Bystander Intervention Playbook

Try a play from our playbook to help you intervene in a situation potentially involving sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and/or cyberstalking.
Tips for intervening:

- Approach everyone as a friend.
- Do not be antagonistic.
- Avoid using violence.
- Be honest and direct whenever possible.
- Recruit help if necessary.
- Keep yourself safe.
- If things get out of hand or become too serious, contact the police.

For more information, visit www.stopabuse.vt.edu

Adapted with permission from William and Mary Sexual Assault Services (2008). www.wm.edu/sexualassaultservices.
DEFENSIVE SPLIT
Need a plan for intervening in a situation potentially involving sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or cyberstalking?

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DEFENSIVE SPLIT

Step in and separate the two people. Let them know your concerns and reasons for intervening. Be a friend and let them know you are acting in their best interest. Make sure each person makes it home safely.

www.stopabuse.vt.edu

Adapted with permission from William and Mary Sexual Assault Services (2008). www.wm.edu/sexualassaultservices.
PICK AND ROLL

over
Need a plan for intervening in a situation potentially involving sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or cyberstalking?

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**PICK AND ROLL**

Use a distraction to redirect the focus somewhere else:

“Hey, I need to talk to you.”

or

“Hey, this party is lame. Let’s go somewhere else.”

[www.stopabuse.vt.edu](http://www.stopabuse.vt.edu)

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the OPTION
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Evaluate the situation and people involved to determine your best move. You could directly intervene yourself, or alert friends of each person to come in and help. If the person reacts badly, try a different approach.

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FULL COURT PRESS
Need a plan for intervening in a situation potentially involving sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or cyberstalking?

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FULL COURT PRESS

Recruit the help of friends of both people to step in as a group.

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FUMBLEROOSKI

Divert the attention of one person away from the other person. Have someone standing by to redirect the other person’s focus (see “Pick and Roll”). Commit a party foul (i.e. spilling your drink) if you need to.

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