Sara should tell Ted that she is feeling uncomfortable so he knows when to stop. Ted probably thinks that Sara lies it since she has not told him to stop so she needs to express how she is feeling towards him. Sara can lie about getting something and not return back. She could drink less. Sara could walk away.

Sara can be aggressive and push Ted away.

Sara should dance towards the group with Ted to make it obvious she doesn’t want to be alone with him.

Sara could tell Ted a lie to keep him from wanting to kiss/dance with her (e.g. that she’s sick).

Just go upstairs and talk to him and if he tries to kiss me I will kiss him back but if he tries to go further I will either pretend to be too drunk or just say no but I probably would feel awkward saying no.

Kate and Sara could have discussed before going out if Sara wanted to go off alone with Ted.

What are my options? 

Option generation in a context of potential sexual assault

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Background

- We often present participants with a set of options from which to choose.
- Yet real-world decisions often lack pre-defined options.
- Option generation is critical to decision-making: It determines the options from which people choose.

Given extended time, what is the range and nature of options that participants can generate—i.e., their self-generated option set? This study explored that question, focusing on a situation of significance to undergraduate students and society at large.

Method

- 99 undergraduates: 68 females, 31 males
- Read a hypothetical scenario characteristic of sexual assault
- Generated options for preventing unwanted sexual activity (5+ mins.)
- Prompts varied in terms of (1) goals and (2) perspectives
- Entered options into spreadsheet that recorded timestamp for each option

There could be signs about consent in the fraternity. Less social pressure to drink. Everyone should receive bystander training so they know good ways that they can help intervene in certain situations. There can be risk managers who are sober and keeping their eyes out for any signs of danger. Parties should be lit and no private areas should be available at the party. Better education for students to recognize these sorts of situations and how to prevent them. Have all students complete an alcohol/sexual conduct informational test. Take away common source alcohol.

Create an open environment where people can talk about uncomfortable experiences and how they can be avoided in the future.

Experience and Attitudes

- Approximately how many times during the past year, if any, have you actually experienced a situation similar to the scenario described?
- Approximately how many times during the past year, if any, have you actually experienced a situation similar to the scenario described?

Option Initiators

- Alcohol involved
- Consent involved
- Description/Misrepresentation involved

Option Characteristics

- Alcohol involved
- Consent involved
- Description/Misrepresentation involved

Option Themes

- Alcohol involved
- Consent involved
- Description/Misrepresentation involved

Much more coming soon!