

## Be a NYFA Active Bystander

### Prevent Sex-Based Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Every NYFA community member can take action to stop a range of behaviors that may escalate to acts of sex-based discrimination or sexual misconduct.

#### Common Excuses for Inaction

##### “It’s not my problem.”

In the NYFA and world community, it is everyone’s problem. Each NYFA member has a responsibility to create and uphold a standard of community.

##### “It’s harmless.”

The affects of sex based discrimination and sexual misconduct are real and impact the individuals involved.

##### “I don’t know what to do.”

There are many simple and safe actions that can assist individuals who may be in danger.

##### “Someone else will say something.”

Other bystanders are most likely thinking the same thing! You can be courageous and lead other bystanders to action that will stop or prevent harm to another person.

#### Four Ways to Take Action

##### 1. *Intervene*

Deescalate violent situations and speak out against statements, attitudes, or behaviors that may perpetuate a culture that endorses violence as acceptable or inevitable.

##### 3. *Remove*

Stop contact by removing one or all individuals involved.

##### 2. *Distract*

Speak to one or all individuals involved to stop actions leading to sexual misconduct.

##### 4. *Delegate*

Call other bystanders or the police to assist in the act of intervening.

*When immediate danger is a factor, the best action to take is leaving the situation and calling 911 for assistance.*

*Being an Active Bystander does not mean that you should risk your personal safety. There are ranges of actions that can safely discourage, prevent, and interrupt an incident. When immediate danger is a factor, leaving the situation and calling for help is the best action to take to be an Active Bystander.*

## Stand up, don’t stand by!