

Soldiers TDY for Training

Topic: Bystander Intervention, sexual harassment

Situation: Soldiers TDY for Training

You and three friends from your unit are on temporary duty (TDY) for training. It's Friday night and you and your friends are in the hotel lobby. A family walks by, recognizes you as Soldiers, and thanks you for your service. Then you notice an attractive individual walking across the lobby. As they walk by and get in the elevator, SGT Marks begins to make crude gestures and remarks about their body and clothes, and states "I would like to tap that." The other two in the group laugh it off. SGT Marks gives the other two fist bumps and extends a fist to you.

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. Where does this kind of conduct fall on the continuum of readiness?
5. What Army values have been violated and how could you use the Army Values to address/intervene in this situation?
6. What is the responsibility of those who know of inappropriate conduct?
7. What could have been done?
8. Why do you think nobody intervened?

Solution: This vignette demonstrates verbal sexual harassment. Whether the attractive individual heard SGT Marks' comments or not, it was still highly inappropriate. The other people involved should have intervened and told SGT Marks to cut it out.