

Barracks and Online Surfing

Topic: online conduct

Situation: Inappropriate discussions among Soldiers

A Soldier, Specialist (SPC) Jones, is passing through the platoon area when a conversation between SPC Williams and SPC Duffy is overheard. They are discussing a person they are both conversing with through an online dating site. SPC Duffy states that this person is looking for a Soldier and that they are open to having sex with two Soldiers at once. SPC Jones asks if they are sure that this person is who they claim to be, and wonders if this could be a set-up. SPC Williams states that the person sent them a revealing picture and that they are hot. They plan to meet this person at a local motel on Friday night for sex. SPC Williams shares concerns regarding this person's statement about birth control preferences, and that they requested that their partner watch and video tape them having sex.

Discussion Questions:

1. What did you notice was happening in this vignette?
2. What is your reaction to what is happening here?
3. If confronted with a similar situation, what would you do?
4. What Army values have been violated and how could you use the Army Values to address/intervene in this situation?

Solution: This vignette explores the types of high-risk behavior and inappropriate workplace discussions that can take place. SPC Jones could address their peers about the inappropriateness of discussing this in the workplace. They can also address the risks of unprotected sex, the potential violation of the UCMJ related to sexual relations with a married person, and express concern about consequences of the partner filming the incident. Having the partner watch and video tape the encounter could be a violation of Article 134 or could be used to embarrass or extort the Soldiers.