

Bystander 101

A bystander should determine how to best intervene based on feelings and personal safety. The below chart provides general approaches and actual interventions. You can prevent an assault in just a few words.

GENERAL APPROACHES		ACTUAL ACTIONS
<p>Let parties know you're concerned with what is going on;</p> <p>Make sure each party makes it home safe by asking a trusted friend or group of friends.</p>	Separate Parties	<p>"You don't look so hot"</p> <p>"You don't look like things are okay"</p> <p>"I'm concerned about what's going on here"</p> <p>"I'm concerned for you"</p>
<p>Use something to pull attention away from the problem and focus on something else;</p> <p>Change the topic of conversation.</p>	Provide Distractions	<p>"Hey, we need to talk a moment"</p> <p>"I hate this party, let's go"</p> <p>"I think your car is being towed"</p> <p>"I think the cops just got here"</p>
<p>Provide a visible distraction that needs to be attended too if nothing else seems to work (ie spill a drink); this can buy you necessary time.</p>	Delay Situation	<p>"Hey bud, your nose is bleeding"</p> <p>"There's something weird on you back, looks like puke"</p> <p>(spill drink) ... "My bad! That shirt looks expensive"</p>
<p>Speak up and say what is happening is not okay or appropriate.</p>	Directly Intervene	<p>"This is DSU, we don't do that"</p> <p>"Man, I know you are better than that"</p> <p>"I'm seeing __ (action) __, and feel very uncomfortable"</p>
<p>Recruit others to assist you; get friends of all parties involved to assist in diffusing the situation.</p>	Group Intervention	<p>"What should we do?"</p> <p>"I notice __ (name) __ is really drunk, we should help them out"</p> <p>"Everyone's going home alone, you can call them tomorrow"</p>
<p>Acting as both a distraction and delay, others will take notice of what is happening and you can recruit them to assist in intervening more effectively.</p>	Make a Scene	<p>"Get away from my (friend, brother, sister, etc)"</p> <p>"That's my (girlfriend/boyfriend), what's going on?"</p> <p>"Hey, they just stole my wallet"</p>
<p>Not every situation can be handled, and you do not have to intervene alone.</p> <p>The DSU security and Office of Housing & Dining both have 24-hour on call personnel. DSU takes the reporting of violence seriously, and responds to situations seriously and quickly.</p>	Call Professionals	<p>DSU On-Call Housing cellphone: 701.290.2099</p> <p>DSU Security cellphone: 701.290.1068</p> <p>Emergency Services: 911 (dialing from DSU landline 9-911)</p>

