SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: WHAT’S TECHNOLOGY GOT TO DO WITH IT?

PROTECTION, PREVENTION, INTERVENTION

Di Turgoose di.turgoose@dmu.ac.uk Twitter @DiTurgoose
FACTS ABOUT CRIME

Crime is committed disproportionately by males: “Sex status is of greater statistical significance in differentiating a criminal from non criminals than any other trait” Sutherland & Cressey in Heidensohn (1989)

But what about sexual violence?
- Are men the majority of perpetrators? YES to both Men & Women
- Are women the majority of victims? YES
- What about male victims? ALSO AN ISSUE!
What Is Rape Culture?

A culture in which rape and sexual violence are common and in which prevalent attitudes, norms, practices, and policies encourage, and support sexual violence.

Examples include:

- Victim-blaming
- Gender harassment
- Power imbalances between men and women

Cyclic

“Boys talk, girls gossip. And guess what? Boys talk about sexual activity and girls gossip about sexual activity with the opposite sex.”

Caved

when someone decides to be drunk and commit rape.
5 TRAUMA RESPONSES
PHYSIOLOGICAL REACTIONS:
THE 5 F'S

- **FIGHT**
  - Physical aggression: attacker may be smaller / weaker.
  - Verbal aggression, e.g., saying "no".

- **FLIGHT**
  - Running, barking away or hiding.
  - If there is somewhere to escape to or hide.

- **FREEZE**
  - Tonic immobility. Involuntary response.
  - Less chance of injury.

- **FLOP / FAWN**
  - Collapse and play dead.
  - After freeze fails, conserves energy, wounds heal.

- **FRIEND**
  - Trauma bonding (attach) / Stockholm Syndrome
  - Social engagement. Prolonged or infant trauma.

**AUTONOMIC NERVOUS SYSTEM**
- Hyperarousal, alarmed / startled.
- Increases heart rate, blood pressure, breathing.

**PARASYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM**
- Hypoarousal, dissociation.
- Metabolic shutdown, numbing, hiding behaviors.

source: Schore, 2009; Lodrick 2007

traumadissociation.com
a social network of individuals who interact through special social media, potentially crossing geographical and political boundaries in order to pursue mutual interests or goals.
Women Who Get Themselves (Too) Drunk Are Asking For It

- Deciding to drink too much does not mean that a woman has also decided to have sex
- Men who go out to get drunk do not face similar judgments about their behaviour & rarely do women take advantage of them sexually (LG relationships)
- Having ‘sex’ with someone who is too intoxicated to give full consent is rape
- Drinking isn’t a crime; Rape is (Rape Crisis poster campaign)
- Why does alcohol excuse his actions but condemn mine?
- Is Alcohol a date rape drug? Forget rohipnol
Some Women Are Just Asking For It — If You Dress In A Certain Way You Are Putting Yourself At Risk

- Women have the right to wear whatever they like — they cannot be blamed for suffering a sexual assault, regardless of their appearance
- Rape/sexual assault is never a victim’s fault. Assault is a choice an abuser makes — it is against the law
EXPERIENCE OF THE HISTORY OF TECH

- 1973: 1st mobile call made by Martin Cooper, former Motorola inventor.
- 1984: 1st mobiles went on sale for $4,000.
- 1990’s: My first mobile was a “dumb” phone (green Vodafone brick) used only for phone calls.
- Later I could ‘Dial up’ the internet via a modem (sounded like a fax machine).
- 2000: Morton Hall HM Prison – send an email!
- Nokia 1100 became the bestselling electrical gadget in history.

Your experience?

Today my phone is SMART & used for:
- Calls
- Text
- Email
- Filming
- Podcast recording
- Internet (Amazon shopping, Netflix movies)
- Social Networking (What is social media – differences between)
- Tracking (cat!)

Other?

Q: What medium of tech do you use to communicate messages?
   Does this change according to the receiver of the message?

Q: How many IoT gadgets do you have personally?
SOCIAL MEDIA/INTERNET

USE

e.g. twitter

- 140 million users worldwide/10 million UK
- 80% of access to twitter done on Mobile Phone

Internet use by adults for social networking

- 45% in 2011
- 53% in 2013
- 2018?

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Most used by 16-24 year olds
- Same age group ‘most’ likely to experience DVA & SV (Most likely to perpetrate it)
- Same age group least likely to use social media responsibly
- Most likely to leave ‘Violence’ unchallenged e.g. NUS Hidden Marks etc

• Transition to Uni (petri dish) Active bystanders to deter ‘seal clubbers’ - where are the active cyberstanders/panopticans?
- More people in the world have phones than toilets
- No of devices per person multiplying! Previously drug dealer = 2 phones!
- Average person unlocks phone 60-100 times a day!
- On phone average 2hrs a day; 14 hrs per week; 60 hrs a month
- 27% of web traffic on internet is uploading photos/videos to Facebook
- Technology behind smart phones = 250,000 patents = £££ - its your ATTENTION that is the product – to sell to advertisers hence click bait!

- Radiation = Insomnia/headaches/confusion
- Gaslighted by your phone/FAKE news/Breadth not depth/Lack of critical & deep thinking; Multi tasking (no such thing) v switching tasks (25 mins re adjustment)
- Algorithms – play on anxiety (see next slide) (Bill Gates/Steve Jobs kids allowed phones/IPads @ 14yrs of age NOT before – drug dealer doesn’t take their own drugs!)
ARE WE ADDICTED TO OUR PHONES? ATTACHMENT, MENTAL HEALTH & EMOTIONAL WELL BEING

Habit = something we choose to do then stop thinking about it

- **Cue** (trigger situation)
- **Response** (automatic behaviour becomes habit)
- **Reward** (variable ratios)

- Bored/stressed = reach for phone – get Rewarded – from then on any downtime = fill with phone

ALL Thanks to dopamine!

Pavlov got dogs to salivate to a bell

- **Push notifications** are these cues on our phones
- Give us something new & unpredictable to discover
- We are hard wired to not be able to resist them…

Algorithms draw you back EVEN when trying to avoid abuse

**NB LODRICK** role of attachment

- Phubbing = ignoring your friends in favour of your mobile phone (being alone together)
- When out for a meal does your phone have a table setting?

- Nomophobia = fear of being without your mobile phone or losing your signal
- Do you experience FOMO?
- Does digital detoxing – breaking up with your phone – fill you with dread?
HOW WE LEARN(T) ABOUT SEX

- Largest consumers of porn: 13-17 year old males
- Perception of normal: 83% males, 28% females
  - Spot the ‘normal’ vagina: males chose ‘Hollywood’
- Porn stars not ‘average person’:
  - Breast/penis enlargement
- Porn is not a sex manual: 10% & 50% YP think it’s educational – you wouldn’t learn to drive by watching Fast and Furious!
- No legal definition re: consent: what does consent actually mean? Tea & Consent
  - Traditional dating – more formal (Homer & Marge Simpsons dating episode – intimacy, romance, and consent)
  - Lost social script of dating
  - Other scripts: e.g. Teabagging (Wikipedia calls it hazing/bullying but is Sexual Assault/Rape!)
- HIDDEN CURRICULUM!
Why do you send dick pics?

To get a girlfriend

Does it work?

No

Why do you send dick pics?

 Murdered by my boyfriend
PROTECTION: RESPONSIBILISING OR EMPOWERING?

Introducing Hollie Guard
Your new personal safety app
www.hollieguard.com

Hollie Guard turns your smartphone into an advanced personal safety device at the touch of a button.

In danger? A simple shake or tap activates Hollie Guard. Your location, along with audio/video evidence, is automatically sent to your emergency contact. A second shake sends out a high pitched alarm and the flash starts to strobe, in order to attract maximum attention.

www.hollieguard.com | info@hollieguard.com | @Hollie_Guard
**TASK**

**HOW DOES YOUR AGENCY RESPOND TO REPORTED ‘INCIDENTS’? DO YOU EVIDENCE CONTINUUM & HOT SPOTS?**

- Protection
- Prevention
- Intervention

- Alleged Perpetrators
- Victims/Complainant
- Significant Others

**What Examples can you think of = Power & Control i.e. ...how might SV also be operationalised via technology/social media?**

**Write down perceptions/experiences/feelings about agency response(s) generally**

**How do you respond to on line?**

**How do you respond to off line?**

**Make a note of similarities/differences**
POWER AND CONTROL

Physical Violence:
- Coercion and Threats: Making threats via email, instant and text messages. Sending disturbing information and website links. Posting false and hurtful information on blogs and websites.

Sexual Violence:

Economic Abuse:
- Tracking or manipulating financial accounts online. Controlling and denying access to online accounts. Destroying your credit rating through identity theft.

Using Privilege & Oppression:
- Making all the decisions about technology. Making you feel stupid and incapable of understanding or afraid of technology.

Using Others:
- Getting other people (children, friends, family, caregivers) to monitor and harass, install devices, and get information such as account numbers or passwords. Using websites to encourage strangers to harass you.

Minimizing, Denying, Blaming:
- Normalizing the control and abuse by saying the technology monitoring is for “your own safety.” Shifting responsibility by saying you somehow installed the Spyware or other technology devices.

Isolation:
- Cutting off or limiting your technology use and access. Tracking and monitoring your whereabouts to prevent you from contacting others. Using technology to discredit you personally or professionally. Sending damaging or inappropriate emails, pretending to be you.

Emotional Abuse:
- Ridiculing or putting you down using technology. Manipulating technology to confuse or scare you. Keeping you technology-dependent. Making you think you’re crazy by misusing technology.