



Special Considerations for Responding to Athletic Department Sexual Violence

John Clune, JD

Nancy Hogshead-Makar, JD

Scott Lewis, JD



Prevalence of Violence Against Women in the Athletic Department

- Male Student Athletes =3.3% of student population
 - 19% of Sexual Violence
 - 35% of Domestic violence
- *Benedict and Crossett, et al., Male Student Athletes and Violence Against Women 1995.*



Prevalence of Violence in the Athletic Department

- Male athletes are 10 fold more represented in violence against women statistics v their non-athlete counterparts.



Factors that influence this

- Culture of Violence and Aggressive Behavior in Sport
- Male Bonding and Group Loyalty
- Sexualization and subordination of women in male team sports
- Approval of sexist language and attitudes
- Perception of “Groupie Culture”
- Celebrity sense Entitlement



Unique Challenges in Responding to Athletic Department Sexual Assault

- Athletic Department Hostile Educational Environment
- Student-athlete on Student-athlete violence
- Offender Coach Involvement
- Offender and Victim Coaching Pressures
- Power dynamics of revenue v non-revenue sports



“Don’t do anything you would regret . . . Messing with Notre Dame football is a bad idea”



More Unique Challenges in Responding to Athletic Department Sexual Assault

Coach Sexual Assault

- Power of coach:
 - 1) Time
 - 2) “Romantic” Relationships
- Focus on Body
- Male Privilege



How to get in the door with compliance in the Athletic Department: Building the necessary relationships for future compliance



Athletic Department Remedies to Hostile Educational Environment

- Working with school judicial to fashion temporary or long term remedies
- Athlete on Athlete or coach on athlete violence, suspension or dismissal from program
 - Do athletic department and team codes of conduct give schools/ADs the tools they need?



NCAA Considerations for Athlete Victims

- Red Shirt considerations
- Transfer eligibility waivers



QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

Thank you for being here and for the work you do!

For more information:

John Clune, JD – clune@hbcboulder.com

Nancy Hogshead-Makar, JD – Hogshead3Au@icloud.com

W. Scott Lewis, JD – Scott@NCHERM.org (214) 499-1934