

#9327

ONE OF US

AIMS MULTIMEDIA

1998

Grade Levels: 10-13+

28 minutes



DESCRIPTION

Acquaintance rape and its consequences are dramatically seen in this realistic story of Liz, a college student. NOTE: Explicit language.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Health

- Standard: Knows how to maintain mental and emotional health
 - Benchmark: Understands the role of denial as a negative influence on mental and emotional health, and ways to overcome denial and seek assistance when needed
- Standard: Understands aspects of substance use and abuse
 - Benchmark: Knows how the abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs often plays a role in dangerous behavior and can have adverse consequences on the community (e.g., house fires, motor vehicle crashes, domestic violence, date rape, transmission of diseases through needle sharing or sexual activity)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To portray an acquaintance rape victim's struggle.
2. To make viewers aware of the crime of acquaintance rape.
3. To demonstrate the connection between alcohol and acquaintance rape.
4. To encourage victims of acquaintance rape to seek help.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. What kind of person is Liz?
2. What kind of person is John?
3. Why didn't Liz immediately tell people about the rape?
4. How did Liz's behavior change after the rape?
5. Do you consider acquaintance rape a sexual assault? Why or why not?
6. Explain the title *One of Us*.
7. What role did alcohol play in this acquaintance rape?
8. What can be done to prevent acquaintance rape?

Applications and Activities

1. Write a diary entry for one of the following characters:
 - a. Jen, who is skeptical about what happened to Liz
 - b. Paula, who finally understands why Liz has been behaving differently
 - c. Liz, after her friends find out about her situation
2. Imagine that your cousin, Marcia, is leaving for college. What advice could you give her so that she would be aware of the danger of acquaintance rape? What would you tell her about social drinking? Write Marcia a letter of advice.

SUMMARY

The growing problem of acquaintance rape is presented in a thought-provoking, realistic setting. *One of Us* is the story of Liz, a teenager, who is raped after a party by a guy she thought she could trust. A survey (the College School Survey) of alcohol use found that 75% of acquaintance rapes involved alcohol and Liz's experience is no exception. Her life is shattered, but she must learn to deal with the rape and the harrowing side effects that go along with it. Liz's story paints the dramatic portrait of the attitudes toward the problem of acquaintance rape. Initially, she withdraws into isolation and depression. Her friends are confused by her behavior change until she reveals the truth. Two of her roommates are skeptical of Liz's story, but her closest friend says, "It could have happened to any one of us." Viewers will realize just how serious this delicate issue is when "just saying no" may not be enough.



RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Friends Raping Friends: Strategies for Prevention #2661
- No Means No! Avoiding Date Abuse #2506
- Surviving Rape: A Journey Through Grief #2687
- Without Consent #2546



World Wide Web

The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• PREVENTING ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS ON CAMPUS: ACQUAINTANCE RAPE

<http://www.edc.org/hec/pubs/acqraper.html>

A guide for coordinators, provides extensive information on acquaintance rape, explains why top administrators should get involved, what administrators can do, and much more.



- **SEXUAL ASSAULT FACTS & EDUCATION**

<http://rivervision.com/safe/index.html>

Educates about sexual assault. Topics include "Living in a Rape Supportive Culture," "Acquaintance Rape," "Myths and Facts About Sexual Assault," "What YOU Can Do to Prevent Sexual Assault," and numerous other information.

- **DATE RAPE/ACQUAINTANCE RAPE**

<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/sexual/ffdaterape.html>

Explains what is meant by acquaintance rape. Contains topics on "Issues Related to Sexual Assault," a note for hearing-impaired persons in the "Special Populations" topic, "Effects of Sexual Assault," and others. Provides links to "National Center for Victims of Crime," "National Sexual Assault Hotline," "Men Can Stop Rape," and more.