Bystander Intervention Video Transcript

Person 1

An active bystander is someone who notices a harmful behavior and does something!

Person 2

As members of a campus community, it's important that we look out for each other and be active bystanders.

Person 3

What types of harmful behaviour should we pay attention to?

Person 4

Examples include:

- Inappropriate jokes that target someone's race, religion, gender, ability or sexuality
- Inappropriate sexual comments or gestures such as cat calling
- Making aggressive comments online or in person
- Invading someone's personal space or touching them without consent
- Posting intimate pictures online

Person 1

Some people may not feel safe to intervene in certain situations. Your relationship with the person causing harm can also affect how you intervene, when they are in a position of power.

When we witness racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, discrimination based on religion, and other forms of violence, we can think about how we can help a person experiencing harm in that moment.

Person 2

Privilege can play a factor in being an active bystander. Privilege is something that is unearned and can result in advantages and benefits to a person or group. It can feel uncomfortable to intervene when we don't know the full story about a situation, but we ALL have a responsibility to act in a way that feels safe.

When harm is happening you may be unsure about what to do, but know that there are lots of different ways YOU can help.

Person 2

You can intervene when something happens to prevent further harm. For example you can:

Person 4

Interrupt the situation by stepping in or distracting someone by asking them the time.

Person 1

Ask how the person experiencing harm is doing and let the person causing harm know that what they are doing is not ok.

Person 4

Ask others for help. You don't have to do this alone.

Person 2

Also, you can still be an active bystander after something has happened. You can listen to someone, or help that person find support.

Person 3

Sometimes we want the person experiencing the harm to give us consent to intervene, but in some situations, this isn't possible – we just have to do something.

All characters

So don't just be a bystander, be an active bystander! You can help make your campus a more supportive and caring community!