

Sexual Harassment and you

Like porn, I can't tell you what it is, but I know it when I see it.

I can't even write this week's story. It has to come from someone else. So, because I could not find an educational cartoon to use (you don't even want to know how painful looking for something appropriate and funny was), I'll point you to a Burning Man Blog post.

<http://journal.burningman.org/2015/08/philosophical-center/tenprinciples/consent-and-sexual-harassment-at-burning-man-what-you-can-do-to-help/>

But first, a few bullet points:

- This camp is your family. Be good to each other. Treat each other with respect and kindness. Protect one another against unwanted advances, degrading comments, and other forms of sexual harassment.
- Most of us are adults at home, and adults on the Playa. If there is an aspect of your personality you would like to explore with others, without judgement, and without involving your brothers and sisters, there's a camp for that, and we can help you find it. Some of us have been there, and done that, and plan to return. We just don't bring it home to Playa Pete's.
- If you've found yourself speechless in the presence of unwelcome attention, please speak up. Maybe practice saying a few totally acceptable lines:
 - No, I'm not interested.
 - Please stop creeping on my friends.
 - Stop doing that. It's not OK.

And a call and response:

- But it's Burning Man!
 - It's still not OK. Stop it.
- Oh, let them have their fun.
 - They're hurting my friends, and that hurts me.
- You're just a prude.
 - Your dismissive judgement of me is the basis of all harassment.

Sexual harassment wrecks your day. It takes the smile off your face, and breaks your sense of place. And it makes the other person look bad.

When in doubt, ask yourself: What would Mark Nixon do?

Now. Pretend this was written by a boy. Any boy. And check your change in attitude.