

# NWG : Active Bystander



## What is an Active Bystander?

Someone who is aware of inappropriate or threatening behaviour and chooses to challenge and intervene at the earliest opportunity, with their own safety a priority. **Passive bystanders do nothing.** Active bystanders make the difference at the earliest opportunity and prevent harm occurring.



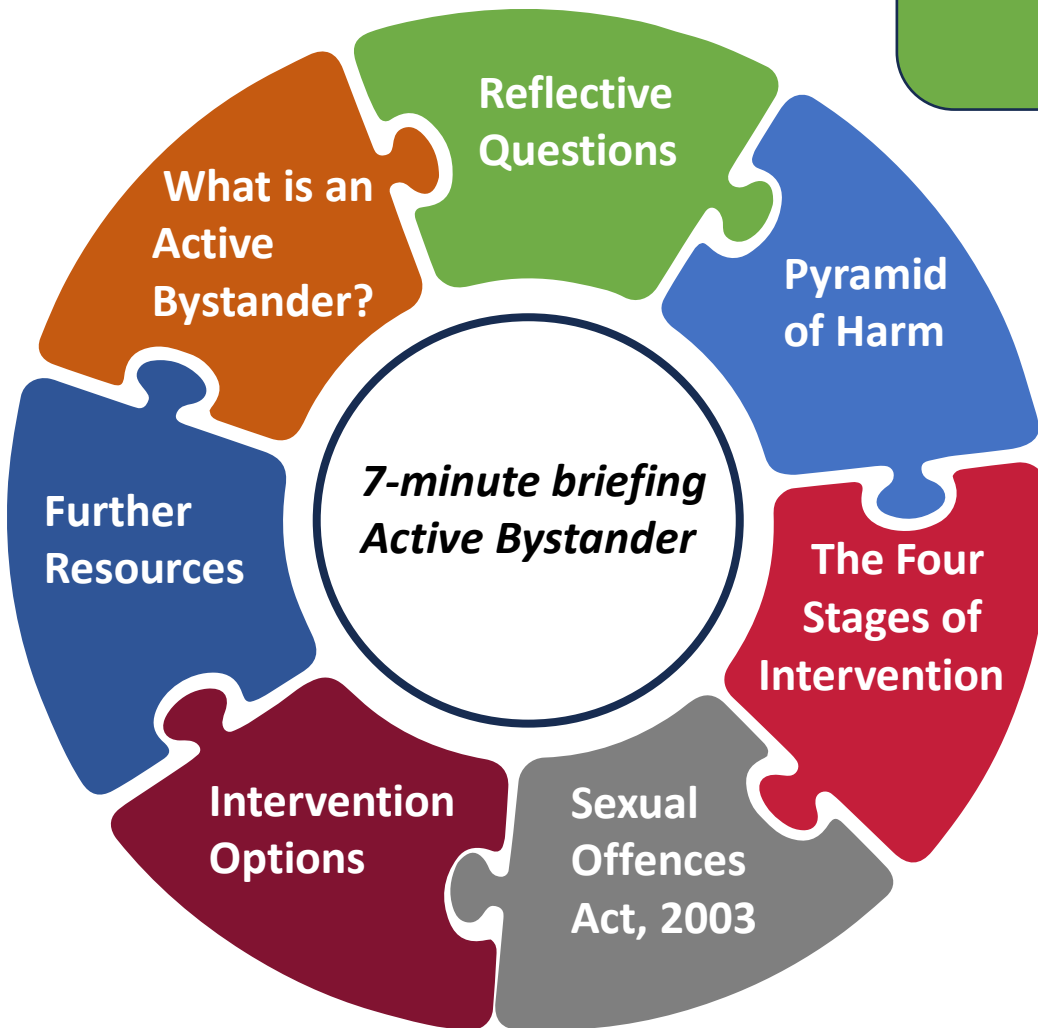

## Further resources

- [www.nwgnetwork.org](http://www.nwgnetwork.org)
- Ted Talks: Active Bystander
- *The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander in the Holocaust*, Amos N Guiora
- *Armies of Enablers: Survivor Stories of Complicity and Betrayal in Sexual Assaults*, Amos N Guiora
- *The Bystander Effect*, Amos N Guiora
- *I've got your back*, Jorge Arteaga & Emily May
- *Pyramid of Harm*, McMahon & Banyard, 2012




## Intervention options

**Need to intervene? Which tactic? My safety**  
**Witness, act, report**  
**Give support; victim, allies, authorities**


### Reflective questions?

Do you know how to intervene and what **tactics** to use?  
 Who would **you** get support from?  
 How big is the problem of Violence against Women and Girls?  
 Who else in society takes protective measures?: Think about **EVERYONE** from **EVERY** community in society  
 How do **you** avoid sexual harassment/assault?  
 Do you know the Sexual Offences Act, 2003?  
 What are the consequences of not intervening?




### Pyramid of Harm, McMahon & Banyard, 2012

The further up the pyramid of harm the worse the behaviour, from biased attitudes and beliefs to murder and suicide



### The Four Stages of Interventions

1. Notice the event
2. Interpret it as a problem
3. Feel responsible for dealing with it
4. Possess the skills to act – and which tactic to use in which situation



### Sexual Offences Act, 2003

Do you know the law around Sexual Offences Act?  
 What is consent?  
 Position of Trust  
 Sexual harassment and what women do to avoid it  
 Challenge myths

