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## Don't Just Stand By. . .

Hollywood's #metoo movement has spurred continued interest in Title IX, the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination at universities. The same law that opened the school doors and playing fields to all genders is now working to reduce sexual violence on college campuses. Interest has come from student-led advocacy, the White House, Congress, federal agencies, and the media. Our campuses are determined to protect our students from assault and to punish and/or criminally prosecute those who violate Title IX and our sexual misconduct policies.

One of the concepts to receive well-deserved attention is the role of the “bystander” in helping prevent misconduct. Psychologists long ago noted what they call the “bystander effect.” That is – humans will sometimes stand by while something terrible occurs, hoping (or falsely trusting) that someone else will act.

Many programs now exist to convert bystanders from an idle “effect” into an active “intervention.” These programs can help teach you and your members how to intervene to protect your members, your organization, and your guests from harm. The basic steps are:



**Links to Title IX and Bystander Intervention Resources**

- UA Title IX Website
- UA Women and Gender Resource Center
- UAB Title IX Website
- UAB Counseling Center
- UAH Title IX Website
- UAH Student Resources
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center