Civilian Vignette 8 – DA Civilians Training TDY in Hotel Off-post

Topic: Sexual Assault

Situation: A Co-workers Sexual Assault

You are TDY and after a long day of intense and challenging training with your team everyone agrees to go to the hotel Happy Hour and blow off some steam. It has been a long time since you have been able to go TDY and everyone has been so happy to finally be back together. While having some appetizers one of your co-workers, Kody, sits really close to you and keeps making weird comments to you all evening; things like "You look so great since I last saw you. I wish my spouse had a body like yours." After you give Kody an intense look of disapproval you change the subject, but Kody keeps "eyeing" you all evening. As you tell everyone good night and head up to your room, Kody asks if they can accompany you. You say "no", but Kody follows you to the elevator asking for a copy of the training schedule and saying your rooms are close to each other. When you get to your door, Kody begins to press against you, groping your crotch and your buttocks.

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?

5. What is the responsibility of those who know of inappropriate conduct?

6. What could have been done?

7. Why do you think nobody intervened?

Solution: This vignette demonstrates abusive sexual contact. Kody made uncomfortable comments. What started out with little comments quickly turned into something much more severe, despite the looks of disapproval and clear response of "no" to the invitation. Once Kody made intentional contact with certain body parts, it turned into sexual assault. You should report to the SARC and explore your options.