



OWL: Taking Flight

**Sexual Assault
Awareness Month
(SAAM)**

Introductions



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What words come to mind when you hear the topic sexual violence?

- Got to <https://www.menti.com/4nu97kpcdh> and enter **1417 6723**
- Choose up to 3 words that come to mind.



Why is sexual violence a concern for OWL facilitators?

It

- affects congregants' spiritual health
- impacts the effectiveness of OWL curriculum
- undermines the health of youth
- flies in the face of everything faith stands for

Role of Faith: Prevention & Intervention

- Storytelling
- Faith leaders, clergy and lay alike, are in unique positions to support and intervene.



Ways to support survivors

- Learn more
- Confidentiality
- Break the silence
- Plan for triggers
- Connect with local sexual violence advocates & develop programming
- Identify faith resources (scriptures, principles, books, etc.)
- Partner during SAAM

Possible Behavioral Signs

- Hypersexuality
- Disassociation
- Nightmares
- Mood Swings
- Self-injury
- Drug/alcohol use
- Depression/anxiety
- Mood Swings
- Delays
(developmental,
behavioral)



Handling Disclosure

- Active listening
- Validation
- Support
- Seek appropriate help

*Confidentiality & minors (don't confront a potential abuser).

Resources

- Activity: [How could sexual violence affect a faith community activity?](#)
- Activity: [Response skills for faith leaders: Initial response to disclosure.](#)
- Sexual Violence restroom/board flyer: https://a82d07d9-81fc-4a06-ae8-464d0da71159.filesusr.com/ugd/991f52_dc09f9415194480baec2e89c31713811.pdf
&
https://a82d07d9-81fc-4a06-ae8-464d0da71159.filesusr.com/ugd/991f52_6ae55138597145f680299001a5bce6fc.pdf

Questions?

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