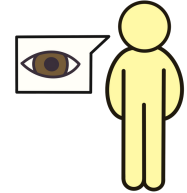


# Bystander Intervention: **D✓'s** and **D✗N'Ts** for Action

Bystander intervention involves recognizing a potentially harmful situation or interaction and choosing to respond in a way that assists the victim. This offers tips for how to intervene in public instances of harassment, based on race, ethnicity, and religion, while considering the safety of all parties.

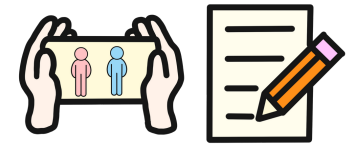
## **D✓** make your presence as a witness known:

- If possible, make eye contact with the person being harassed and ask if they want support
- Move yourself near the person being harassed, if you feel safe to do so
- If you feel it is safe to do so, create distance or a barrier between the person being harassed and the attacker



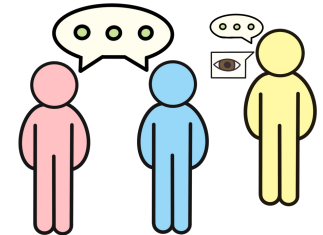
## **D✓** document the event:

- If it is safe to do so, film or record the incident
- You can then share the film or recording after the event with the person being harassed or post it if you have the consent of the person being harassed



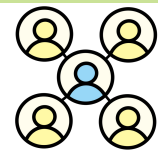
## **D✓** take cues from the individual being harassed:

- Is the person engaging with the harasser or not?
- You can make suggestions, "Would you like to walk with me over here? Would you like to move to another seat? Would you like this person to leave you alone?," and then follow their lead
- Notice if the person being harassed is resisting in their own way, and honour that



## **D✓** keep both of you safe:

- Assess your surroundings – are there others nearby you can pull in to support?
- Try pointing out the conflict to those around you - working in a team is a good idea, if it is possible



## **D✗N'T** escalate the situation:

- The goal is to get the person being harassed to safety, not to incite further violence from the attacker



## **D✓** follow up with the individual being harassed after the incident is over:

- Ask if they need any support
- Remain at the scene to act as a witness



## **D✗N'T** do nothing:

- Silence is dangerous – it communicates approval and leaves the victim to fend for themselves
- If you find yourself too nervous or afraid to speak out, move closer to the person being harassed to communicate your support

