

Afterwards

- He let her up.
- Talked constantly as she dressed.
- Said he wanted to see her again.

Thursday 2:16 AM Cook: “Still alive?”

Leah: “Imao yep!”

Cook: “Night!”

Leah: “Night, bruh.”

Text to Brother After Violent Rape

”When u tell A Male no stop I’m not comfortable slow down S T O P and he decides that must be code for convince me and you jerk to free yourself and have that sudden realization of oh shit he’s so much stronger there’s actually no way I can get free unless I somehow talk him out of this, which I cant “

2nd Text to Brother

2:42 am

couldnt get to my phone, couldn't get to the door, my arms are sore from the death grip and being repeatedly yanked backward when I tried to walk away" "I dont feel like I was assaulted...I dont think. But I feel very weird."

Next Morning

Thurs. 9:31 AM

Cook: “G’Luck babe”

Thurs. 6:51 pm

Cook: “I’m gonna hit you up when I get done with my test 😊

Thurs. 9:20 pm Cook: “Home free yo”

Thurs. 9:37 pm

Leah: “I don’t think we should hang anymore.” “My body hurts a lot today”
“And I don’t really want a fuckbuddy”

Thursday 10:30 pm

Cook: "I'm chill with not chilling tonight." "I do want a second date"

Thurs. 10:47 pm

Leah: "I don't. This is just moving too fast and I feel pressured."

Cook: "Okay"

Cook Notebook

- Notebook described each woman and goals he had for her
- “Police called it an “index” of what Cook wanted to do with women—including statements of sexual desires and a box marked “killed?” with a faint strikethrough.”
(Mother Jones, 1.29.18)

Dane County Circuit Judge Stephen Ehlke

Threw it out

- Dane County Circuit Judge Stephen Ehlke said he struggled with the right thing to do in his decision but said his primary concern in sentencing Cook was that the victims' voices be heard.

(Milwaukee State Journal 6.22.18)

Outcome

23 Counts

Sexual Assault

Stalking

Strangulation

Pled to 5 felonies

Sentence

3 years in prison

Impact of Myths

When sexual assault like myth,
Victim's behaviors meet expectations.

When sexual assault not like myth,
Victim's behaviors do not meet expectations

Impact of Myths

- Definition of victim and offender different
- Social support different
- Victim blame different

What Crimes Include Counterintuitive Behavior?

- Dating relationship
- Intra-familial sexual assault or exploitation (e.g., children, family members)
- Non-strangers (e.g., friends, co-workers)

What's the Problem

Offender's Counterintuitive Behavior

Produces

Victim Counterintuitive Behavior

“As she was getting dressed, Leah stated Cook was ‘really casual’ asking “What’s your schedule, when can I see you again?” Leah replied that she was busy and she was not sure when she would see him again. Cook continued to “talk about himself and the things in his room” as Leah dressed.

Gas Lighting

- Slapping someone in a restaurant and pretending they didn't.
- Raping a young woman and sending a text the next day saying they had a wonderful time
- Asking for another date
- Continuing with the evening
- In families –continuing with family life

Perp's Counterintuitive Behavior

- “Kindness” following violence
- Professions of love
- “Forgetting” or acting normal

Faulty Expectations

Super Hero Myths

If it were a sexual assault, I would have automatically:

- Run out of the room
- Fought him off
- Never seen him again
- Called police immediately

Conflicting Behavioral Expectations

Social Relationships

- Trustworthy
- Ongoing relationship
- Be nice to person
- Do not make a scene
- Not going to harm you
- Continue with normal relationship
- Would not sexually assault you

Sexual Assault

- Betrays trust
- Uses ongoing relationship
- Nice before & after
- Relies on social norms
- Denies he is harming you
- Pretend normal
- Gas lighting

Several times Leah tried to get to her phone and make excuses to leave. She said, among other things she wanted to let her roommate know where she was, said she was exhausted and had class in the morning. Each time she tried to leave the bed Cook would pull her back. Leah stated that Cook “always had a death grip on my arm or body.”

Social Fabric

- People want to return to normalcy
- Continue to play social roles
- Feels safer

Counterintuitive Victim Behavior

Result of clash between social norms for how we are supposed to treat social/family relationships

and

Reality of sexual assault

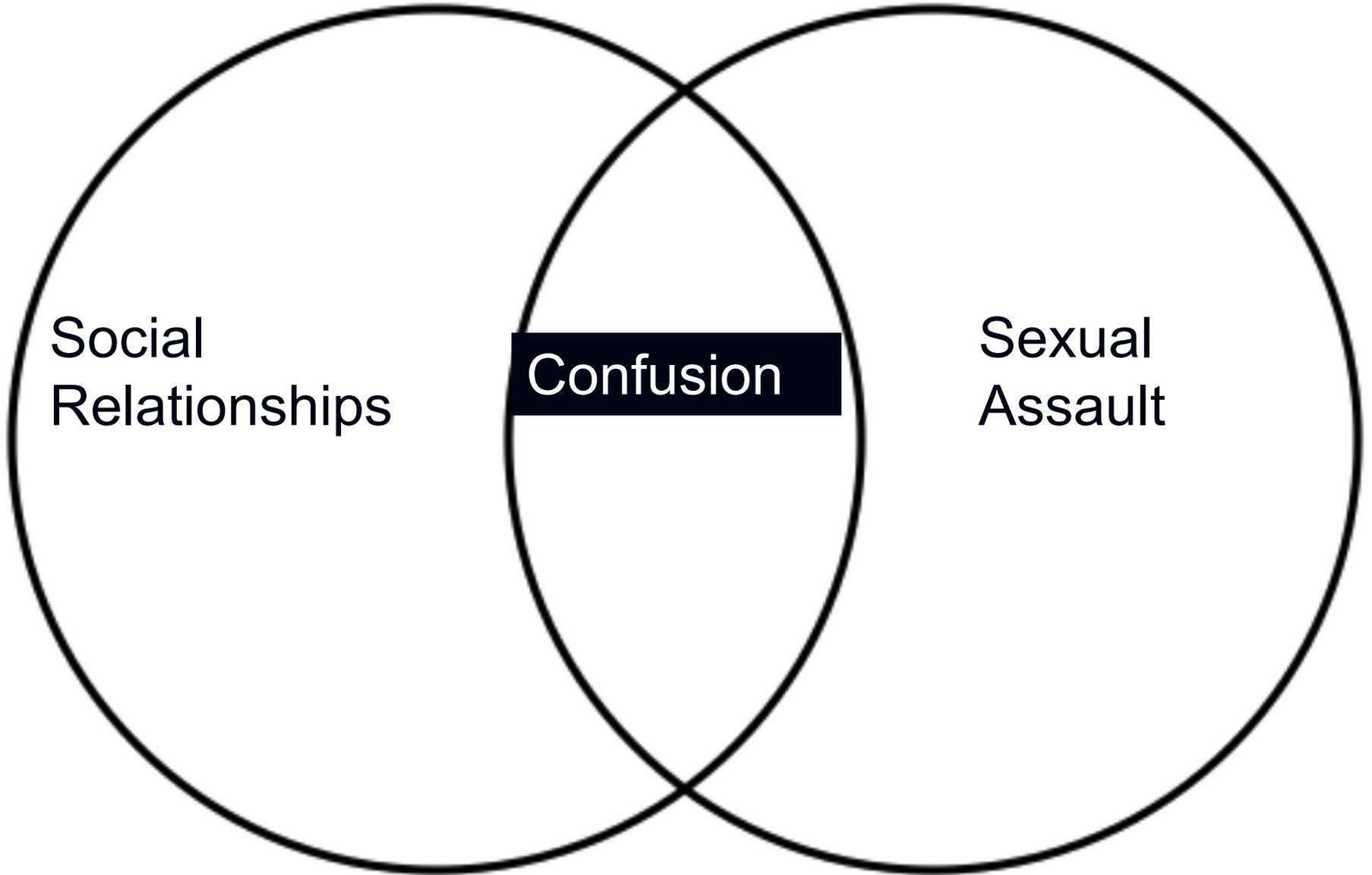
Social Relationships

Sexual Assault

Social
Relationships

Confusion

Sexual
Assault



Has This Changed Since Me Too?

N = 8 trials

- Defense introduced rape myths 34 times.
- Defendant acquitted $>1/2$ the time.

(Temkin, Gray, & Barrett, 2018)

Clash between social relationship
expectations and sexual assault

Not the only force

Defining the response to child sexual abuse

Offender's Influence on the Victim's Perception of the Offense

- Minimizing the offense
- Not acting like a rapist or abuser
- Using the victim's sexual response against her
- Using the victim's confusion against her
- Using the victim's attachment/dependency
- Using the victim's past
- Gas lighting

Offender's Influence on the Truth

- Offenders manipulate the experience of the assault on the victim, influencing or changing the victim's truth of the abuse:

I am lying in bed alone now. I fear that I have hurt you badly. I taped your feet together and slapped you in the face. I can hear you downstairs crying and my heart is hurting. I want to go down and comfort you, but I know that you do not want me too. Now you are leaving. You said that you don't feel safe here. That hurt me so bad. I want to be your protector. I want you to feel safe in my arms. I do not know how long I can endure this. I simply wanted to lie down and read at 10.00 P.M. You whined that you did not want the light on so I begged you to let me read. I finally compromised and turned it off. I said good night and I love you, this gave you a kiss. But you don't let me to sleep. So I begged you to let me sleep. You refused. I tried to just lay quietly but you yelled and started to push and pull me. I finally held on to my side and held on.

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to the bed. Every time you tried to role me over I would just hold on tighter. You yelled and then I had enough when you tried to pull on my face. I grabbed your hand and pinned it under me. I had you pinned so you could not move so you bit me. I twisted your hand. You gave up so I let you go. You start hitting me so I role over and pin both of your arms and press on your forehead to restrain you from biting. You are acting like a crazy person now. You start to kick and wiggle. I have to use a more uncomfortable method to restrain you. I was not choking you. I had you in a hold that caused you to choke yourself the more you struggled. It is very safe and effective. I let you go. Right after I let go of you, you hit me right in the face. I felt a hard pop in my eye. It stunned me enough that I just sat back and calmed down.

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to the bed. Every time you tried to roll me over, I would just hold on tighter. You yelled and then I had enough when you tried to pull on my face. I grabbed your hand and pinned it under me. I had you pinned so you could not move so you bit me. I twisted your hand. You gave up so I let you go. You start hitting me so I roll over and pin both of your arms and press on your forehead to restrain you from biting. You are acting like a crazy person now. You start to kick and wiggle. I have to use a more uncomfortable method to restrain you. I was not choking you. I had you in a hold that caused you to choke yourself the more you struggled. It is very safe and effective. I let you go. Right after I let go of you, you hit me right in the face. I felt a hard pop in my eye. It stunned me enough that I just sat back and calmed down.

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a little. I got out of bed and went to look at my eye. I think it will be black tomorrow. You called me a pussy and said that you hope it is black. I had had enough of your mouth so I slapped you in it. After that I went downstairs for some cool off time for you. I went out to the car and got some tape. I came back upstairs. You wanted an apology. I felt like you deserve it. So I apologize to you for slapping you. I lay down and you want me to sleep downstairs. NOT GONNA HAPPEN. We fight some more and I cuddle you up and give you a kiss. You start getting violent again. So I get up and warn you that if you don't behave, that I will tape you up. You did not listen. You get violent again. So... I tape your feet together. I warn you to be nice. You refuse and start hitting me again. So I pin your hands and start to get the tape ready. You freak out. I decide to let you go. I start to take it off your feet but you keep squirming. You start hitting me

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I so I pin your arms behind
our back. I could have easily
restrained you now, but again
I release you after you swear to
behave when I release you,
you get up and leave.

I hate fighting with you. I wish
I would have just respected
my wishes enough to have let me
sleep. I never would seriously
hurt you. I was completely in control
of actions. Every restraining
measure I used on you is self
defense and causes only discomfort.

I love you and hope you
get it back home safe.

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Reality is a consensual experience.

Perpetrators try to impact victim understanding of what happened.

Social Relationships

Sexual Assault

Familial Relationships

Confused
Ambivalent

Sexual Assault

