Introduction:

Welcome to the 4th Annual RespectCon! RespectCon aims to end violence on college and university campuses. The conference regularly draws more than a hundred attendees from across the country to Emory University in Atlanta, GA. It is the only annual meeting dedicated to addressing sexual violence through social justice informed approaches and collaboration. At this year’s conference, we have twenty-one presenters from nine states, including Georgia, New York, California, Wisconsin, Virginia, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Missouri, and Texas, representing four advocacy organizations and eight educational institutions. Five student activists will be presenting their original work this year. Session topics range from bystander intervention, overcoming peer education group challenges, differing experiences of sexual assault by survivor background, working with commercially sexually exploited youth, to working with trans survivors.

All Day Every Day: Bystander Intervention Beyond the Superhero Cape

Abstract:

Bystander Intervention is a well-tread topic area in the field of sexual violence prevention. Most frequently what we talk about is intervention just prior to an incident. What we call the “superhero moment.” We want to shift the conversation about Bystander Intervention to an everyday context. We must insist that no single issue intervention (sexism, for example) will be successful without simultaneously interrupting all other types of harmful attitudes, language, and behaviors perpetuating oppressions such as racism or homophobia.
Presenter 1:
Alicia Oeser
Director
Harvard University
Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response

Presenter 2:
Meera Seshadri
Associate Director
Harvard University
Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response

Building a New Trans Paradigm

Abstract:
This presentation will review some of the basic paradigms of the trans community—the medical model, transition as only acceptable during suffering, stereotyped views of life as a transgender person, and the idea of transition as a cure for all of life’s woes—and the harm these paradigms cause to the community. Participants will begin the process of creating a new paradigm that is both realistic in its understanding of the dangers trans people face daily and also the strength and resilience of the community.

Presenter:
Michael Faccini
St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute
Behavioral Health Response

Creating Our Professional Home: Defining a Shared Future for Advocates and Preventionists

Abstract:
The field of sexual violence prevention and advocacy represents diverse and interdisciplinary perspectives that enrich and build upon each other, yet as a field, we struggle to define a singular ‘professional home’ as our colleagues in other areas have established. This dialogue-based session will provide perspectives from
a panel of professionals at multiple universities, all of whom are members of the founding Leadership Council of CAPPA, the Campus Advocates and Prevention Professionals Association. Ultimately, we will ask the question: how can we unite, as advocates and preventionists, to define a vision for ourselves, rather than have it defined for us?

**Presenter 1:**
Lee Helmken  
Health Educator  
Office of Health Promotion  
Georgia Institute of Technology

**Presenter 2:**
Melanie DeMaeyer  
Assistant Director  
Women's Resource Center  
Georgia Institute of Technology

**Empowered to Evaluate: Skill-building to Demystify Qualitative Analysis**

**Abstract:**
In this workshop participants will learn and practice three techniques they can use to analyze and interpret open-ended or qualitative data. These techniques include a general coding process and two methods which quantify or add numerical value to responses. This skill-building workshop is intended for participants with limited or no experience in qualitative analysis. A focus on empowerment evaluation will be encouraged, and providing realistic, tangible ways to collect more inclusive data will be emphasized. This comes from the belief that evaluation should be done with practitioners and communities, so that data is meaningful and can lead to social change.

**Presenter:**
Rose Hennessy,  
Doctoral Student in Public Health  
Zilber School of Public Health  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Getting Graphic: Comics as Educational Tools for the Prevention of Sexual Violence

Abstract:
Emory University’s Respect Program collaborated with artist Isabella Rotman to customize a comic book on sexual and relationship violence prevention for Emory’s campus. We integrated that comic with existing campus bystander and consent education campaigns. Attendees will learn about research on comics as educational tools, Emory’s process for customizing the comic, and our initial data regarding the comic’s impact and reception by students. Given the merits of comics as a potential teaching tool, how can you leverage entertainment-education at your institution?

Presenter 1: Dani Smith
MPH Candidate- Behavioral Science and Health Education
Graduate Assistant - Respect Program
Emory University

Presenter 2: Drew Rizzo
Assistant Director
Respect Program
Emory University

Overcoming Peer Education Activist Group Challenges

Abstract:
Surface and Pinkleton will provide an introduction to sexual assault prevention and activism through their experience leading University of Virginia’s all female-identified peer education group, One Less. Though students may face many barriers at their Universities, it is important they challenge institutional norms and engage their peers in sexual assault prevention work in order to facilitate cultural change. This seminar will cover working with peers, University administration, Women’s Center, and other University partners. Come ready to dialogue about challenges you have faced and brainstorm with other peer advocates.
Promoting and Encouraging Conversations Around Healthy Relationships on College Campuses

Abstract:
This session will focus on what it means to be part of a healthy relationship and how to encourage conversation around this topic. Attendees will be able to promote healthy relationships on college campuses and engage in dialogue surrounding the topic.

Presenter:
Samira Chowdhury
Junior Board Member
Out Against Abuse

Recognizing the Variation in Experience of Survivors of Sexual Violence: Ethnicity, Culture, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity

Abstract:
This workshop will consist of a discussion between members of a panel and conference attendees on the variation in experience of survivors of sexual assault based on ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Analysis on studies of sexual assault have revealed that these aspects mentioned above are relevant when considering rates of assault, influences and victimization, mental health outcomes, and rates of reporting. What remains work in progress is how to best prepare for the needs of these survivors in order to support them towards attaining recovery and justice.
The Survivors We Cannot Forget: Intergenerational Violence and Community Healing

Abstract:
The Survivors We Cannot Forget: Intergenerational Violence and Community Healing will be an interactive workshop that seeks to explain and assess how violence and victimization are passed down, and how campus communities can be supportive of survivors of childhood abuse, neglect, and assault.

Presenter 1:
Carly Taylor
Psychology Undergraduate
Student/CARE employee
University of California, Santa Cruz

Presenter 2:
Tara Misra
Prevention Educator and Advocate
University of California, Santa Cruz

We Matter: Transformative Bystander Intervention

Abstract:
This survivor-centered and trauma-informed training combines historical and generational analyses with hands-on practice for primary prevention in Black communities and student-led spaces. This empowering workshop provides resources on Black sexual politics and gender justice studies through the lens of hip-hop and popular culture, and unpacks violence against women through discussions of community accountability and transformative intervention measures. The approach is
transformative, restorative, raw and hands-on from a space of personal narrative and truth telling.

**Presenter 1:**
Ashley Hobbs  
Coordinator  
Communications & Campus Programs  
Black Women’s Blueprint

**Presenter 2:**
Sevonna Brown  
Human Rights Project Manager  
Black Women’s Blueprint

**What Are You Willing to Lose?: Addressing Privilege & Leveraging Power for Meaningful Impact**

**Abstract:**
While working to end gender-based violence, activists and professionals continually navigate university systems that also perpetuate racism. Particularly at predominantly white institutions where the history of social justice movements have often been co-opted and/or shaped by white supremacy, social change requires a conscious, difficult choice between either working toward gender or racial equity. By participating in a game-show, participants will gain greater understanding of the impact of implicit biases, learn tools to overcome them and reshape social justice movements, reflect on their own goals and dreams, and identify proactive behaviors in which they can engage moving forward.

**Presenter 1:**
LB Klein  
Consultant & Lead Trainer  
Prevention Innovations Research Center  
University of New Hampshire

**Presenter 2:**
Meera Seshadri  
Associate Director  
Harvard University  
Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response
How to Register
To find out more information on RespectCon and to buy your ticket, visit our website here.

Deadline for Early Registration Rate: February 8th, 2016

Additional Questions?
If you have any additional questions or are interested in other conference involvement opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact Team RespectCon at respect@emory.edu or 404-727-6842.