

**Revolution:
Speakers
Bureau**

Winter Newsletter



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Abbie Road	1
Omar's Oasis	1
Dating Violence	2
Events & Presentations	3

Abbie Road

I was just thinking about how I have a "milestone" birthday coming in March. It reminded me of the first "big-time" presentation Revolution had. On my birthday, March 20, 2009, we traveled 9 hours ONE WAY to a school in Virden, Illinois. Two young students had googled "dating violence prevention" and found Revolution. We presented twice to 492 students. We were so nervous yet so excited. Little did I know it was just the beginning! So, on this, the year of my "big" birthday, I want to offer thanks and appreciation. I want to thank Rosie Heinisch for her creation and passion for Speaker's Bureau. I want to thank Erin

Nahorny for her faith in me and for helping me love and nurture Revolution every step of the way. I want to thank Lauren Wright, Aaron Adams, Omar Rodriguez, and Katie Rodriguez for taking a leap of faith with me (when we had no idea what we were doing!) and for all your selfless dedication to Revolution from my very first day as Supervisor. I want to thank Tayler Bock and Kelsey Jochum for using your amazing talents to help create the slideshow and to continue to help me with anything and everything I ask of you both. Thank you to Levi McPhillips for bringing passion and an unbelievable talent and fearlessness

for communicating our message. Lastly, I want to thank each and every Revolution member. You have each given your precious time and talents. You have laughed with me, cried with me, let me almost kill you in the van, sung with me, been angry with me, but most of all worked tirelessly to make young people safer in their relationships. I never dreamed Revolution would become as hugely successful as it is and have each and every one of you to thank for it. Happy Birthday to me!!



Omar's Oasis

Hi everyone! This winter has been full of fun education and holiday spirit for Revolution. Just watching all the kids get so excited about helping and teaching the community, is just an amazing thing to see.

Even though I am older than all the current members, I have gotten really close to all of them. I feel so much pride that I have been able to mentor

and guide the current Revolution members. It's so cool to see them out there teaching others what they have learned. They all have become great leaders and mentors for the community.

It has also been exciting to see the theater members at the presentations. They have worked really hard to make the roles their own.

I'm also really proud that

my younger brother is part of this amazing group. He has already become a better speaker and leader for the community than I was. I am looking forward to seeing all the great things he, and the rest Revolution, can accomplish.

I just want to say again how great you guys are doing. See you guys soon!



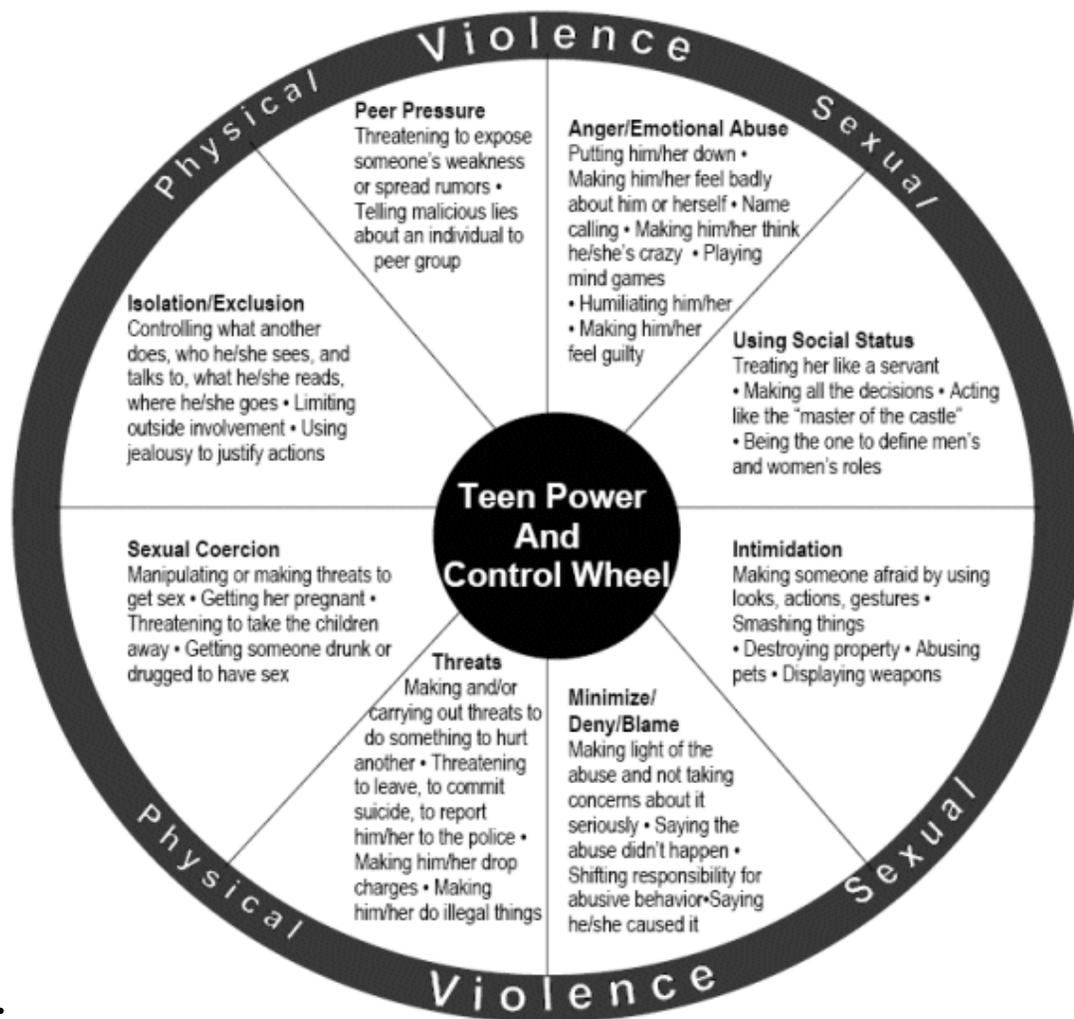
Dating Violence



As some of you know February was Dating Violence Awareness Month. Most people don't realize how big of a problem dating violence is with young adults. According to the statistics on loveisrespect.org, nearly 1.5 million high school students across the nation experience physical abuse from a dating partner every year. Another stat says that one in three adolescents in the US is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse. We should be focusing on younger people because of how many it affects. About 72% of eighth and

ninth graders are "dating". The severity of the violence is often greater in cases where abuse was established in adolescence. An abusive person's behavior typically begins between the ages of 12 and 18. Girls and young women between the ages of 16 to 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence. These violent relationships in adolescence can put the victims at a higher chance of substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior and further domestic violence. This also causes half of the youth who have experi-

enced both dating violence and rape to attempt suicide. Another issue is that currently eight states do not include dating relationships in their definition of dating violence, resulting in young victims not being able to apply for restraining orders. The key to stopping dating violence is raising awareness, and letting the victims know that there is help for them. For more information you can contact the Center For Survivors or your local domestic violence agency. You can also go to loveisrespect.org.



Revolution Events and Presentations

Revolution has had a lot of fun this winter with presentations and other events.

On December 11th Revolution had their Christmas party. We enjoyed some good food and games. Then after the party was over, Revolution did their "Cookies & Caroling". "Cookies & Caroling" is where Revolution members deliver home-made cookies to people who bid on this event at our annual fundraiser, The Summer Sizzle. Revolution then sings carols for the winners. This year we also wore our ugly Christmas sweaters. Thank you to Rick & Kathi

Hurner, Sam & Alyssa Hogleland, Matt & Sharee Jedlica, and Bill & Bonnie McPhillips who were this year's winning bidders. December 22nd Revolution finished up "Cookies & Caroling" by providing carols to the residents at Heritage House.

Revolution's annual bowling event was February 12th at Boulevard Lanes. The girls did surprisingly well this year, (using bumpers of course.) The group enjoyed good food, and bowling, although some of us got a little competitive. You will also probably hear Abbie brag about how she



beat me in our first game. I let her win (of course), but I let her think she won so she is not crushed. The reigning champion at the end of the day was Andrew Raitt with a score of 124.

On January 30th Revolution presented for Wahoo High School. We presented to 250 kids and 20 adults. Wahoo has a brand new auditorium which made the presentation seem even better.

On February 14th, Revolution travelled to Humphrey St. Francis where we presented to 100 students. This presentation was unique because Andy Heusinkvelt's girlfriend was in the audience (he plays the character of a rapist!) Let's just say she fired off some pretty tough questions!

February 27th was a very busy day for Revolution. We presented twice that day; once to Shelby/Rising City to 110 students and then a second time for Cross County to 113 students. It was a very busy day but Revolution delivered two awesome performances that really affected the audiences.

