

END SILENCE

YOUTH SPEAKING UP ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE IN CUSTODY



BILLY SPEAKS OUT

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NOTES

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END SILENCE: Youth Speaking Up About Sexual Abuse in Custody
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RESOURCES FOR YOUTH

Space intended for agencies to add resources reflective of their specific location and type of agency

Examples include:

- *Your 1-800 reporting hotline (if you have one)*
- *Information and procedure for reporting abuse*
- *Address and phone number of grievance officer or outside reporting mechanism such as an ombudsman*
- *Phone number and address for a rape crisis center in the area*
- *Medical health information*
- *Guidance on telling parents*

FOREWORD

Since 1999, The Project on Addressing Prison Rape (Project) at American University, Washington College of Law has provided training to key correctional decision makers, agencies, associations, and individuals looking to improve their practices on addressing sexual abuse of individuals in custodial settings. In 2009, the Project began to do intensive work within a number of state departments of juvenile justice and to work on issues of LGBTI youth in custody.

The END SILENCE series is the product of that work and work by many organizations and individuals concerned about preventing and addressing sexual abuse of youth in custody. The series includes four other graphic novels targeted to: (1) boys ages 10-14; (2) girls ages 10-14; (3) girls ages 14-18; and (4) LGBT youth.

We would like to thank them for their insightful and honest commentary about the situations that youth face and how sexual abuse affects them.

END SILENCE is a first step in reaching out to youth in juvenile justice settings in order to help them identify, address, and respond to incidents of sexual abuse by staff or other youth. We hope the publication will deepen the dialogue about strategies to eliminate sexual abuse of youth in custody.

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INTRODUCTION

END SILENCE is a graphic novel for male youth, aged 14-18, that focuses on an incident of sexual abuse between two youth.

In addition, at the end of the graphic novel you will find: blank panels for youth to fill in an appropriate continuation for the story; a glossary of terms; discussion questions; resources for youth; and note pages. While we understand different states house youth in different settings or classifications, this is meant to address sexual abuse of youth in custody nation-wide. To that end we have generalized some content and details of this novel. This graphic novel is intended to be “stand alone” material to orient and educate youth about the issue of sexual abuse in custodial settings, we hope it provokes discussions with and between youth.

Please contact us with comments about these stories, the usefulness of graphic novels as a tool for training youth, and suggestions for other needed resources.

The Project on Addressing Prison Rape can be reached at: 202-274-4385 or endsilence@wcl.american.edu

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(Feel free to ask other additional questions)

- Do you think Billy should have told someone about Roy's intentions prior to being forced to engage in sex the first time?
- Do you think that Billy should have told someone other than Mr. Rich after the first time he was forced to have sex?
- Who should he have told?
- How would you have handled Billy's report if you were Mr. Rich?
- How should Mr. Rich have handled Billy's report?
- How do you think the female counselor handled Billy's report?
- Do you think that Billy felt safer after he reported the situation to her?
- Do you think it took courage for Billy to report?
- What could Mr. Rich have done to make Billy feel safer?
- What do you think that Roy's consequences should be?
- Should Billy be questioning his sexuality?
- Would Ray's conduct be acceptable if Billy were gay?
- Would your opinion change if you knew that Roy was sexually assaulted when he first came into custody?
- What would you do if this happened to you?
- Would you report it?
 - If not how would you protect yourself?
 - If so who would you report it to?

GLOSSARY CONTINUED

Sexual Acts:

carnal knowledge, oral sex, anal sex, rape, sexual assault with an object, sexual fondling

Sexual Assault with an Object:

The use of any hand, finger, object, or other instrument to penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person.

Sexual Fondling:

The touching of the private body parts of another person, including the penis, vagina, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks, for the purpose of sexual gratification

Sodomy:

Anal sex with a member of the same or opposite sex

Staff Sexual Harassment:

Repeated verbal statements or comments of a sexual nature to a person in custody by an employee, volunteer, official visitor, or agency representative, including: demeaning references to gender or derogatory comments about body or clothing; or profane or obscene language or gestures.

Staff Sexual Misconduct:

Any behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward a person in custody by an employee, volunteer, official visitor, or agency representative.

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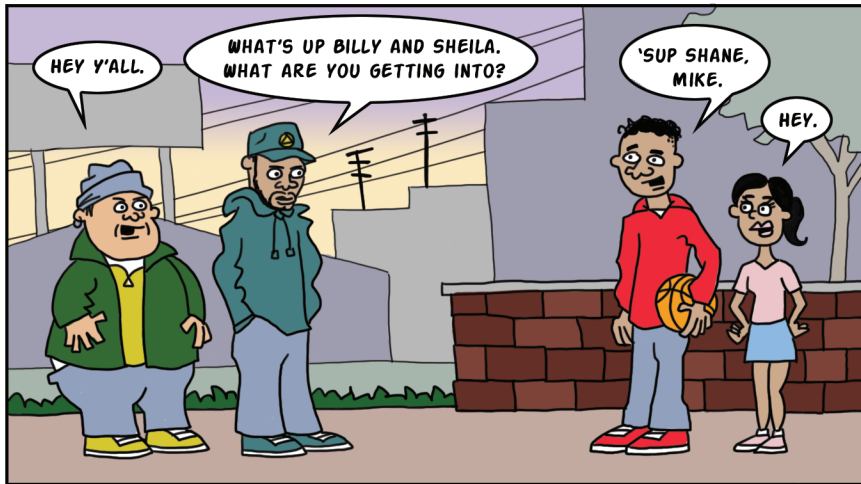
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GLOSSARY

Abusive Sexual Contact:

Contact with any person without his or her consent; contact with a person who is unable to consent or refuse; and intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the penis, vagina, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of any person

Custody:

When a person is under the power and control of an entity – the police, the juvenile justice system, the prison system – or person and is not free to leave

Carnal Knowledge:

Contact between the penis and the vagina or the penis and the anus including penetration of any sort

Non-Consensual Sexual Acts:

Contact with any person without his or her consent, or with a person who is unable to consent or refuse; contact between the penis and the vagina or the penis and the anus including penetration, however slight; contact between the mouth and the penis, vagina, or anus; or penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person by a hand, finger, or other object

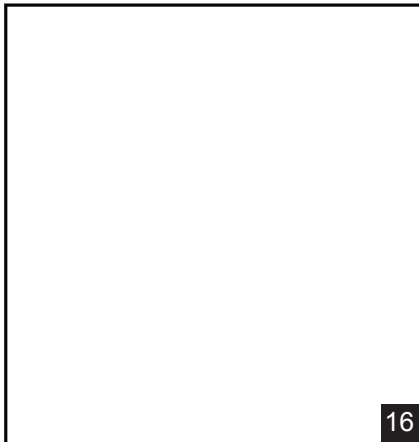
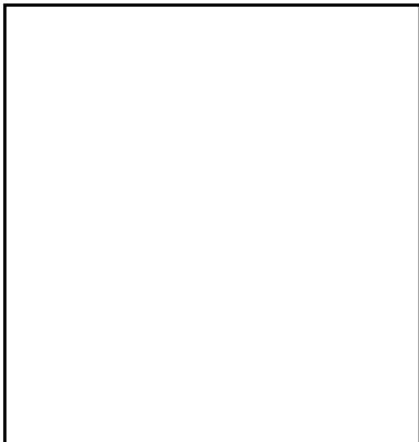
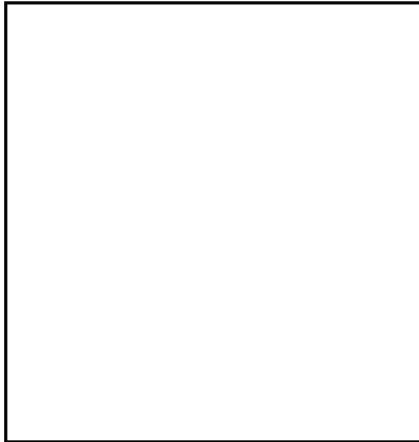
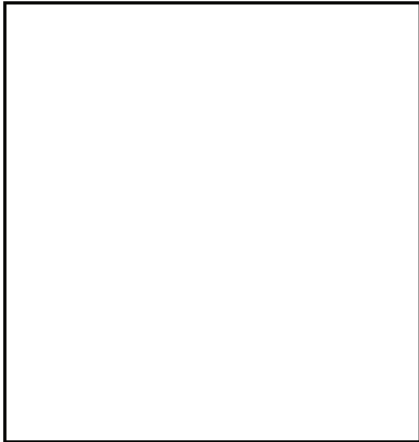
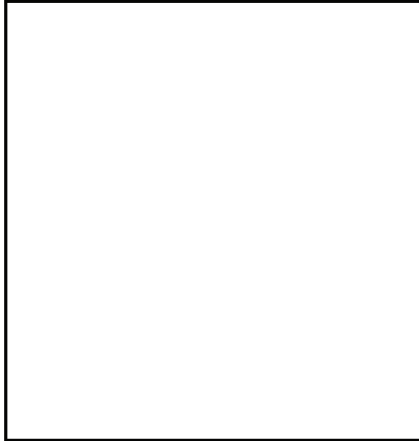
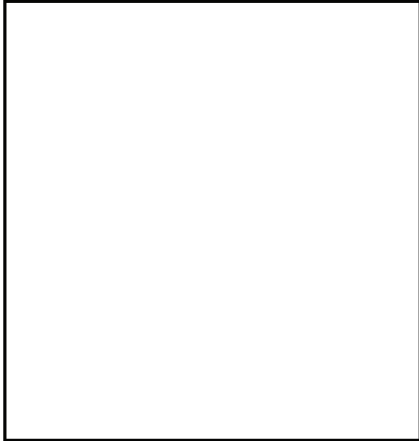
Oral Sex:

Contact between the mouth and the penis, the mouth and the vagina or the mouth and the anus.

Rape:

includes all of the following actions: oral sodomy, sexual assault with an object, or sexual fondling of a person forcibly or against that person's will; forcibly or against that person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of youth, temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity; achieved through exploitation of the fear or threat of physical violence or bodily injury

FINISH THE STORY...



BILLY GOT CAUGHT AND ENDED UP IN JUVIE THAT NIGHT. HE DIDN'T WANT TO TELL ON HIS FRIENDS, AFRAID OF BEING CALLED A 'SNITCH', HE JUST TOOK HIS PUNISHMENT.



HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO HIS MOM WHEN HE CALLED HER. SHE ALWAYS WARNED HIM ABOUT HANGING OUT WITH THE WRONG CROWD.



HE DIDN'T WANT TO TELL SHEILA EITHER BUT HE NEEDED TO TALK TO SOMEONE.



I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT JUDGE GAVE ME A YEAR. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN IN TROUBLE!

HOW DID I LET THIS HAPPEN?

I FEEL LIKE THE WALLS ARE CLOSING IN ON ME.



A WEEK LATER...

BEING IN HERE IS CRAZY. MY ROOMMATE, ROY, TOLD ME IF I WANTED TO STAY IN ONE PIECE I WOULD HAVE TO DO SPECIAL FAVORS FOR HIM. I DON'T GET DOWN LIKE THAT. I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.

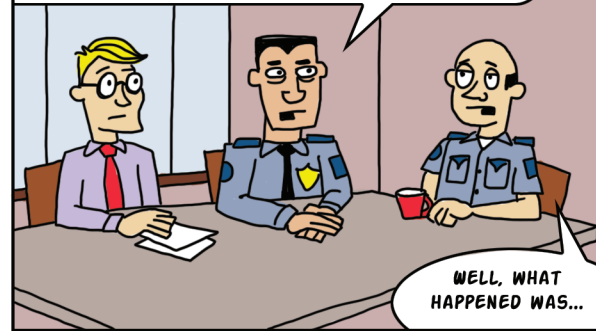


BILLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY OR DO. HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE SEEN AS WEAK, BUT HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET BEAT UP EITHER.

LISTEN UP - NOW THAT WE ARE ROOMMATES THINGS ARE GOING TO CHANGE FOR YOU. NOW GET OVER HERE...



MR. RICH, IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION THAT YOU DID NOT REPORT AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTED TO YOU BY ONE OF OUR YOUTH.



WELL, WHAT HAPPENED WAS...

BILLY REPORTED TO YOU THAT HE WAS FORCED TO HAVE SEX WITH HIS ROOMMATE.



BUT...



MR. RICH, DON'T MAKE EXCUSES. YOU VIOLATED AGENCY POLICY AND OUR MANDATORY REPORTING LAW BY NOT REPORTING THAT INCIDENT.

WE WILL HAVE TO SUSPEND YOU PENDING AN ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION AND HEARING.



YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO THESE YOUTH AS WELL AS TO THIS AGENCY TO REPORT ALL ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE.

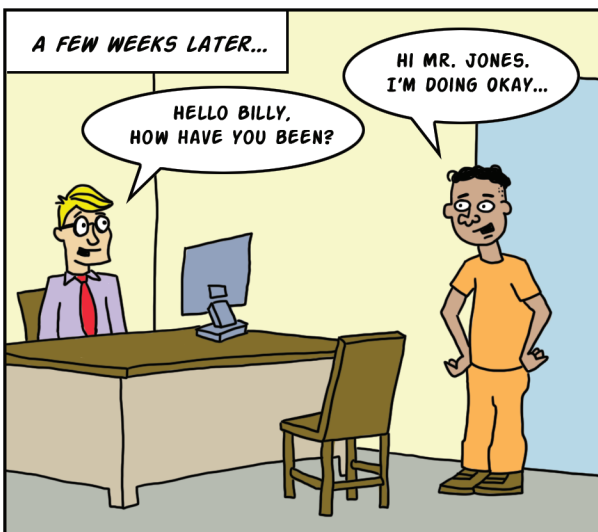
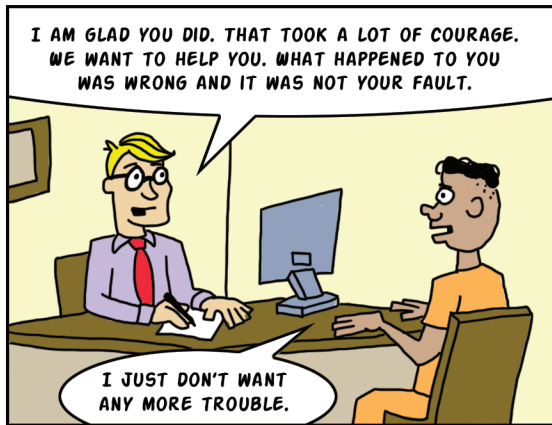


LATER...

ROY, WE FOUND THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST YOU TO BE TRUE.



YOUR PUNISHMENT FROM US WILL BE DETERMINED BY YOUR TREATMENT TEAM. WE WILL ALSO BE REFERRING THIS FOR PROSECUTION.





ALRIGHT SON, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

IT'S ABOUT MY ROOMMATE. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS...



LOOK, I DON'T HAVE ALL DAY. SPILL IT.



MY ROOMMATE, WELL HE... WE HAD SEX



I SEE. DID YOU AGREE TO THIS?



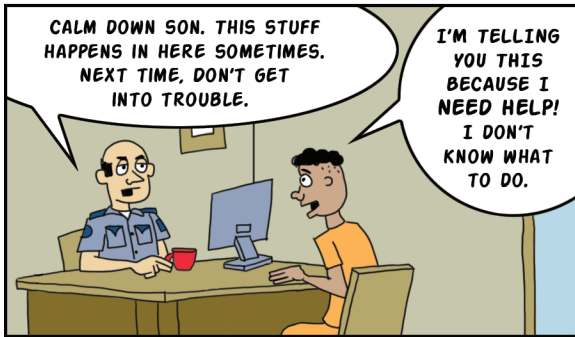
NO. I MEAN, WELL YES. BUT HE TOLD ME I HAD TO FOR MY PROTECTION.



SO YOU AGREED TO SEX? WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I DIDN'T WANT THIS TO HAPPEN BUT I DIDN'T THINK I COULD SAY NO!



CALM DOWN SON. THIS STUFF HAPPENS IN HERE SOMETIMES. NEXT TIME, DON'T GET INTO TROUBLE.

I'M TELLING YOU THIS BECAUSE I NEED HELP! I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.



BILLY, THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU.



WHAT?!! I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS.



I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO KEEP ME SAFE!

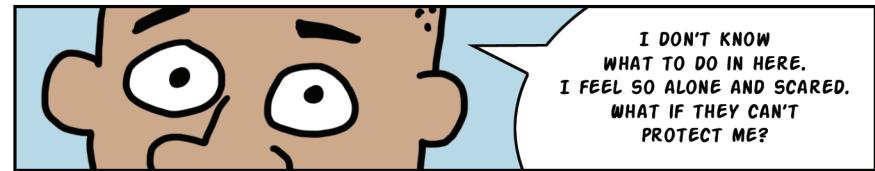


BILLY, OTHER KIDS AND STAFF PROBABLY KNOW YOU HAVE REPORTED THIS. WE HAVE TO KEEP YOU SAFE FROM RETALIATION. NONE OF THESE OPTIONS ARE IDEAL, I KNOW, BUT THEY ARE ALL THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR NOW.

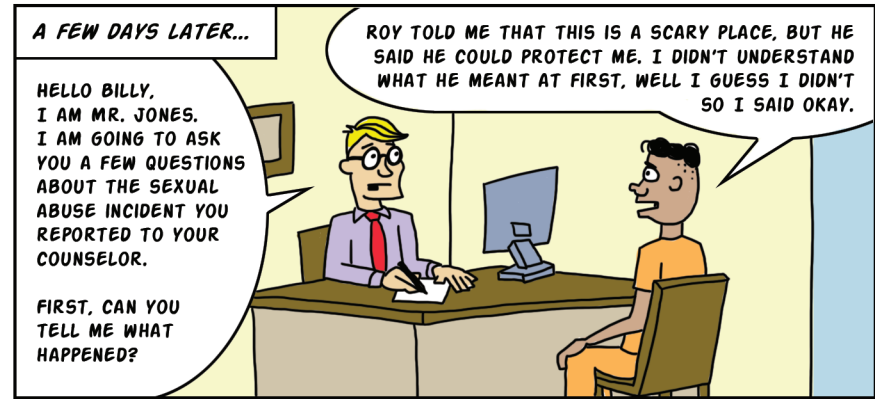
OKAY...



HELLO, I NEED TO REPORT AN INCIDENT OF SEXUAL ABUSE.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO IN HERE. I FEEL SO ALONE AND SCARED. WHAT IF THEY CAN'T PROTECT ME?



A FEW DAYS LATER...

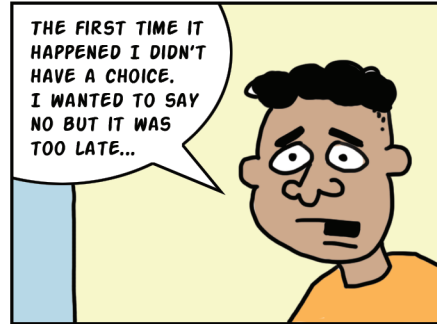
HELLO BILLY, I AM MR. JONES. I AM GOING TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SEXUAL ABUSE INCIDENT YOU REPORTED TO YOUR COUNSELOR.

FIRST, CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED?

ROY TOLD ME THAT THIS IS A SCARY PLACE, BUT HE SAID HE COULD PROTECT ME. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HE MEANT AT FIRST, WELL I GUESS I DIDN'T SO I SAID OKAY.



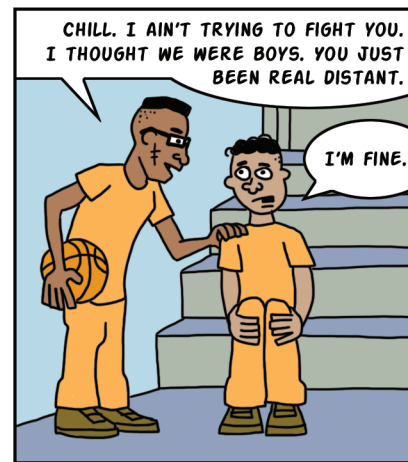
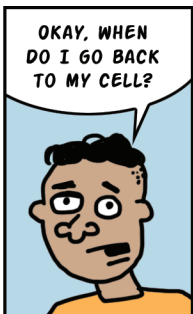
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?



THE FIRST TIME IT HAPPENED I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE. I WANTED TO SAY NO BUT IT WAS TOO LATE...



IT'S OKAY. GO ON.



THAT NIGHT BILLY THOUGHT ABOUT TALKING TO HIS COUNSELOR. HE GAVE UP AFTER TALKING TO MR. RICH, IF HE COULDN'T HELP WHY WOULD SOMEONE ELSE? THE FACT THAT EVERYONE KNEW WAS BOTHERING HIM THOUGH.

WHAT'S UP?
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BILLY WONDERED IF HE COULD TRUST ANYONE TO KEEP HIM SAFE FROM ROY IN THIS PLACE.



THE NEXT DAY...
HELLO BILLY. TELL ME WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND.
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT WHAT MY ROOMMATE DID TO ME.

OKAY, LET ME GET OUT SOME PAPERWORK. I WILL NEED TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL REPORT.
OKAY, I GUESS, I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW. I'M SCARED. DO YOU HAVE TO FILE A REPORT?

YES, I DO HAVE TO FILE A REPORT. IT'S OUR POLICY AND IT'S THE LAW. TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED.
IT'S ABOUT MY ROOMMATE ROY. HE TOLD ME THAT I HAD TO HAVE SEX WITH HIM IF I WANTED TO BE SAFE HERE. SO I DID IT, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO. I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE I HAD A CHOICE.

THIS IS NOT YOUR FAULT BUT YOU REALIZE THAT EVEN IF YOU AGREE, IT IS STILL ILLEGAL.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE CODE IN THIS PLACE. I JUST KNEW I WANTED TO BE SAFE.

HOW MANY TIMES DID THIS HAPPEN?
TWOICE. THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING.

DID YOU TRY TO REPORT IT BEFORE NOW?
I'M SCARED TO TELL YOU. DOES IT REALLY MATTER NOW ANYWAY?

I WANT TO HELP YOU. IF YOU TRIED TO REPORT IT BEFORE AND SOMEONE DID NOT HELP YOU... WELL, I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT DOES NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

AND WHAT DID HE DO?
NOTHING. MR. RICH SAID THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS IN HERE SOMETIMES.

OKAY, WELL I DID TRY TO REPORT IT TO MR. RICH AFTER IT HAPPENED THE FIRST TIME.

'SIGH' OKAY...