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Adapt a Module: Institutional Sexism

Compelling Unit Question for high school students: What is the connection between “locker room talk,” sexism, and sexual assault in sports? How can you stand up to these injustices when you encounter them?

1. ‘“Locker room talk.’ Says who?” by Alexis Jones <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCA6EF3y23k>

In this TEDTalk, Alexis Jones talks about the importance of educating male athletes and coach role models so they can go against the status quo by speaking up against sexist conversations. When people who benefit from patriarchal institutions support the women who are disadvantaged by these systems in colleges and universities, it not only changes the environment of the locker room but then has a ripple effect in changing institutional culture in regards to sexism and especially sexual assault.

1. “Time for a New Kind of Locker Room Talk” by Debra Chasnoff [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/time-for-a-new-kind-of-locker-room-talk\_b\_57fc3ebfe4b](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/time-for-a-new-kind-of-locker-room-talk_b_57fc3ebfe4b0b665ad818939)

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In this article, documentary filmmaker Debra Chasnoff reflects on then-presidential nominee Donald Trump’s usage of “locker room talk” and the documentary she made years prior where she interviewed male students about the pressures of masculinity they faced, specifically in locker rooms.

1. “AP: Sex assaults in high school sports minimized as ‘hazing’” by Reese Dunklin [https://apnews.com/article/college-football-baseball-high-school-sports-football-sexual-a ssault-cdca2c9adf014ed1bf95b3a925c85133](https://apnews.com/article/college-football-baseball-high-school-sports-football-sexual-assault-cdca2c9adf014ed1bf95b3a925c85133)

In this article, Dunklin reports that high schools disidentify, cover up, or otherwise dismiss sexual assault most frequently when these assaults are perpetrated by male athletes. Dunklin writes specifically about athletes that assault their teammates and the ways this is brushed off as team “hazing.”

1. “Sports and Rape Culture” by the Sexual Assault Awareness team <https://saawareness.com/blog/sports-rape-culture-sexual-violence>

In this article from the advocacy group Sexual Assault Awareness, multiple studies and media are reported on to highlight the pervasiveness of sexist ideologies and sexual violence within institutions of school sports.

1. “Sexual Assaults in High Schools and Athletic Programs” by Lee Green <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/sexual-assaults-in-high-schools-and-athletics-programs/>In this article from the legal issue of the National Federation of State High School Associations, Lee Green writes that while federally-funded universities are required to report sexual assault statistics, there is not an equivalent rule for K-12 schools. He then describes a lawsuit a female student filed against her school district in Michigan alleging the principal’s reluctance to report her sexual assault, which happened in school by a star athlete, to the police.