

LESSON IN VIOLATION

Rape campaign opens teens' eyes

Nomaswazi Nkosi

TEENAGERS at Redhill High School say they are naïve to what goes on around them as far as rape, sexual assault and drug abuse are concerned.

"I didn't know there are so many different kinds of rapists," Angela Broomberg, 16, said. "And they all sound so scary. Some of them matched people that I know."

The Grade 11 class in Morningside, Johannesburg, were part of a seminar instructed by John Buswell, chief executive officer of Rape Wise South Africa.

Buswell held a life orientation seminar, which touched on topics such as contraceptives, sexuality, sexually transmitted infections, teenage

pregnancy and pornography among other things.

"The seminar helped put a lot of things into perspective," Luaie Monze, 17, said.

Brian Nkosi, 17, agreed, saying the seminar was a lot more factual than the one the school held in Grade 8.

Buswell, using a mixture of humour and facts, explained many concepts the teenagers are or could be facing in their lifetime.

Buswell told the pupils that rape was a big problem in the country.

"If you want a conviction then you must be prepared to testify," Buswell said.

He educated them about the different types of rapes.

"There's child, gang, date, drug, corrective, compelled

violation and underage rape," he told the class.

He also explained the different kinds of rapists and their personality traits.

Buswell said there was a power assertive rapist, anger retaliatory rapist, anger excitation rapist, which Buswell said is the most dangerous kind in South Africa, and cited serial rapist Moses Sithole as an example.

Buswell asked the class how they would protect themselves from sexual assault and some of the girls said they would carry condoms at all times to protect themselves from HIV during a rape.

Others said they would carry pepper spray or a stun gun and constantly surround themselves with large groups



PAYING ATTENTION: Grade 11 learners at Redhill High School in Morningside enthralled by the life orientation seminar taught by John Buswell

PHOTO: VELI NHLAPO

PERSONALITY TRAITS OF THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF RAPISTS

● **POWER-assertive rapist** has a macho image, is largely built, has own transport, is employed or has access to money, normally lives within 10km of the rape scene. This is the rapist who will slip drugs into someone's drink and rape them.

● **Anger-retaliatory rapist** feels animosity towards women, has a history of abuse, is impulsive, no specific women, brutalises victim into submission and has a high level of violence.
● **Power-reassurance rapist** is a stalker, lacks self-confidence, has no

interpersonal skills, cannot develop partnerships with women, is non-athletic.
● **Anger-excitation rapist** is a sexual sadist, offers people work, gifts etc to lure them somewhere to rape them, is charming, and victims may not be strangers.
– *Nomaswazi Nkosi*

of people they know very well. "It was honest and realistic and he showed the good things and the bad things of doing certain things," Broomberg said.

Nkosi said the seminar was effective because it had a longer-lasting effect than other rape campaigns.

"The (Talk Radio) 702 beep campaign was good and shocking, but we spoke about it for about two days and that was it. Same with the girl in Cape Town who was raped, we also

talked about it for three days and it died down," Nkosi said.

The group said the seminar opened their eyes to the fact that anyone can get raped.

Some of the questions that popped up were: 'what is the right age to have sex?', 'Which one is more effective a female or male condom?'

Facing these sorts of questions, Buswell said it was vital the people teenagers trusted and talked to should be armed with the correct information. "We are arming teachers

now with packs of information so that they can talk to these children about these topics.

"Some teachers have to talk about drugs, but they don't know anything about drugs themselves," he said.

He told pupils that no one, not a teacher or a police officer, could tell them they were not raped.

He also said should they face any type of trauma, be it from a rape or otherwise, they should seek trauma counselling. – *nkosin@sowetan.co.za*

Bid to boost sex offences courts

Katlego Moeng

COUNSELLING is an integral part of ensuring that the sexual offences courts are able to live up to expectations.

Justice and Constitutional Development Minister Jeff Radebe yesterday announced that the country would have at least 57 courts dedicated to dealing with sexual offences in the next three years, with the first 22 up and running by the end of the year.

Advocate Praise Kambula, chief director for promotion of the rights of vulnerable groups in the department of justice and constitutional development, said everyone from prosecutors, magistrates and judges to intermediaries dealing with sexual offences would get periodic counselling.

Radebe said government had never taken the decision to do away with sexual offences

courts, but the system broke down over time partly because presiding officers declined to hear the usually explicit and unnerving stories of abuse and rape.

Kambula, who chaired the ministerial advisory task team on the adjudication of sexual offences, will now head an implementation committee.

She said one of her objectives would be finding ways of integrating counselling services offered to victims.

She said Thuthuzela Care Centres operated at public hospitals, Khuseleka One-Stop Centres located in communities were run by the department of social development and family violence, child protection and sexual offences units at police stations had to streamline their work and services and start working together. – *moengk@sowetan.co.za*



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