

SECOND PLACE
2006 FINALIST YOUR VOICE, YOUR VIEW RADIO CONTEST

Coventry High School
Shane Fontaine, Betsy Rinaldi, and Laura Schmitz

Scene: a teenage boy is spending a Saturday afternoon with two of his close friends. After telling stories about homework and teachers, he decides to tell his friends about the situation he's been witnessing at school.

Teenage Boy: There is this girl in my math class. She's really hot and pretty and all She's the only girl in class and some of the guys - you know how guys act, right? They're making sexist comments and rude jokes about her body all the time. Well, last class, two guys started to try to mess around with her., I mean, nothing serious, they didn't hurt her or anything...

Good Friend: There is no "not serious." Sexual assault usually begins with sexist comments and invading someone's personal space without the person's consent is always wrong!

Bad Friend (flippantly): That's what I call dramatizing things. After all, nothing happened, just some boys joking around. So what should the girl complain about?

Good Friend: That's what these guys would say, but you know that's not the truth. You should step out of your role as bystander and tell the guys that their behavior is not cool and they need to stop. Before something really happens.

Bad Friend (angrily): Why are you worried about that anyways? That's none of your business. You don't even know the girl, do you? And how would you look in front of your friends?

Good Friend: If they were your friends, they'd appreciate your actions. Besides, most guys don't like it when a girl is being disrespected.

Teenage Boy (emphatically): I know what the right thing to do is. I need to step in! Why did I wait so long?

Good Friend (stated with vigor): That's it, don't be a bystander!
Every 2 ½ minutes somebody, somewhere in America is being sexually assaulted, What if this person was your sister, girlfriend, or daughter?

We need YOUR help to take a stand and help to stop and prevent sexual violence. To get involved, visit satrc.org or call the Sexual Assault & Trauma Resource Center at 401-421-4100.