

ESCALATION

RAISING THE COLLEGE STUDENTS' AWARENESS OF WARNING SIGNS OF ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS



SUMMARY

To raise the college students’ awareness of the warning signs of abusive relationships.

DESCRIPTION

Given the higher prevalence of abusive relationship (AR) in our society and the lack of awareness about the early signs of AR among college students as shown by previous research, preventative measures need to be taken to help raise college students’ awareness of the warning signs of AR. This current research is an initial step “pilot testing” to test the acceptability, feasibility, and the effectiveness of the “escalation” workshop in raising the college students’ awareness regarding the warning signs of AR. The long term goal is to refine the workshop based on this study, if needed, to reach and impact all students at Marquette and beyond.



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MILESTONES

1. Recruit the focus groups to participate in the “Escalation” workshop, pre/post surveys. One semester.
2. Analyze qualitative data and compile information regarding the effectiveness of the workshop as an educational tool. Half a semester.
3. Information and data will be compiled and reported back to the foundation in order to help improve or maintain the effectiveness of the workshop.

ABOUT OUR TEAM

Dr. Abir Bekhet, Associate Professor of Nursing
Alina Atayan, undergraduate student
Courtney Kailunas, undergraduate student
Taylor Lee, undergraduate student
Erin Herdeman, undergraduate student

The team was formed after the team took Dr. Bekhet’s Mental Health class and or Culture and Health class, and found the information very pertaining to their work/training with the One Love Foundation. The Foundation was formed in honor of Yeardley Love, who was beaten to death by her abusive ex-boyfriend in 2010. The One Love Foundation focuses on educating and empowering people ages 18-24 about the signs of abusive relationships through their “Escalation” workshop. This workshop could positively impact the Marquette community. Alina, Courtney, Taylor, and Erin had previously been exposed to the foundation due to their research interest and or a personal connection whom is related to Yeardley Love. Bekhet, Atayan, kailunas, Lee, and Herdman have been trained by the One Love foundation to facilitate the workshop.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES

This research is in alignment with the strategic plan “Social Responsibility and Community Engagement”, “research in action”, and Pursuit of Academic Excellent for Human Well-Being. Through this research, one of the key community issues “Abusive relationship”, will be addressed. Another strategic plan is “formation of the Mind and the Heart” in which lives, meanings, and purpose will be examined in the contexts of community needs. The program will teach students about healthy relationships that are based on equality and respect, not on power and control. Thus embracing diversity and nurturing personal gifts through cura personalis. Academic excellence will be achieved through future grant applications.