

Healing Hearts, BUILDING FUTURES

SPRING 2014

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The Sex Abuse Treatment Center's mission is to support the emotional healing process of those sexually assaulted in Hawai'i, to increase community awareness about their needs and to reduce the incidence of all forms of sexual assault.

FROM THE HEART

Comments from those served by the SATC staff

"...[The SATC physician] was very awesome, made me feel comfortable, relaxed, and not scared anymore. . . . [I] was very nervous but he did a great job. [The SATC crisis worker] made me feel safe and took very good care of me. She didn't leave me alone and I felt better. . . . Amazing!"
(sexual assault survivor seen for the acute forensic examination)

"My SATC counselor has helped me realize that the abuse wasn't my fault, and that I can get better and become a stronger person." *(sexual assault survivor referring to an SATC therapist)*

"All information presented was useful and enhanced my repertoire of materials for teaching, not only about sexual abuse and violence, but about more areas of health education." *(teacher referring to a sexual violence prevention curriculum training)*

[respect]

Give It. Get It. Live It.

Respect is holding a special and higher feeling of admiration for someone.

~ Valita Likio, 16-year-old Roosevelt High School student

Respect goes very deep. Respect opens up doors of trust, strength, and even love.

~ Serena Michel, 18-year-old Roosevelt High School student

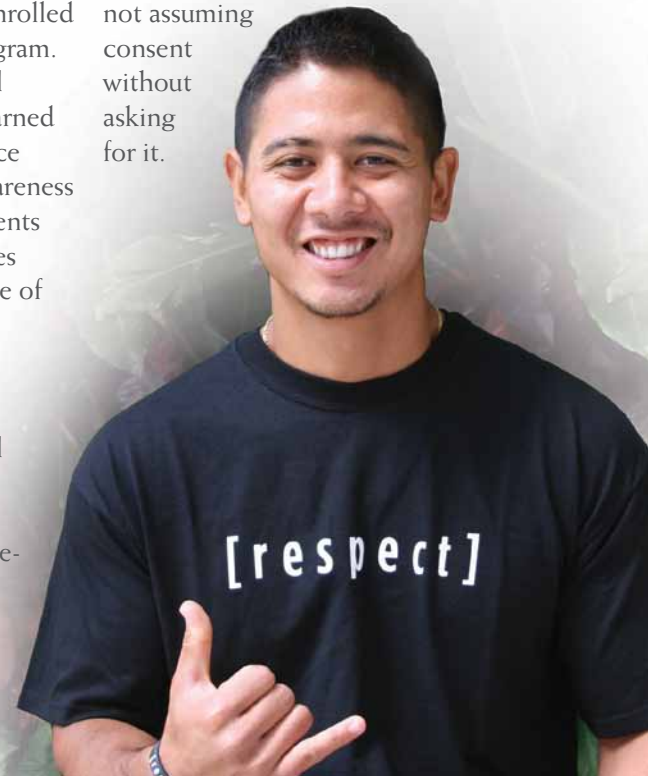
Respect. It is a concept that can represent a number of things to different people. However, at its core, it reflects a thoughtful consideration of others. In the context of sexual activity, respect is essential. Without respect, sexual activity easily crosses into sexual violence.

This spring semester, the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) has been working with an enthusiastic group of Roosevelt High School students enrolled in the school's Peer Education Program. From SATC's [respect] high school curriculum, these students have learned a solid foundation of sexual violence prevention and skills to spread awareness to their peers. The motivated students have initiated a long list of activities and events to reinforce the message of [respect] at their schools.

Promoting a culture of [respect] will be the focus of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. We will be relaunching the [respect] radio spots and television public service announcements, along with the eye-catching and memorable [respect] branding. The goal of [respect] is to help individuals identify

sexually offensive behavior, understand its consequences, and encourage them to take the time to discuss their partners' feelings and engage in healthy, respectful relationships.

Most sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows. This might be a friend, acquaintance, or intimate partner. [respect] reinforces the importance of communication and not assuming consent without asking for it.



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www.satchawaii.org

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Give It. Get It. Live It. (continued)

Understanding consent is particularly important in situations involving alcohol. Alcohol use often plays a role in sexual assaults, especially in cases involving victims between the ages of 18-29. While alcohol use or intoxication does not cause sexual assault, it can cause people to misinterpret signals and blur the lines of [respect]. Consent must be clear and freely given. Sex without consent is rape.

Although most people are not perpetrators of sexual violence, many people are bystanders to sexually offensive behavior. This is often true when alcohol is involved. By vocalizing disapproval of sexually aggressive behavior or intervening to stop it when possible, upstanders can help to prevent sexual violence.

[respect]

Throughout April, SATC will collaborate to conduct [respect] days at O'ahu high schools, where students will spread the [respect] message to their peers, and hold [respect] events throughout the community to create environments of [respect]. Together with the

Honolulu Theatre for Youth, we will also hold a youth rally to dialogue about [respect] and other topics on sexual violence prevention. And, check out our new webpage dedicated to [respect]: www.respecthawaii.org

Measures Before the Hawai'i State Legislature to Eliminate the Statute of Limitations

It is common for survivors of sexual assault to wait some time before telling anyone about the assault. Some survivors may never tell. This is especially true for survivors of child sexual abuse. Reporting an assault takes tremendous courage and a survivor may need time to work through the many emotions and experiences before they are ready to engage with the legal system.

In 2012, Hawai'i amended its statute of limitations for civil actions involving child sexual abuse. The law extended the statute of limitations and provided a two-year window of opportunity for victims of child sexual abuse that would have been barred by the statute of limitations to bring civil charges against the perpetrator or against the entity that employed the person accused of committing the abuse. This two-year window closes on April 24, 2014. While the law has provided survivors with a chance to obtain justice, it has also

served to expose the long-hidden abusers and institutions who failed to protect children from abuse. To date, a number of survivors have come forward with suits directly attributable to the law.

During this current session of the Hawai'i State Legislature, several bills were introduced to eliminate the statute of limitations on sexual assault. The Women's Legislative Caucus introduced a measure to completely eliminate the statute of limitations for both criminal and civil cases involving sexual assault in the first and second degrees, and continuous sexual assault of a minor under the age of fourteen years. Additionally, another measure would allow victims to continue to bring previously barred civil law suits beyond April 24, 2014.

For more information on the current law or the proposed measures, please contact SATC's Policy Research Associate at 808-535-7600.

Successful 15th Annual Benefit Luncheon

Over 260 friends of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) were in attendance to show their generous support at SATC's 15th Annual "It's Not Your Fault" Benefit Luncheon held at the O'ahu Country Club on October 22, 2013.

The event highlighted the many partnerships that have allowed us to provide sexual assault survivors with quality, compassionate, and comprehensive services, and our communities with educational programming and advocacy to effectively address and prevent sexual violence. In particular, the program featured the training film created for law enforcement personnel who respond to sexual assault survivors, made in collaboration with the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and survivors, who courageously shared their personal experiences for the project.

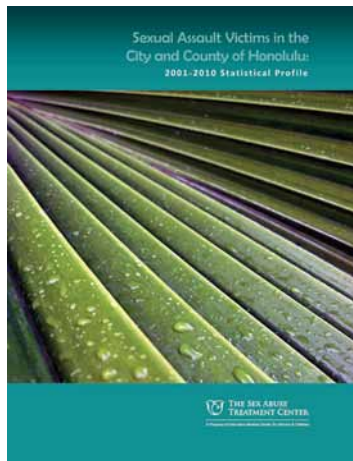
Mahalo to everyone who came or contributed to the event, with special thanks to our premium sponsors! We look forward to seeing you again next year!



(L to R) HPD Major Richard Robinson, HPD Lieutenant Randall Platt, HPD Detective Mark Matsusaka, HPD Detective Elizabeth Rockett, SATC Executive Director Adriana Ramelli, Parent of a Survivor and SATC Advisory Board Member Monica Cobb-Adams, HPD Captain Lisa Mann

Report Examines 10 Years of Sexual Assault Data

A recent report by the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC), *Sexual Assault Victims in Hawai'i: a 2001-2010 Statistical Profile*, is available on SATC's website. It provides a descriptive analysis of over 4,800 sexual assault victims who received services through SATC in the City and County of Honolulu from mid-2001 through 2010. It also compares the data to that of the prior decade to examine trends over the past twenty years and across nearly 10,000 victims.



The high frequency of alcohol use involved in a majority of sexual assaults is alarming. To address the incidence of alcohol-related sexual violence, SATC is in the process of developing a prevention program aimed to reduce the risk of sexual violence in alcohol-serving establishments through bystander awareness and education.

The full report is available for download from the SATC website at www.satchawaii.org or by contacting SATC at 535-7600.

Some key findings of the report include:

- Honolulu data on sexual assault has been remarkably consistent over time and closely aligns with national statistics.
 - Children and youth comprised a significant majority of sexual assault victims that were seen through SATC.
 - Victims in Honolulu were most often females (88%) and offenders most often males (97.4%).
 - Most adults (80%) and minors (92.5%) reported that they knew the offender prior to the assault (versus the offender being a stranger).
- Alcohol use often plays a significant role in the sexual assaults of both children and adults.
 - Over half of all offenders were reported by victims to have been under the influence of alcohol.
 - Offender alcohol use was highest where victims were 18-29 years old.
 - Alcohol use was more likely where the offender was an acquaintance or stranger.
- SATC is an increasingly well-known provider in the community, with more referrals now coming from schools, workplaces, and social service agencies rather than the police, which was the predominant referral source in the prior 10 years.

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Adriana Ramelli Honored with Hawai'i Appleseed Voice of the People Award

On November 7, 2013, Adriana Ramelli, executive director for the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC), received the Hawai'i Appleseed Voice of the People Award from the Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice for her lifetime work in advocating for the rights of sexual assault survivors.

(L to R) Hawai'i State Coalition Against Sexual Assault Executive Director Paula Chun, SATC Executive Director Adriana Ramelli, SATC Assistant Director Cindy Shimomi-Saito, SATC Policy Research Associate Alana Peacott-Ricardos, and SATC Clinical Program Manager Evie Yanagida

