

Women's News of SU

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**Shippensburg University
Women's Center**
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257
On campus: HH 132
Phone: 717-477-1790
Fax: 717-477-4139

Staff:

Nicolette Yevich, Director
Sharon Wadel, Assistant
Amy Ricedorf, Grad. Asst.
Jessica Wauls, Grad Asst.
Michelle Hargraves
Anna Moulinier

We're on the
Web!
[www.ship.edu/
~wmscentr](http://www.ship.edu/~wmscentr)

Women's Studies Minor
Dr. Susan Rimby, Director
717-477-1104
<http://www.ship.edu/~women/>
Women's Consortium
Dr. Sara Grove
President
717-477-1718

NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

As 2004 began, the National Center for Victims of Crime announced that January of 2004 would be the first-ever National Stalking Awareness Month. It focuses on the serious and deadly crime that victimizes more than one million women and nearly 400,000 men in America each year.

Stalking -- typically defined as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear -- is a criminal offense under the laws of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the federal government. Although its prevalence is high, public awareness that stalking is a crime remains dangerously low. One in 12 women and one in 45 men will be stalked in their lifetime, for an average duration of almost two years. Seventy-six percent of female homicide victims were also stalked prior to their death, and more than half of these victims reported stalking to the police before being murdered by their stalkers. National Stalking Awareness Month, intended to increase the public's awareness of stalking, was inspired by the story of Peggy Klinke, a stalking

victim who was murdered by an ex-boyfriend after repeatedly seeking law enforcement intervention.

"The tragic death of Peggy Klinke underscores the urgent need to respond more effectively to stalking victims," said Susan Herman, executive director of the National Center for Victims of Crime. "If all the people that Peggy reached out to for help had understood how dangerous stalking can be -- and how critical intervention is -- she might be alive today."

"Stalking victims are often forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, such as relocating, changing their identities, or changing jobs," said Susan Herman. "Our hope is that National Stalking Awareness Month will serve to bring stalking to the attention of policy makers, law enforcement officials, and the general public so that when stalking victims need help, we will all respond appropriately -- doing everything we can to keep them safe and hold offenders accountable for their actions."

The National Center for Victims of Crime is encouraging communities across the country to promote awareness and public education about stalking during the month of

January and throughout the year.



Here are some stalking statistics related to college campuses:

- 13% of college women were stalked during one six to nine month period
- 80% of campus stalking victims knew their stalkers
- 3 in 10 college women reported being injured emotionally or psychologically from being stalked

If you or someone you know is or has been a victim of stalking, contact the Stalking Resource Center at 1-800-FYI-CALL or contact the Women's Center at 477-1790 for more information.

Information gathered from:
[Http://www.ncvc.org](http://www.ncvc.org) and
[Http://http://www.forensicnurse-mag.com/hotnews/41h5165639.html](http://http://www.forensicnurse-mag.com/hotnews/41h5165639.html)

VAGINA MONOLOGUES

“One in Four” Men’s Group

This month, “One in Four” plans to begin training as a chapter at Shippensburg University. They are a group of all-male peer educators who present the “Men’s Program” for the organization, Men’s Outreach for Rape Education at institutions across the country.

The name "One in Four" has a dual meaning. First, it refers to the nation-wide research study indicating that one in four college women report surviving rape or attempted rape since their 14th birthday. Secondly, it references that the peer educators seek to be the ones who inform other men how to help women recover from a rape experience.

Once trained, the group

can present a 45-minute program where they do the following things:

1. Define rape and sexual assault
2. Present a short video describing a male-on-male rape situation.
3. Draw parallels between the video and experiences a survivor may encounter
4. Discuss ways to help a survivor
5. Suggest other ways men can help end rape
6. Discuss questions



For more information about this program, contact Tim at the Women’s Center at 477-1790.

Recent Addition to the Women’s Center Video Library:

Iron Jawed Angels (DVD)

Oscar-winner Hilary Swank and Frances O'Connor star as second-wave suffragettes Alice Paul and Lucy Burns, who led the final fight for the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

It is a fresh and contemporary look at a pivotal event in American history,

telling the true story of how a pair of defiant and brilliant young activists took the women's suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote.



To borrow this DVD, stop by the Women’s Center in Horton Hall.

REMINDER:

Keep your calendars open for Monday, February 7th through Thursday, February 10th for the **Tunnel of Oppression**, which will be taking place from 4-7pm. Keep on the lookout for flyers around campus advertising the location—you don’t want to miss this!

