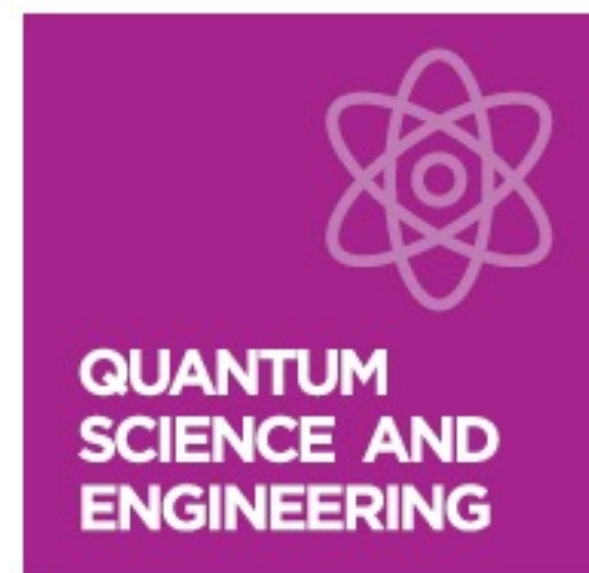


Preventing Sexual Violence is Possible:

A Case Example from an Indian Reservation in South Dakota



Katie M. Edwards, Ph.D.

Educational Psychology

Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families, and Schools



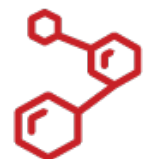
Interpersonal Violence Research Laboratory: What We Do



How do we prevent sexual and related forms of violence?



How do we most effectively support survivors in the aftermath of violent victimization?



GRAND CHALLENGES





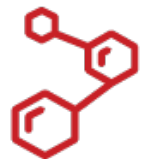
Interpersonal Violence Research Laboratory: How We Do It



Community-led approaches to develop and evaluate strengths-focused, culturally grounded initiatives to prevent sexual and related forms of violence



Minoritized populations, including Native Americans and LGBTQ+ populations

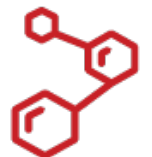


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Case Example: Preventing Sexual Violence on an Indian Reservation



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Effectiveness of a Sexual Assault Self-defense Program for American Indian Girls

Katie M. Edwards¹, Laura Siller, Lorey A. Wheeler, more... [Show all authors](#)

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<https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260521997942>

JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY

RESEARCH ARTICLE

"I learned that I am worth defending": A process evaluation of a sexual assault prevention program implemented on an Indian reservation

Laura Siller ✉, Katie M. Edwards, Leon Leader Charge, Simone Bordeaux, Damon Leader Charge, Ramona Herrington.

First published: 28 June 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.22632>

JOURNAL OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE
2020, VOL. 29, NO. 8, 900-910
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10538712.2020.1847229>

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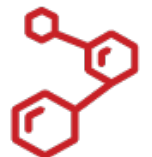
Efficacy of a Sexual Abuse Prevention Program with Children on an Indian Reservation

Katie M. Edwards^a, Laura Siller^a, Leon Leader Charge^b, Simone Bordeaux^b, Damon Leader Charge^b, and Ramon Herrington^c

^aNebraska Research on Children, Youth, Families, and Schools, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE, USA; ^bRosebud Sioux Tribe, USA; ^cOglala Sioux Tribe, USA

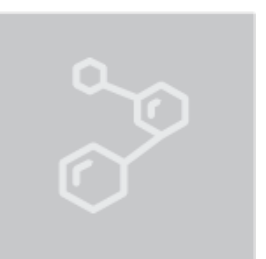


Sexual Assault Among Native Americans



***Colonization &
Multiple
Historical
Traumas***

***Yet, Highly
Resilient***



STOP SV		
Strategy		Approach
S	Promote Social Norms that Protect Against Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bystander Approaches • Mobilizing men and boys as allies
T	Teach Skills to Prevent Sexual Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social-emotional learning • Teaching healthy, safe dating and intimate relationship skills to adolescents • Promoting healthy sexuality • Empowerment-based training
O	Provide Opportunities to Empower and Support Girls and Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening economic supports for women and families • Strengthening leadership and opportunities for girls
P	Create Protective Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving safety and monitoring in schools • Establishing and consistently applying workplace policies • Addressing community-level risks through environmental approaches
SV	Support Victims/Survivors to Lessen Harms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victim-centered services • Treatment for victims of SV • Treatment for at-risk children and families to prevent problem behavior including sex offending

CDC's STOP SV



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No Means No Worldwide's IMpower

– Program Overview

- 12 hours
- Identification of risk
- Responding to risk
 - Verbal skills
 - Physical skills
- Empowerment/Self-esteem



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Outcomes for Middle and High School Girls



Knowledge about effective sexual assault defense strategies



Increase confidence to stop/avoid a sexual assault



Reductions in sexual assault and sexual harassment

“I learned that I am worth defending”



Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Community Engagement

Selection of the Intervention

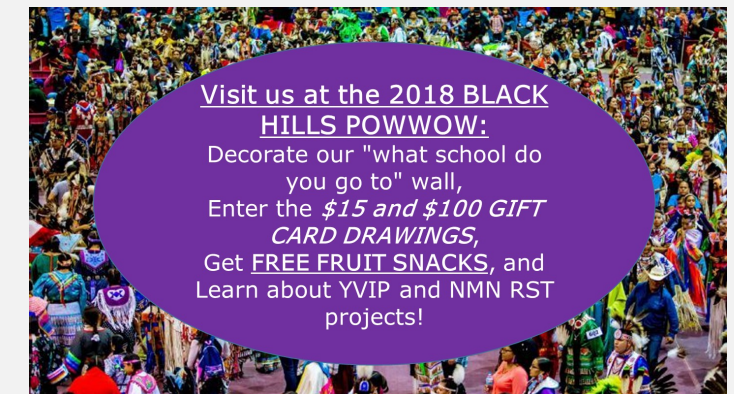
Community buy-in



**CHILI FEED
ALL DAY**

Data ownership and dissemination of findings

Community immersion



Visit us at the 2018 BLACK HILLS POWWOW:
Decorate our "what school do you go to" wall,
Enter the \$15 and \$100 GIFT CARD DRAWINGS,
Get FREE FRUIT SNACKS, and
Learn about YVIP and NMN RST projects!

Todd County TRIBUNE
Wednesday, October 3, 2018

No Means No staff arrives to work with local trainers for new school programs

Photo by Kevin Thranow

New local trainers of No Means No Worldwide's iPower sexual assault prevention program will be working with students in Todd County and St. Francis schools. Left to right, Rachel Janis, Bailey Royl, and Marisa Hutchinson-Vargas.

was selected to represent her tribe at the White House Tribal Nations Conference and Tribal Youth Gathering. She is currently studying for a business degree at SGL. These intelligent and committed young women form the nucleus of the local training effort, and the amount of energy that they bring to the project is a good sign for the future of the iPower classes on the Rosebud Reservation. As Society executive director Janet Bourton noted, having the tools and skills to prevent a sexual assault is preferable to having to respond to one.

another member of the No Means No team who arrived this week is Dr. Katie Edwards, an associate professor of psychology at the University of New Hampshire. Edwards is conducting a study to evaluate the No Means No curriculum's impact on preventing sexual assault. Part of that effort will be to survey all of the students who participate in the classes. Edwards encourages all parents and guardians to fill out consent forms for their children and return them to the school office. She also said that No Means No Worldwide staff would be available to pick up forms if it's difficult to get transportation. She can be reached at 8603 430-2099, either voice or text, or via email at imnmeans@gmail.com. Consent forms are available at Todd County and St. Francis Indian schools and can be downloaded at <http://imnmeans.org/>. Everyone who gets their consent form in before October 9 will be eligible for a \$100 gift card drawing.

To express appreciation for the outpouring of community support, Edwards is organizing a free all-day chili feed from 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 8, at Ft. Paul Hall behind St. Thomas Church in Mission. No Means No trainers and staff will be on hand to answer questions. Parents, guardians, and students are welcome to come in and have some chili and learn more about the project.

GRAND CHALLENGES

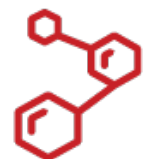


Working alongside community members and engaging UNL students and postdoctoral scholars to make impactful, meaningful, and sustained change in the lives of minoritized (yet highly resilient) populations is a tremendous honor that has deep personal and professional significance.

**A Health Equity
Approach**
to Preventing Sexual Violence

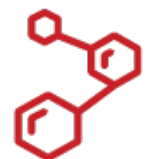
GRAND CHALLENGES





Remember everyday why you chose this line of work and allow that to be your source of perseverance. Surround yourself by those who will support you personally and professionally. Make meaningful connections with the communities you wish to serve and allow yourself to be impacted by them. Make space for humor and laughter. Allow setbacks and rejection to motivate you. Be bold and do it in a way where others will listen. Be humble. Listen, really listen.

GRAND



THANK YOU!

Katie M. Edwards

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- Associate Professor, Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families, and Schools
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- Phone: 603-422-3207
- Website:
<http://cyfs.unl.edu/academies-bureaus/ivrl/index.php>

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