



In Memoriam – John DeLamater

Dr. John DeLamater died suddenly and unexpectedly in his sleep on Tuesday December 12th, 2017. John was 77 years old.

John received his PhD in Sociology from the University of Michigan in 1969, before moving to Madison, where he taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for 48 years as a professor, becoming the Conway-Bascom Professor Emeritus in the Department of Sociology. He dedicated his life to sex science.

John was a long-time member of SSSS, providing years of service to the organization. He previously served as Editor of the Journal of Sex Research. He was awarded status as SSSS Fellow and received the Distinguished Service to SSSS Award in 2009. He also received The Kinsey Award, given by the SSSS Midcontinent Region, acknowledging his contributions to the field of sex research.

John attended our most recent Annual Meeting in Atlanta and many of our members affectionately remember spending time with him, talking about fond memories and about future collaboration plans. John is someone many looked forward to seeing at SSSS Annual meetings; his presentations were thoughtful and competent and he always took time to support and offer mentorship to other members.

John will be sorely missed.

A STRONG “NO” IS UNIVERSAL: RESISTANCE TRAINING AS SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION FOR STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD

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Studying abroad is common among college students, and rates of studying abroad are rapidly increasing (Institute of International Education, 2011). Such expansion necessitates the need for regular re-evaluation of the pre-departure training International Studies Departments (ISD) provides for students. To date, **there are no standardized guidelines for the content of pre-departure training.** Preliminary findings from our study reviewing ISD websites (Marcantonio et al., in preparation) show a variety of useful topics for students traveling abroad: finding clean drinking water, avoiding infectious disease, and evading theft. However, advice on how to prevent sexual assault was missing.

American women who study in a foreign country are 3–5 times more likely to experience sexual assault while abroad than their stateside peers (Kimble, Flack, & Burbridge, 2013). However, there is no published research on risk or protective factors associated with sexual assault during study abroad programs, including whether the risk for assault comes from citizens in the country they are visiting, or from the other students in their programs. What is known is that studying abroad is strongly associated with higher rates of drinking (Pedersen, Larmier & Lee, 2010) and risky (e.g., condomless) casual sex (Marcantonio, Angelone & Sledjeski, 2015) compared to stateside peers; two factors strongly associated with increased risk for sexual assault. However, much remains unclear and, given the high

rates of sexual assault among students studying abroad, combined with the dearth of research on pre-departure prevention measures, further investigation is needed.



While some ISD websites do offer resources for those who have been assaulted, completed sexual assault does not have to be the only story in this narrative (Cermele, 2010). One specific form of intervention that reduces the likelihood of completed sexual assault is self-defence or resistance training. There are many types of resistance training, varying from martial arts style courses, college seminars, and short classes (Brecklin, 2008). The programs with the highest efficacy use empowerment or feminist self-defence training (Thompson, 2014). **Feminist self-defence courses emphasize four themes: placing responsibility for violence on the perpetrator, locating violence within a broader social context, centering embodiment, and providing a comprehensive toolbox of self-defence strategies** (Thompson, 2014).

More importantly, a growing body of literature finds that resistance is an effective strategy in preventing sexual assault (see Ullman, 1997, 2007 for reviews). In fact, **forceful resistance (e.g., kicking, yelling) has been found to increase the likelihood of successfully stopping an assault,** without further endangering the