

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: SAFE <coalition@cybernet1.com>
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 12:38 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Subject: Take Back the Night

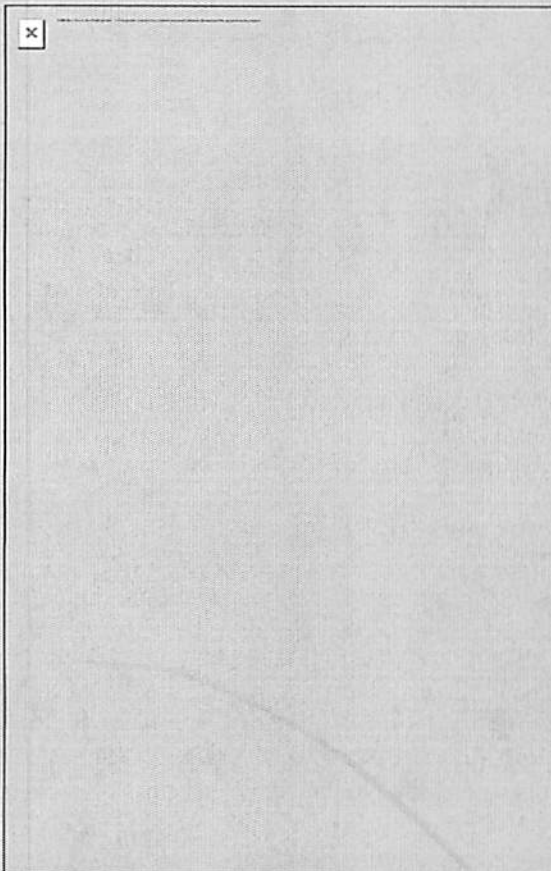
TAKE BACK the NIGHT - April 24, 2014

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month,

and we need your help encouraging teens, parents, and concerned community members to participate!

TAKE BACK THE NIGHT is Thursday, April 24th at Hamilton City Hall.

There will be **pizza** and sign-making at 6pm, a **march** through Hamilton at 7pm, followed by treats and a youth **Speak Out** at 8pm. **Tracy Lopez** from The Trail 103.3FM will be at the pre-march and march to emcee and fire us up. We are looking for **drummers** to guide our march, any are welcome. Several students are preparing readings, rhymes, music, beats, poetry or spoken word for the **SPEAK OUT**. Any teen or adult is welcome for the Speak Out, to listen or **use your voice to help end sexual violence!**



Sexual assault, predominantly, impacts teens and children in our country (and our community).

- Nearly half of sexual assault victims are under age 18, and 29% are between the ages of 12 and 17 (U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, Sex Offenses and Offenders. 1997).
- Girls ages 16-19 are four times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault (U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, Sex Offenses and Offenders. 1997).
- About 10% of known rape victims are male (U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2003 National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003)
- And, 93% of juvenile sexual assault victims know their attacker. In a 2000 study, 34.3% of juvenile victims were assaulted by a family member, 58.7% by an acquaintance and only 7% by a stranger (U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics. 2000 Sexual Assault of Young Children as Reported to Law Enforcement. 2000).

Teens are at such a high risk of being victimized (and perpetrating) precisely at the time they are developing their own values and skills at relationships. And, they don't exactly live in a world where they get clear messages about healthy relationships.

So, first of all, thanks for taking a lead in keeping young people safe. Second, please do what you can to attend and encourage others to attend Take Back the Night. And, third, if you have a second, check out some of the resources listed here:

http://www.mt.gov/arc/sexual_violence_prevention.html

<http://www.courtesyviolenceprevention.org/>

(includes bullying and intimate partner violence resources and studies, such as "In the Spotlight: The Connection Between Bullying and Sexual Violence Perpetration")

STAY IN TOUCH 

for more information, call 363-2793
or send a message to jogden@safeinthebitterroot.org

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