curriculum be reviewed in its entirety before choosing which modules to use. Any alterations to the original materials require either acknowledgement during their presentation or removal of the PRC and Project on Addressing Prison Rape logos.

BJA is currently undergoing a comprehensive review of the enclosed curriculum for official approval, at which point the BJA logo may be added.

Note: Use of the enclosed curriculum, either in part or whole, does not guarantee that an auditor will find that a facility "meets standards." Rather, an auditor will take into consideration the curriculum used as part of their overall determination of compliance.

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**Training Curriculum:
Responding to Sexual Abuse of Inmates in Custody:
Addressing the Needs of Men, Women and Gender Non-Conforming
Populations**

Module 6: Implications of Inmate Culture

**The Project on Addressing Prison Rape
February 2014**

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Training Objectives

Discuss inmate perspectives of sexual violence, power and sexual behavior in custody

Understand how inmate culture impacts sexual behavior in institutional settings

Inmates Perceptions of Sex in Prison

S/he liked it

S/he had it coming

Shouldn't a' been weak

Was that way anyway

Them instead of me

Inmate's Perceptions of Sex in Prison

Whadda' you gonna' do?

Shame; shouldn't a happened

New here. S/he'll figure it out

Doesn't stand a chance in here

Inmate's Perceptions of Sex in Prison

Manhood & Masculinity

Power Dynamics

Sexual Roles - Dominance & Submission

Inmate Value Systems

Theatre of Bullying

Racism

Inmate's Perceptions of Sex in Prison

LGBTI Populations

- Vulnerabilities
- Coping Strategies
- Challenges w/ Promiscuity
- Homophobia
- Racism
- Religion

Youthful Offenders

Inmate's Perceptions of Sex in Prison

Short Video

The Reality Is.....

1 out of every 32 persons in the US will experience being under some form of criminal justice supervision.

May be:

- daughter, son, brother, sister, father, mother, friend, relative of close friend

Some Reasons:

- Substance abuse related, DUI, non-paid traffic violations-FTA, false ID, mentally challenged, bad choices, bad child, dare devil, criminal

What Would You Do?

Who is responsible to ensure safe and secure environments regardless of what inmates have done?

Why Female Inmates Engage in Sex

Consensual

- For sex; related to deprivation
- As a sedative, to forget
- Romantic, partner – part of larger relationship

Experimental

- With same gender-- too dangerous to try at home; have a male partner outside
- Hurt / abused by men, turning to women

Why Female Inmates Engage in Sex

Strategic - To get things

- Acceptance into certain crowd, 'family'
- Favors - shared commissary, other benefits
- Attention, 'love'
- As a way to establish dominance, exercise power, imitate what they've experienced

Coercive - To avoid things

- For protection from person wanting sex or from others
- Based on past history - not understanding its possible to refuse; believing always dangerous to refuse
- Mentally ill, unable to cope or respond

Why Female Inmates Engage in Sex

Assaultive

- Obtained by threats of harm
- Obtained by force, assaults with objects [rare in women's facilities]
- Part of battering relationship/domestic violence

Why Male Inmates Engage in Sex

Forced Abstinence

- Celibate while in prison
- Does not participate in any sexual behavior
- Denial of sexual appetite
- Prohibition on masturbation

Why Male Inmates Engage in Sex

“Gay for the Stay”

- More accepted in prison
- Peer pressure
- Bi-curious- a straight person curious about and will try a same sex relationship

Fit In, Everybody Does It

- Consensual
- Sex related to deprivation
- Companionship
- Favors and/or benefits

Why Male Inmates Engage in Sex

Protection

- Strategic to get things
- Individual- “find a friend/partner” to take under wing
- Fear from others wanting sex
- Afraid to refuse
- Group affiliation

Sex with Staff

- Employee
- Contractor
- Vendor
- Intern
- Volunteer

Differences for Short-term Facilities/ Jails

May have less affiliative sexual relationships

More sexual acting out directly off the street

More drug/drug withdrawal influenced sexual behaviors

Differences for Short-term Facilities/ Jails

More crowding and less opportunity for staff to observe

Inmates less affected by concern with long-term safety and reputation within facility

Transient nature of jails leads to greater anonymity

The Impact of Inmate Culture

- Peer Pressure
- Dangers in refusal, reporting [snitching]
- Attitudes
- Values
- Beliefs
- Norms
- Language
- Code of Silence
- Criminal Thinking
- Theatre of the Absurd

The Impact of Inmate Culture

- Survival
- Protection
- Group Affiliations
- Companionship/ Friend
- Reputation
- Fear
- Deprivation
- Curiosity/Exploration



Challenges to Changing Inmate Culture

Summary

Why does addressing inmate culture matter?

What impact does changing inmate culture have on sexual abuse in custody?

What impact does changing inmate culture have on implementing the standards?