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# Increasing the Relevancy of Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

SOS Think Tank

Class 13D



# Problem Statement



A culture exists that allows sexual assault to fester in the Air Force and needs to be addressed through better education, leadership and peer involvement, and perpetrator accountability.



# Current State of SAPR



A majority of Capts who responded to SOS class 13D survey believe:

- CBTs are impersonal and ineffective for SAPR education
- CGOs are well-equipped to respond to assault
  - Know how to file both Restricted and Unrestricted reports
  - Ready to report: increased reporting shows higher confidence in the system
- Current SAPR training is redundant and lacks relevance



# Current Framework: D3A

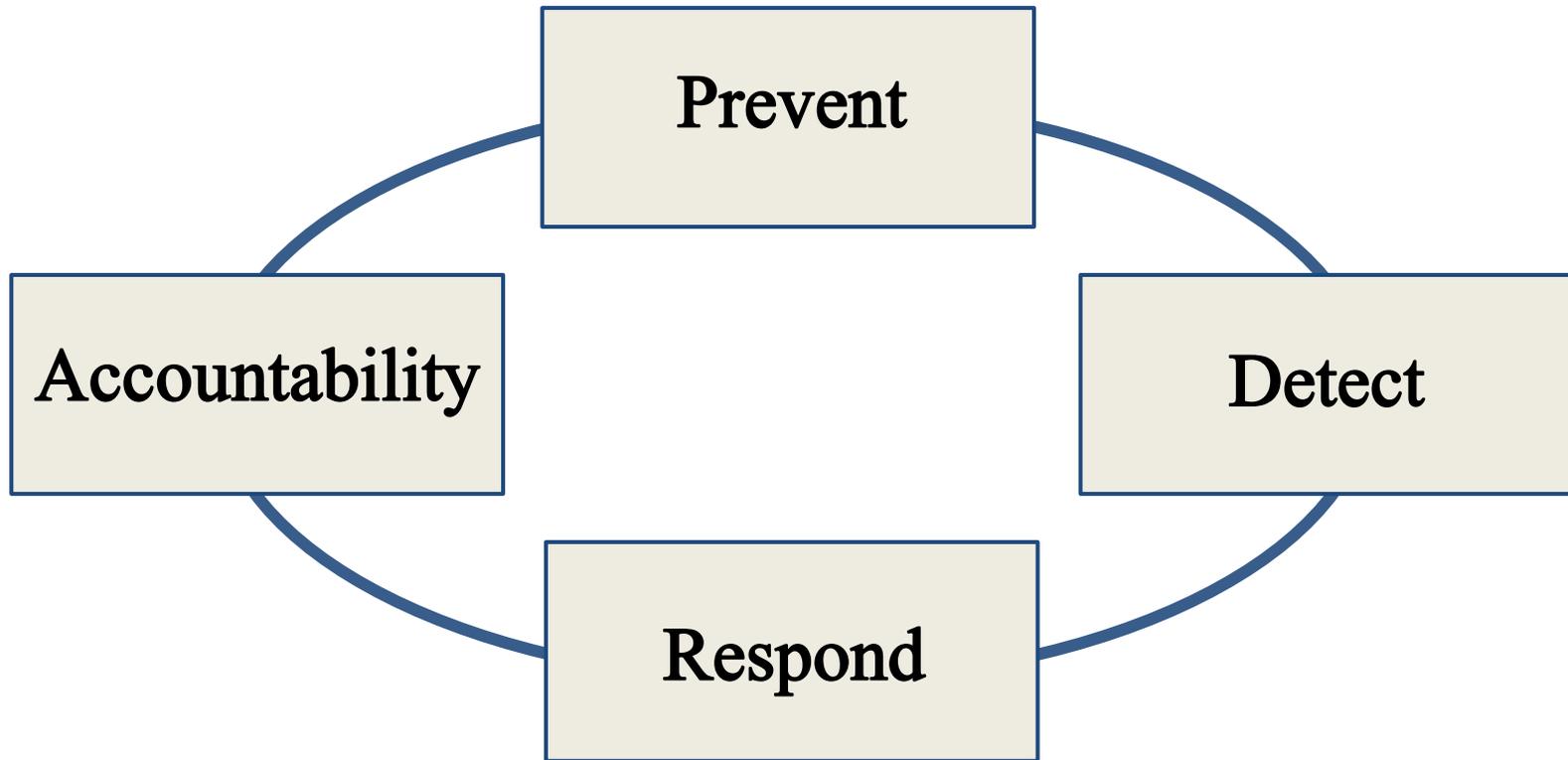


## Deter, Dissuade, Detect, Accountability

- Purpose
  - Focuses on perpetrators
  - Addresses local problems
- Scope
  - Basic Military Training instructors
  - Not targeted to entire Air Force



# Proposed Framework: PDRA





# D3A versus PDRA



## D3A

- Perpetrator focused
- Reaction to BMT environment
- Not widely applicable across force
- Specific to cause and effect

## PDRA

- Whole Airman concept
- Balanced approach between victim, perpetrator, and bystander
- Leans forward to educate all levels of force
- Adaptable to multiple situations



# Sexual Assault Education



- Training versus Education
- Curriculum
  - Standardized initial curriculum
  - Aligned with Prevent-Detect-Respond-Accountability framework
- Forum
  - Open-discussion, privileged forum – similar to flight safety discussions
  - Classes should be tailored by peer groups
- Continuing education
  - Builds from year to year
  - Include updated information



# Leadership and Peer Involvement



- Involves Strategic, Operational, and Tactical levels
- Strategic
  - Institute comprehensive wellness doctrine
  - Publish Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures
- Operational
  - Commanders develop unit SAPR plans in commanders' courses
  - Sexual Assault Situational Awareness (SA<sup>2</sup>) climate assessment tool
- Tactical
  - Lower-level leaders foster small group discussions aligned w/commander's intent
  - Informal and peer leaders involved; "Wingman on Call"



# SA<sup>2</sup> Climate Assessment Example



Scale: Not like me ←-----→ Very much like me  
1 2 3 4 5

- **Hyper-masculinity**

If I saw a man cry I would think he was weak

- **Rape Myth Acceptance**

I think that a lot of “rape victims” probably just regretted having sex after the fact

- **Attitudes of violence and hostility towards women**

I think that most women flirt to manipulate and are “teases”

- **Sex Role Stereotyping**

I think including women in all aspects of the Air Force is hurting our effectiveness



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# Perpetrator Accountability



- General court-martial often sought for sexual assault-related crimes
  - Not all sexual assaults are the same
  - Victims must trust a judicial system to take action when warranted
- Tiered system of discipline
  - Resolve the responsibility-authority disconnect
  - Commanders empowered to use NJP; often preferable option for victims
- Awareness of consequences
  - Knowledge of consequences can have deterrent effects
  - Disseminate an annual summary of relevant case studies



# Action Items



Action Item	OPR	IOC
Airmen Wellness Doctrine	SAPRO/SG/LeMay Center	1 year
Tactics, Techniques & Procedures	SAPRO (with graduated CCs)	1 year
AF-wide Initial Education curriculum	SAPRO (AF SARC Tiger Team)	6 months
Continuing SAPR education plan	SAPRO/SARCs	Doctrine + 6 months
Annual case study report	SAPRO (JAGC)	CY13
“Wingman on call”	Wing Commanders	Immediate
Commanders’ Unit SAPR Plans	MAJCOMs, Commanders	Doctrine + next CC course
Unit SA climate assessment (SA <sup>2</sup> )	Squadron Commanders	3 months



# Conclusion



- Adopt PDRA framework
- Institute a peer-focused education program
- Empower all levels of leadership – commanders to peers
- Realign commanders' responsibility with authority
- Make justice visible across the Air Force



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Class 13D “Think Tank” Elective



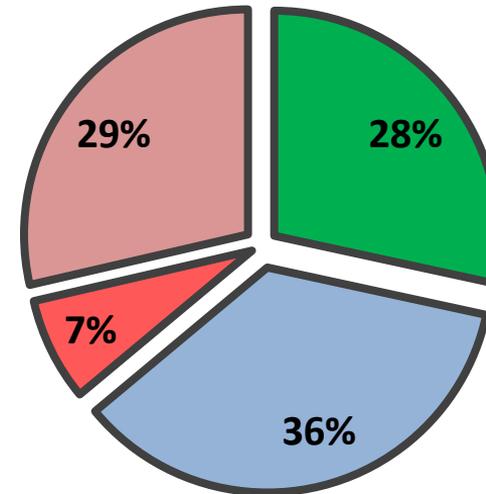


# Understanding of Current Program



- 86% of CGOs believe they have the knowledge to help in reporting a sexual assault
- Restricted/unrestricted reporting
  - 95% know the difference
  - 76% know how to file either
- Willingness to report
  - 95% would report in all instances
  - 92% believe CGOs would intervene in an Assault

## Victim Advocates in Sq



■ YES/CAN NAME

■ YES/CAN NOT NAME

■ DO NOT HAVE VA

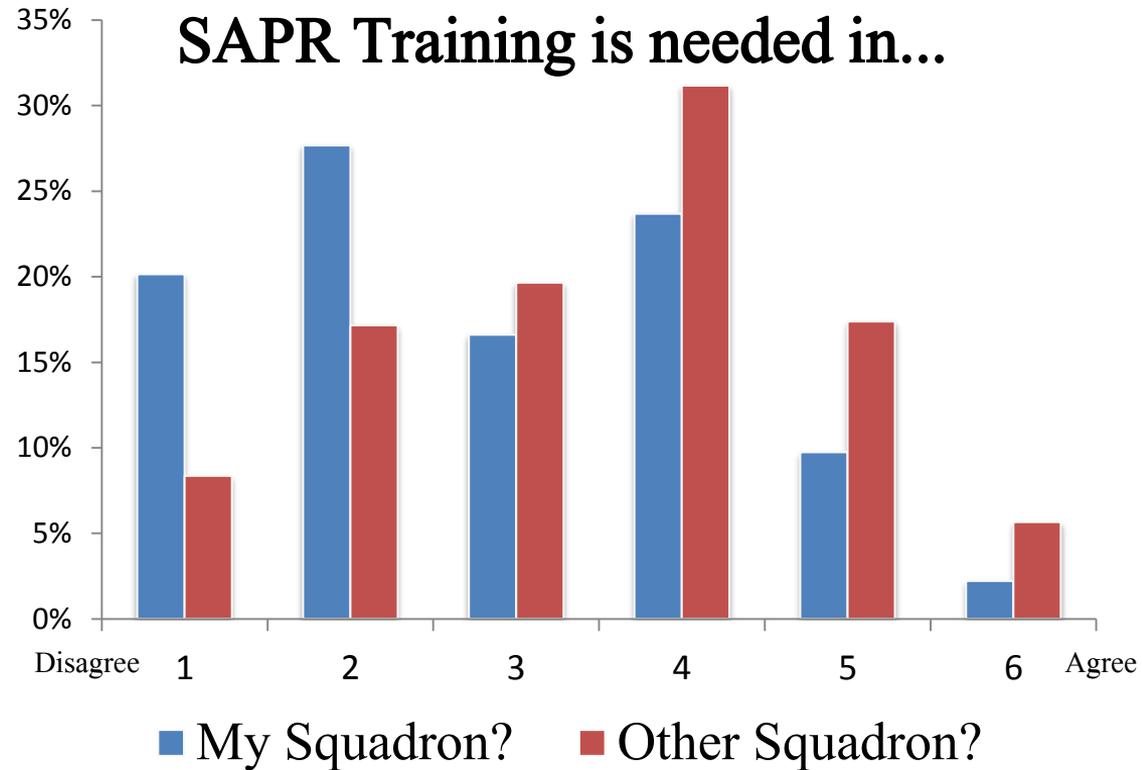
■ DO NOT KNOW



# Training Perceptions



- 95% of CGOs believe their squadron would handle an assault appropriately
- High belief in squadron
- Training need varies when looked at in “My” versus “Other” squadrons





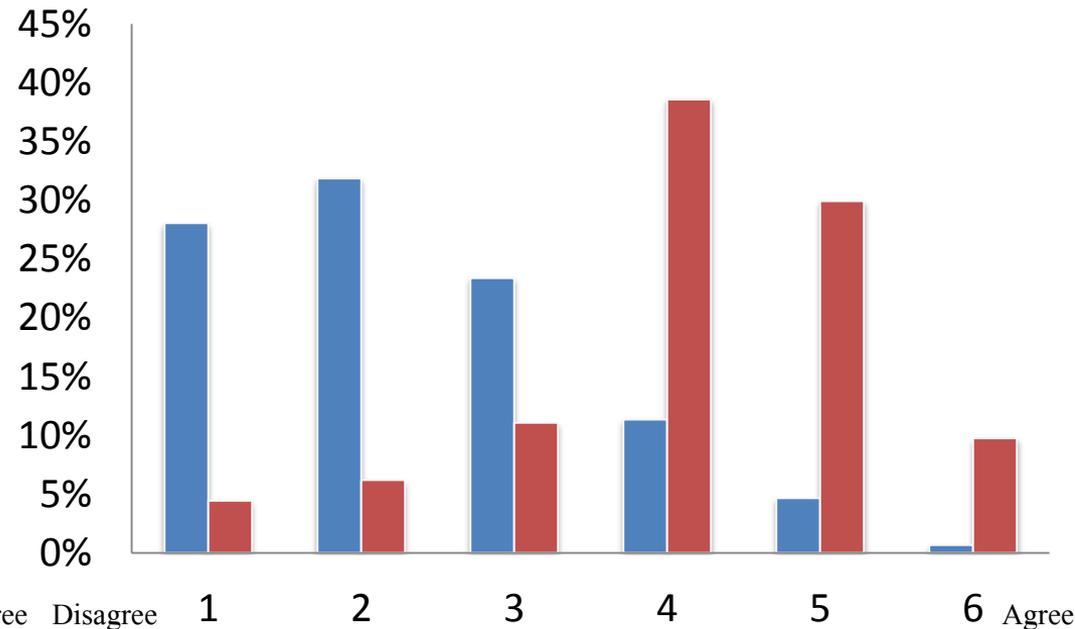
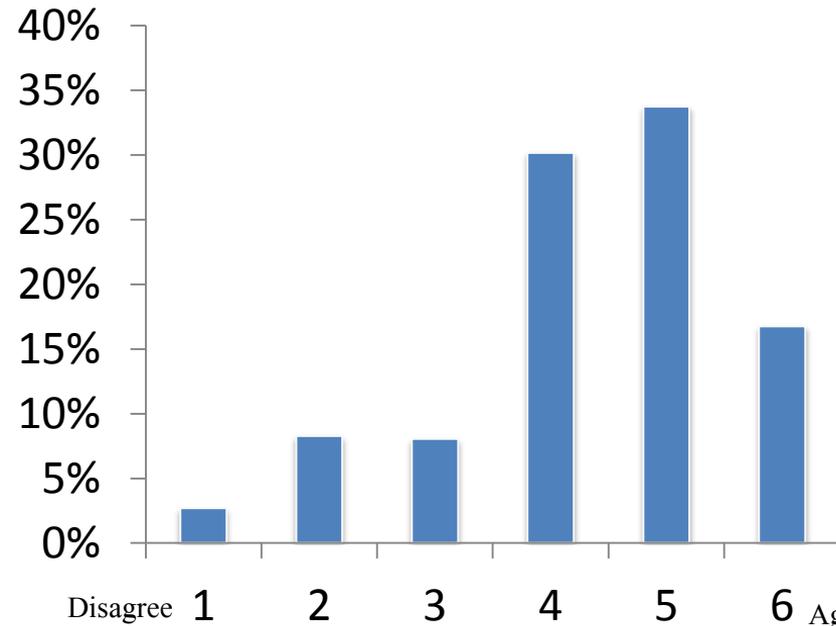
# Trends



Perception is that the increase of reports is due to increased reporting

**Sexual assault is a problem in AF?**

■ Assaults Increasing? ■ SAPR Encourages Reporting?

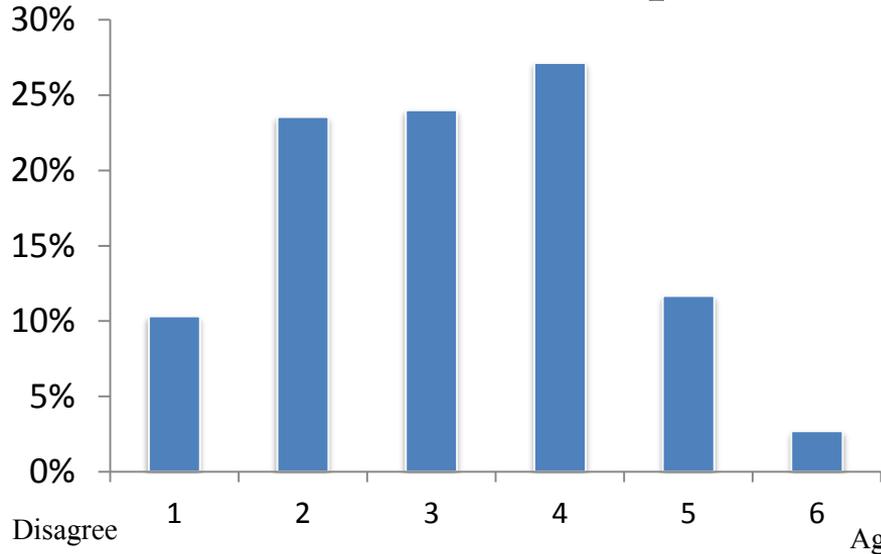




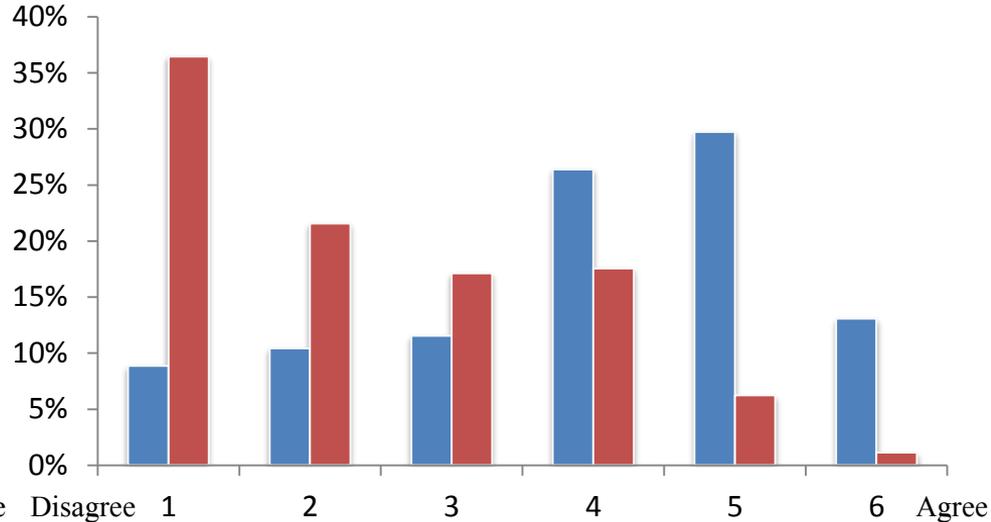
# Type of Training



Perception that SAPR is good at responding, and BIT in person is preferable to other training



SAPR is effective at preventing assaults?



■ BIT is important? ■ CBT is Effective?