



Parents for Prevention: Raising A Sexually Healthy Generation

KELLYMARIE Z. MEEK

COORDINATOR OF PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

IOWA COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

PREVENTION@IOWACASA.ORG

What are we going to cover today?

1. Quick overview of public health approaches to prevention
2. Connecting the Dots: what we know about what causes different types of violence, and how those things are connected
3. Parents for Prevention – the website, the curriculum, and what's next (and how you can help!)

First, let's take a trip...



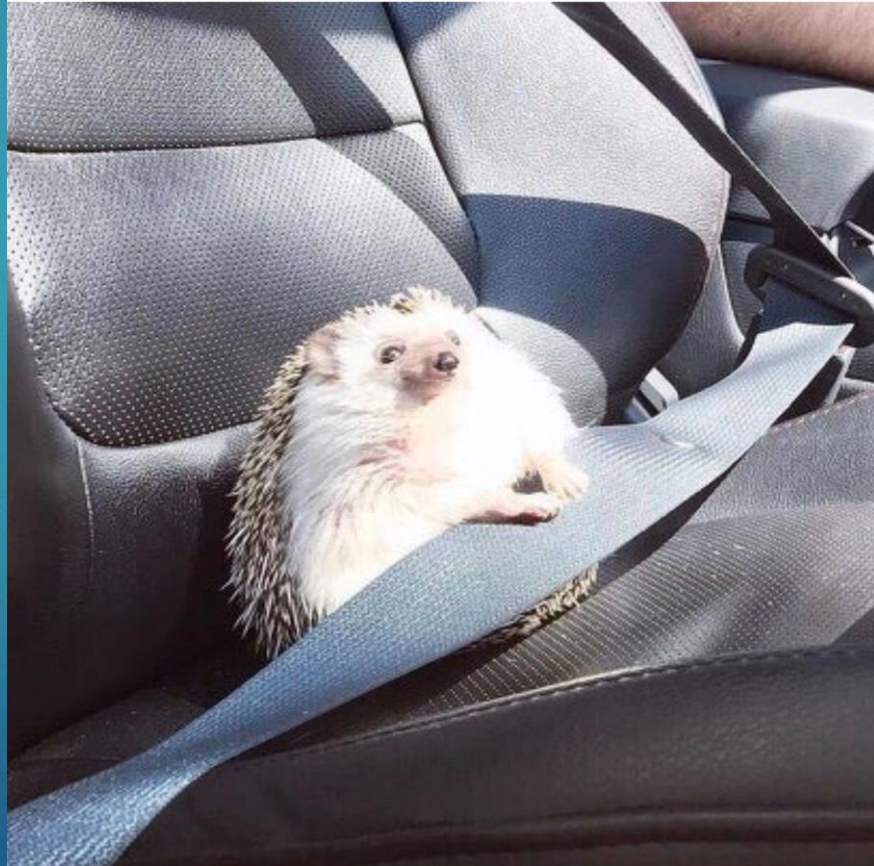
Meet Otis



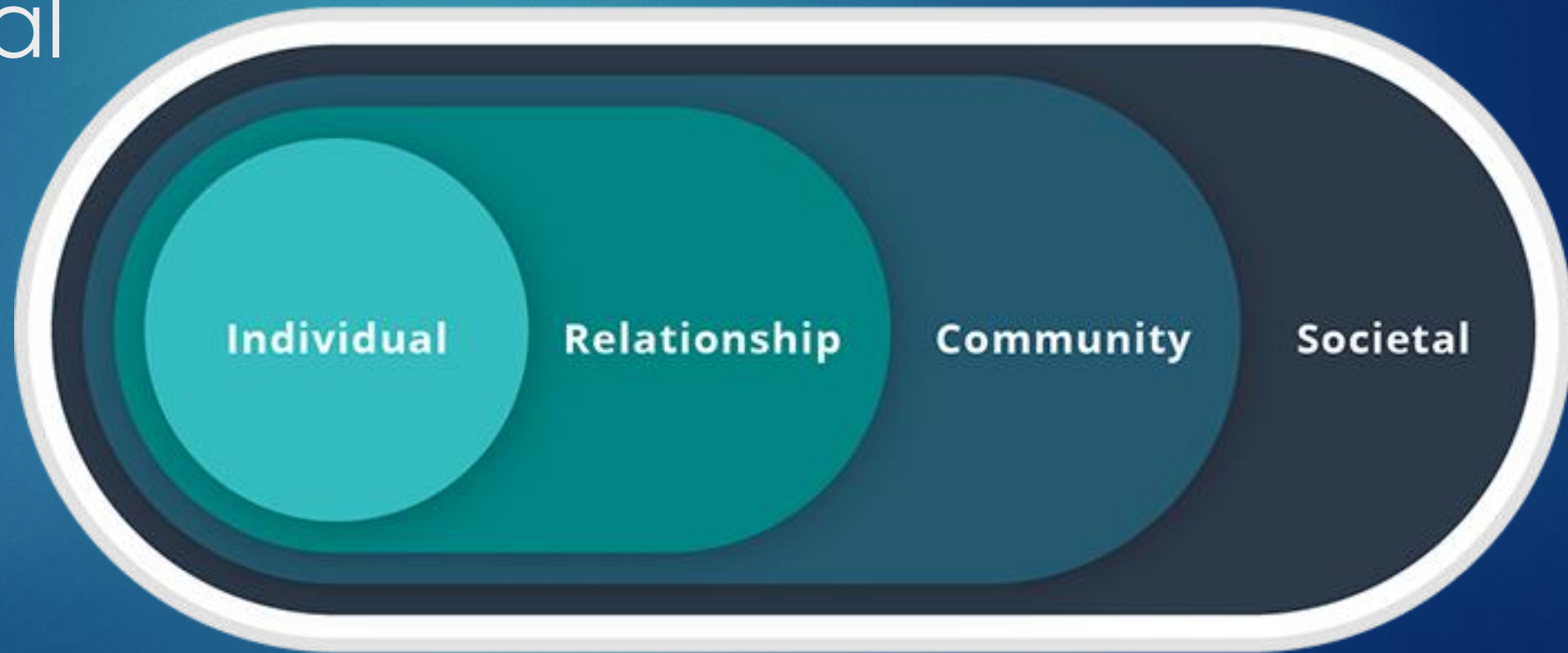
Who here wears their seatbelt?
Why?

(Go ahead and
type it in the
chat... I'll wait!)

**When you're finally old enough
to ride in the front seat:**



So, how do we actually change behavior over time? Public health says we have to follow the Social Ecological Model.



Let's talk DATA (but first some disclaimers...)

- ▶ This is CDC (Centers for Disease Control) data
- ▶ To “make the cut” with the CDC, there has to be a scientifically significant amount of published, peer-reviewed research showing a clear connection
- ▶ This means that there are surely more connections between these types of violence than this tool will show us
- ▶ Data in sexual violence prevention is focused solely on what makes it more or less likely for someone to CAUSE sexual harm, not to experience it



Connecting the Dots

- ▶ Sexual Violence
- ▶ Bullying
- ▶ Suicide
- ▶ Youth Violence
- ▶ Teen Dating Violence
- ▶ Child Abuse and Neglect
- ▶ Elder Abuse and Neglect
- ▶ Intimate Partner Violence



So why Parents for Prevention?

Instinct Is Weird



RAISE A HAND...



If you've ever seen questions like this on Facebook or another online space...

(don't be shy!)



QUESTIONS ABOUT BODY PARTS...

Hubs had the big V a few weeks ago, and we told the girls they had to be careful around daddy because he had surgery on his butt. They call their girly parts their butt so I knew they'd get it. I sure as hell didn't think she would go and update her classmates and teachers on his progress!!!

So...I know there's been talk about children learning the correct terms. How does this even happen? Do you wait until they ask, or call it something different, and then correct them? I don't know why it makes me so uncomfortable, but it does, and I know it shouldn't. I understand that my girls need to know the correct terms for many reasons. My mom never taught me the correct terms as a kid, so that's probably why I'm so uncomfortable with it. I don't want it to be. :)



QUESTIONS ABOUT BODY PARTS...

So the other post about knowing anatomy got me thinking.. my boys are 7 and 4.5, and don't know proper terms. They don't even know that women have different parts. I haven't lied, or gone out of my way to not tell them, it just hasn't come up. They know what their penis is, but that's about it. How do I go about it? Do I wait for questions? Any good books to help out? I feel like I've failed by not teaching them young!



QUESTIONS ABOUT BODILY AUTONOMY...

I'm gearing up for a discussion with my husband about body autonomy. Our son is 14 months and he pressures him for hugs, will sometimes continue to roughhouse with him even after it's clear our son is over it, and tickles me (and I haaaaaate being tickled). Can anyone suggest a good article or video that I can share with him that breaks it down? He thinks these things are all in good fun, but it's not the example I want to set for our son.



1

1 Comment

AND SEXTING

Hello everyone, I just wondered how people are talking to their teens about teen relationships and more specifically sexting, age appropriate sexual behavior, consent and initiating sexual contact. I have a daughter (13) and I know she has kissed her boyfriend and he took a photograph of her in a top that showed cleavage which she says she didn't want taken. She finds it embarrassing to talk to me, yet I really want to support her making informed choices. Any suggestions or resources anyone knows of? Thanks!



14

64 Comments

And sex offender registries, and
porn, and on and on and on...

FRIENDS, I WAS TIRED.

Motherhood

**I don't have
a 9-5 job.**

**I have a
'when I open my
eyes till I close
my eyes'
job.**



We needed something, but we weren't sure what. We did surveys and focus groups, and a few things stuck out:



In general, where do you go if you need parenting advice or information?

- 43% Google
- 43% ask in a private on-line space
- 17% ask in a Facebook status



Have you ever taken a parenting class?

- 71% have not
- Of the 29% who had, they were almost exclusively a pre-baby class



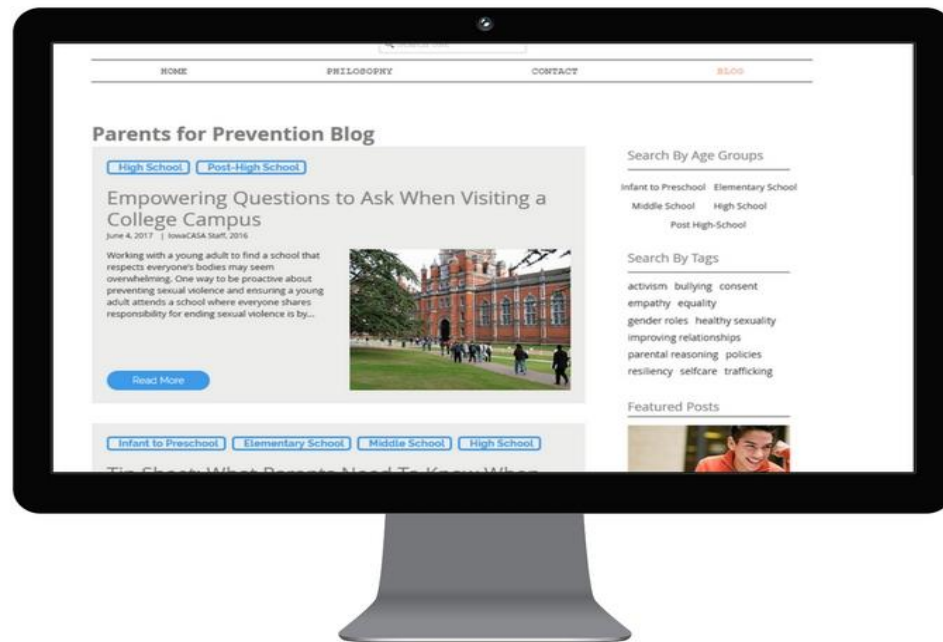
How often are you interacting about parenting online?

- 53% actively seek parenting information online at least every few months
- 64% respond to other people's requests for parenting information online at least every few months
- 64% actively share parenting-related content online at least every few months



Our Research + Connecting The Dots = Parents for Prevention!

SO DO YOU WANNA SEE IT???



Think
About
Your
Son:
The next
phase of
our
project



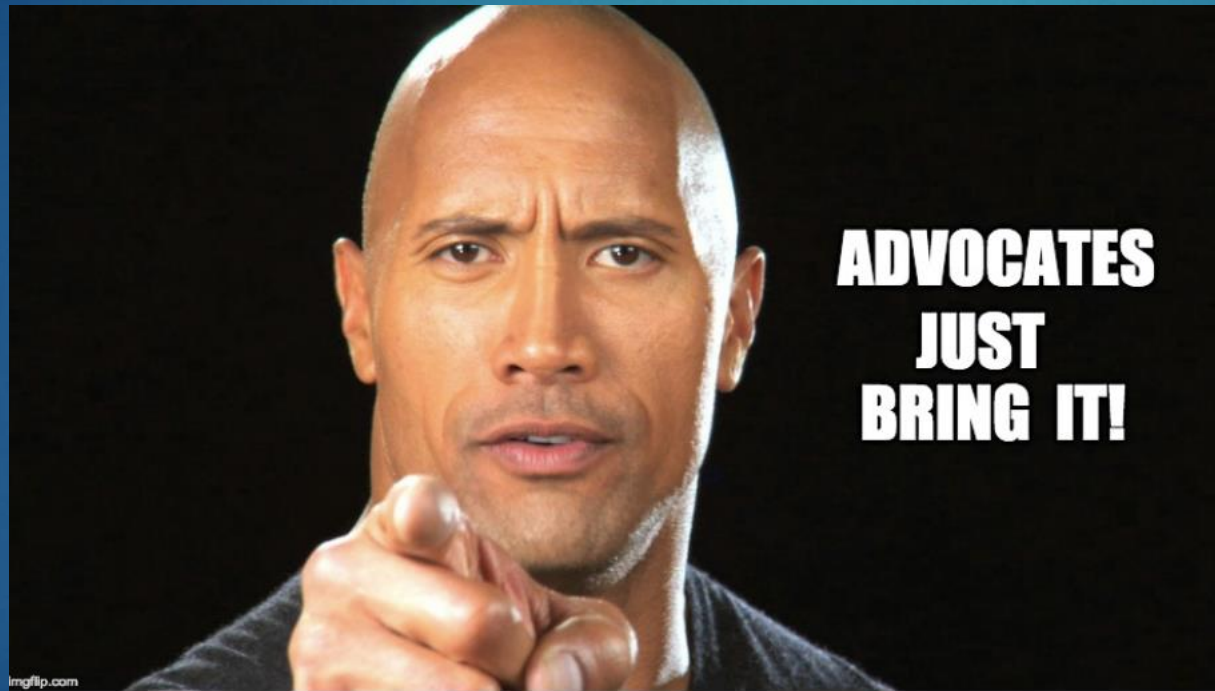
THINK ABOUT YOUR SON

SEXUAL VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
FOR PARENTS

How can you help? Think about how the places and spaces that you're in talk about:

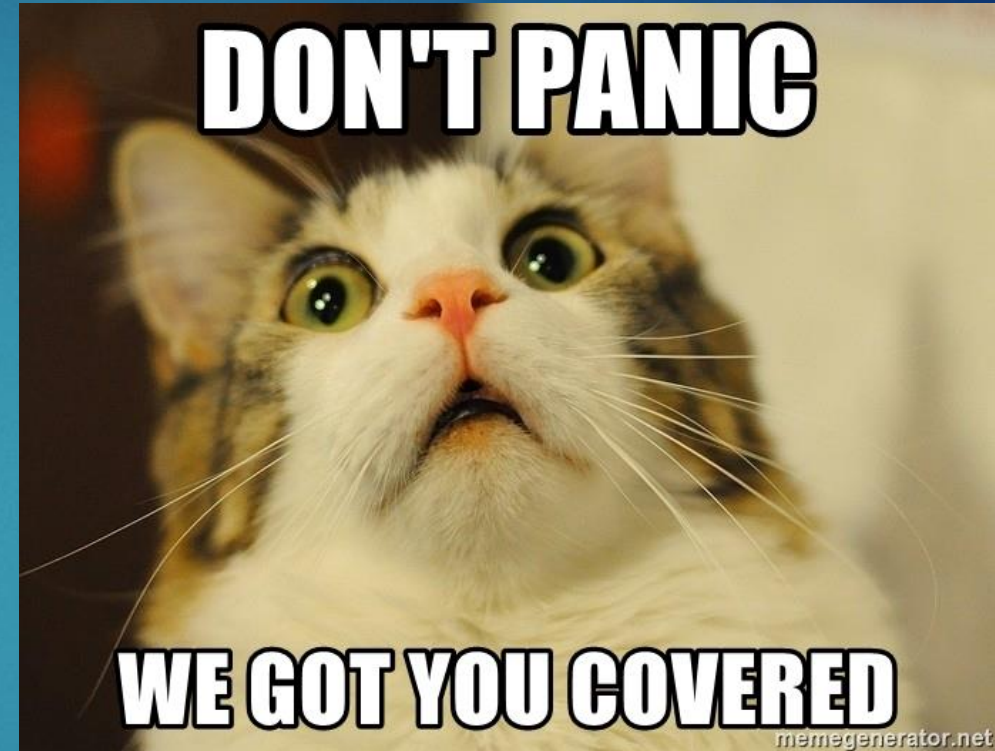
- ▶ Connection/commitment to school?
- ▶ Community support and connectedness?
- ▶ Accountability for those who have caused harm?
- ▶ Healthy norms around masculinity and femininity, and support and celebration of trans and non-binary folks?
- ▶ Other risk and protective factors that you noticed that are important to you and the folks you work with?

How's your relationship with your local sexual violence advocates and preventionists?



Need some more resources?

- ▶ Parents for Prevention
- ▶ Think About Your Sons
- ▶ Preventconnect
- ▶ UNI's Center for Violence Prevention
- ▶ Other resources you've found helpful?
 - ▶ Drop them in the chat!



Questions?



Thank you so much!

KellyMarie Z. Meek

Coordinator of Prevention and Public
Health Initiatives

Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault

prevention@iowacasa.org