

END SILENCE

YOUTH SPEAKING UP ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE IN CUSTODY



CARLO'S QUESTION

BY:
MELISSA C. LOOMIS
JAIME M. YARUSSI
BRENDA V. SMITH

ILLUSTRATED BY:
MICHAEL J. AUGER

NOTES

This graphic novel was prepared under a grant funded by a private non-profit donor. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the authors and do not represent the view of any other entity. All characters appearing in this work are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

Illustrations © Copyright Michael J. Auger
www.Arty4ever.com

END SILENCE: Youth Speaking Up About Sexual Abuse in Custody
© Copyright 2012 by The Project on Addressing Prison Rape
American University, Washington College of Law
All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be produced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from The Project on Addressing Prison Rape.

Requests for permission to make copies of any part of this publication should be made to:
The Project on Addressing Prison Rape
Washington College of Law
4801 Massachusetts Ave, NW Washington, DC 20016
endsilence@wcl.american.edu

RESOURCES FOR YOUTH

Space intended for agencies to add resources reflective of their specific location and type of agency

Examples include:

- *Your 1-800 reporting hotline (if you have one)*
- *Information and procedure for reporting abuse*
- *Address and phone number of grievance officer or outside reporting mechanism such as an ombudsman*
- *Phone number and address for a rape crisis center in the area*
- *Medical health information*
- *Guidance on telling parents*

FOREWORD

Since 1999, The Project on Addressing Prison Rape (Project) at American University, Washington College of Law has provided training to key correctional decision makers, agencies, associations, and individuals looking to improve their practices on addressing sexual abuse of individuals in custodial settings. In 2009, the Project began to do intensive work within a number of state departments of juvenile justice and to work on of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex and Questioning (LGBTIQ) youth in custody.

The END SILENCE series is the product of that work and work by many organizations and individuals concerned about preventing and addressing sexual abuse of youth in custody. We would like to thank them for their insightful and honest commentary about the situations that youth face and how sexual abuse affects them.

The series includes four other graphic novels targeted to: (1) girls ages 14-18; (2) girls ages 10-14; (3) boys ages 14-18; and (4) boys ages 10-14.

END SILENCE is a first step in reaching out to youth in juvenile justice settings in order to help them identify, address, and respond to incidents of sexual abuse by staff or other youth. We hope the publication will deepen the dialogue about strategies to eliminate sexual abuse of youth in custody.

CONTENTS

END SILENCE: <i>Carlo's Question</i>	4-16
Appendix	
Glossary	17-19
Discussion Questions	19
Resources for Youth	20

INTRODUCTION

Carlo's Question is a graphic novel for LGBTIQ youth, aged 14-18, that focuses on the various problems gender non-conforming youth face when under correctional supervision.

At the end of the graphic novel you will find: blank slides for youth to fill in an appropriate continuation for the story; a glossary of terms; discussion questions; resources for youth; and note pages. While we understand different states hold youth in different settings or classifications, this publication is meant to address sexual abuse of youth in custody nationwide. To that end, we have generalized some content and details of this novel.

This graphic novel is intended to be “stand alone” material to orient and educate youth about the issue of sexual abuse in custodial settings: we hope it provokes discussions with and between youth.

Please contact us with comments about these novels, the usefulness of graphic novels as a tool for training youth, and suggestions for other needed resources.

The Project on Addressing Prison Rape can be reached at: 202-274-4385 or endsilence@wcl.american.edu

GLOSSARY CONTINUED

Staff Sexual Harassment:

Repeated verbal statements or comments of a sexual nature to a person in custody by an employee, volunteer, official visitor, or agency representative, including: demeaning references to gender or derogatory comments about body or clothing; or profane or obscene language or gestures.

Staff Sexual Misconduct:

Any behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward a person in custody by an employee, volunteer, official visitor, or agency representative.

Transgender:

Person whose gender identity differs from their birth sex

- **Transgender girl:** Person whose birth sex was male but who understands herself to be, and desires to live her life as, a female
- **Transgender boy:** Person whose birth sex was female but who understands himself to be, and desires to live his life as, a male

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(Feel free to ask other additional questions)

- What did you think about the way the intake staff treated Carla?
- Would you have handled the situation with the other teens in the group home differently than Carla did? How would you act towards Carla?
- How do you think Ms. Smith handled the situation? How do you think Mr. Andrews handled the situation?
- What would you do if this happened to you? Who would you report it to?
- What do you think will happen to Carla for the rest of her stay in the group home?

GLOSSARY CONTINUED

Oral Sex:

Contact between the mouth and the penis, the mouth and the vagina or the mouth and the anus

Questioning:

Active process in which a person explores her or his own sexual orientation and/or gender identity and questions the cultural assumptions that they are heterosexual and/or gender conforming

Rape:

Includes all of the following actions: oral sodomy, sexual assault with an object, or sexual fondling of a person forcibly or against that person's will; forcibly or against that person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of youth, temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity; achieved through exploitation of the fear or threat of physical violence or bodily injury

Sexual Acts:

Carnal knowledge, oral sex, anal sex, rape, sexual assault with an object, sexual fondling
Sexual Assault with an Object: The use of any hand, finger, object, or other instrument to penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person.

Sexual Fondling:

The touching of the private body parts of another person, including the penis, vagina, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks, for the purpose of sexual gratification

Sexual orientation:

Romantic and/or physical attraction to members of the same or different sex

Sodomy:

Anal sex with a member of the same or opposite sex

END SILENCE

YOUTH SPEAKING UP ABOUT SEXUAL ABUSE IN CUSTODY

CARLO'S QUESTION

BY:

MELISSA C. LOOMIS, J.D.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT
THE PROJECT ON ADDRESSING PRISON RAPE
THE WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

JAIME M. YARUSSI, M.S.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
THE PROJECT ON ADDRESSING PRISON RAPE
THE WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

BRENDA V. SMITH

PROFESSOR OF LAW
DIRECTOR
THE PROJECT ON ADDRESSING PRISON RAPE
THE WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

ILLUSTRATED BY:

MICHAEL J. AUGER

AUGER ARTWORK STUDIOS
ARTY4EVER.COM



GLOSSARY

Abusive Sexual Contact:

Contact with any person without his or her consent; contact with a person who is unable to consent or refuse; and intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the penis, vagina, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of any person

Custody:

When a person is under the power and control of an entity – the police, the juvenile justice system, the prison system – or person and is not free to leave

Carnal Knowledge:

Contact between the penis and the vagina or the penis and the anus including penetration of any sort

Gender expression:

A person's expression of his/or gender identity, including appearance, dress, mannerisms, speech, and social interactions

Gender identity:

Distinct from sexual orientation and refers to a person's internal, deeply felt sense of being male or female

Gender non-conforming:

Gender characteristics and/or behaviors that do not conform to those typically associated with a person's biological sex

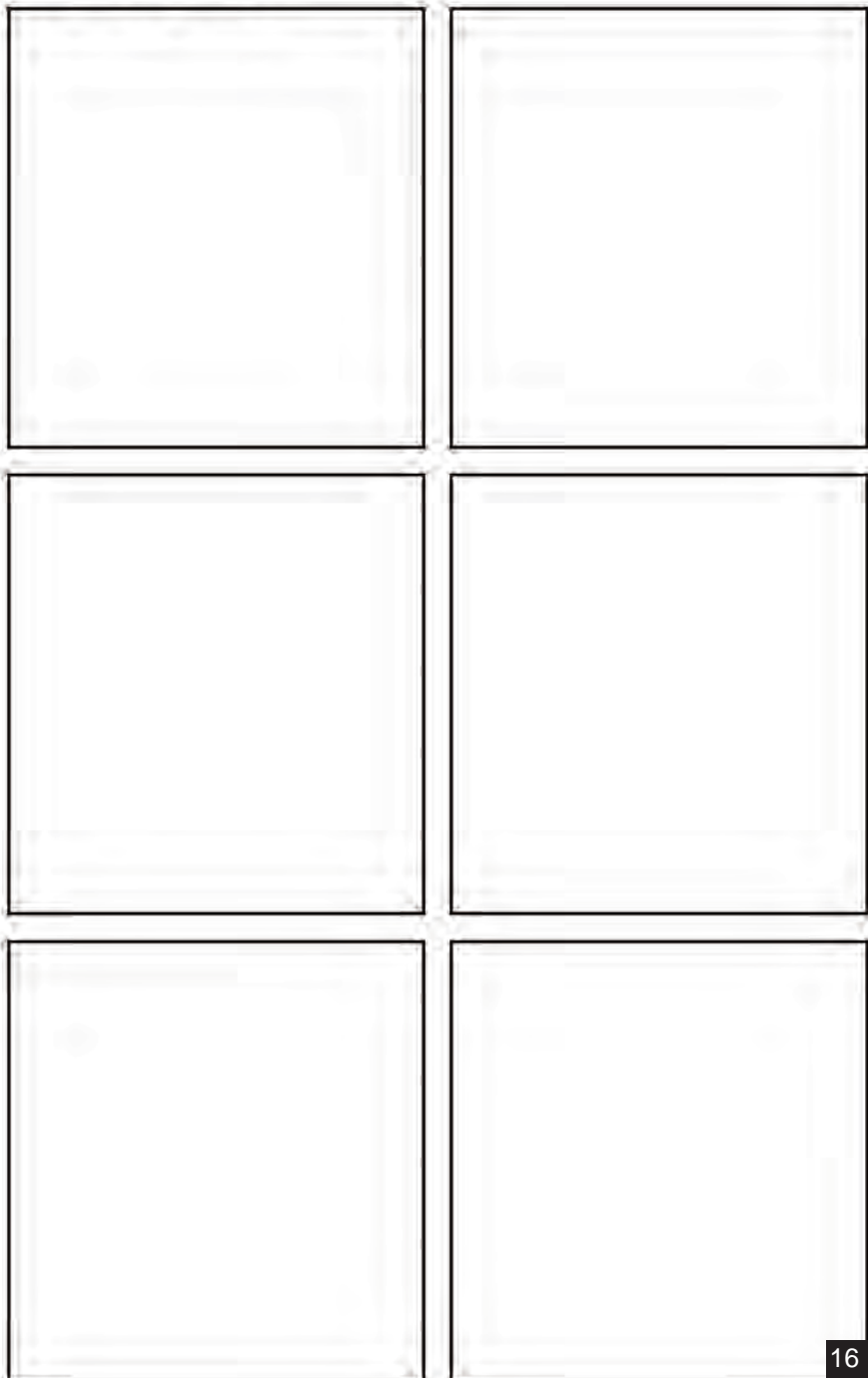
Homosexuality:

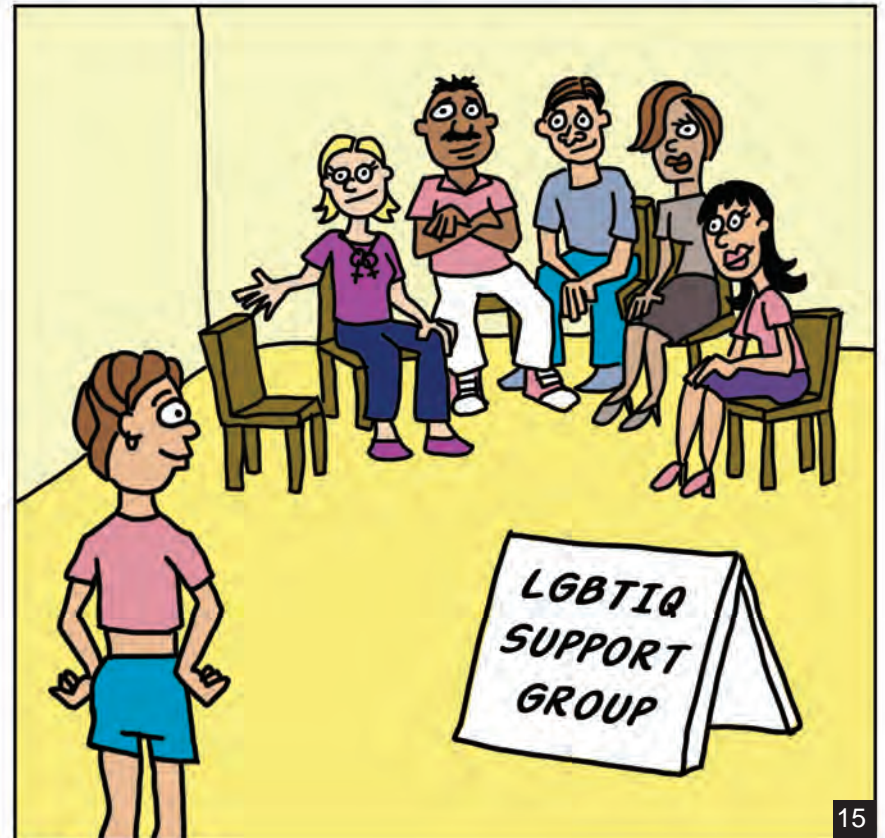
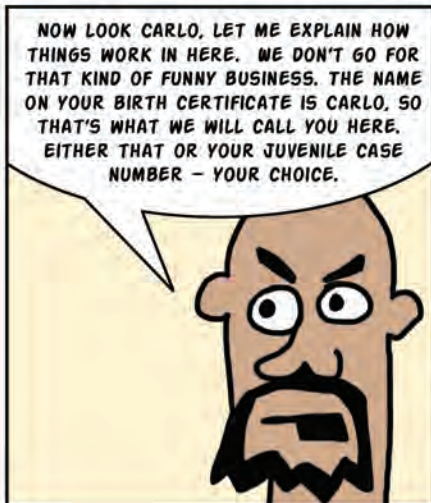
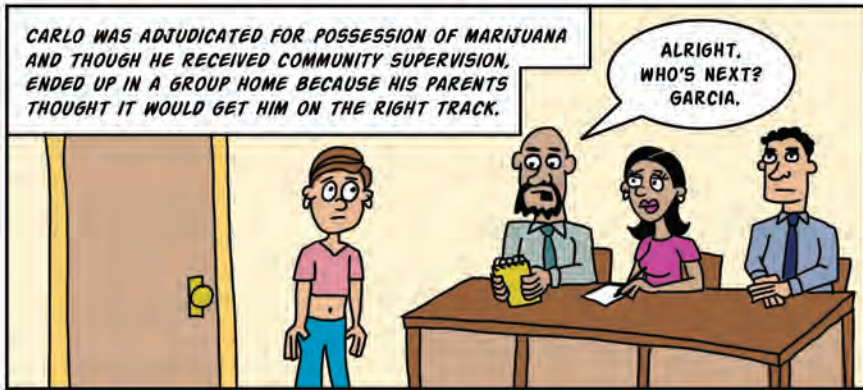
Sexual, emotional, and/or romantic attraction to a person of the same sex

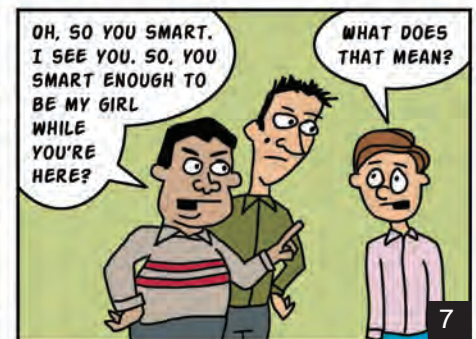
Non-Consensual Sexual Acts:

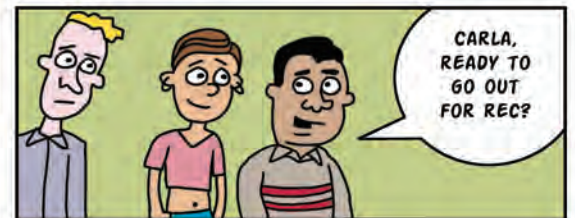
Contact with any person without his or her consent, or with a person who is unable to consent or refuse; contact between the penis and the vagina or the penis and the anus including penetration, however slight; contact between the mouth and the penis, vagina, or anus; or penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person by a hand, finger, or other ob

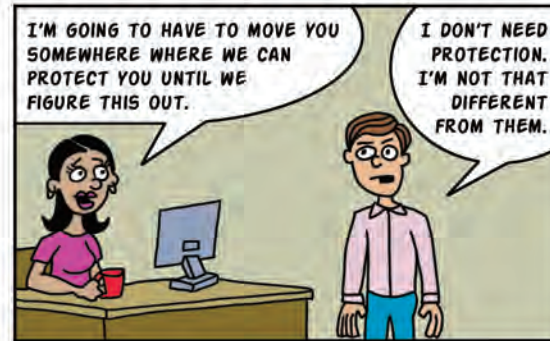
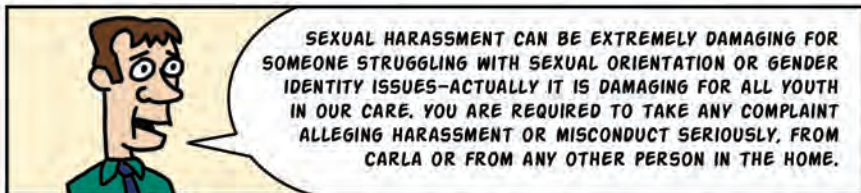
FINISH THE STORY...











CARLO, IT IS NOT OUR POLICY TO MOVE YOUTH FOR "PROTECTION".

JUST BECAUSE YOU PREFER ITEMS THAT SOME PEOPLE MAY CONSIDER FEMININE DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU ARE GAY.
SEXUAL ORIENTATION IS WHO YOU ARE PHYSICALLY ATTRACTED TO, BUT GENDER IDENTITY IS FEELING LIKE YOU ARE A GIRL OR A BOY. IT IS TWO VERY DIFFERENT THINGS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

THAT'S WHAT I WAS TRYING TO TELL EVERYONE! IT'S THE WAY I AM. I JUST LIKE THE WAY THOSE CLOTHES LOOK ON ME I THINK I LOOK COOL, DIFFERENT.

I WILL TALK TO MS. SMITH REGARDING THIS. GENERALLY, IT IS NOT OUR PRACTICE TO MOVE YOUTH BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY UNLESS THERE IS A LEGITIMATE REASON.

ALSO, WHILE YOU ARE HERE IN THE GROUP HOME, IT IS OUR POLICY THAT, YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPRESS YOUR GENDER IDENTITY AND IT IS OUR JOB TO KEEP YOU SAFE FROM HARASSMENT FROM THE OTHER BOYS AND STAFF.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IT MEANS YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPRESS WHO YOU ARE. WE CAN HELP YOU FIND CLOTHING THAT YOU PREFER WEARING AS LONG AS IT IS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE SAFETY OF YOU AND THE OTHER BOYS THAT SHARE THIS LIVING SPACE.

WE WILL ALSO CALL YOU BY WHATEVER NAME YOU CHOOSE.
SO I CAN BE CALLED CARLA? AND I DON'T HAVE TO WEAR THESE CLOTHES?
YES, CARLA.

I'D REALLY LIKE THAT. I'M JUST A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT THE OTHER BOYS...

WHAT MAKES YOU WORRIED ABOUT THE OTHER BOYS?
WHEN I FIRST GOT HERE ONE OF THE BOYS TRIED TO BULLY ME INTO DOING THINGS FOR HIM. I'M SCARED ONE OF THEM IS GOING TO HURT ME.
DID YOU TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS?

I TOLD MS. SMITH, BUT SHE JUST SAID I NEEDED TO BE A 'MAN IN HERE'.

THE STAFF HERE IS REQUIRED TO PROTECT YOU FROM ANY HARASSMENT OR HARM. IF ANY OF THE OTHER BOYS BOTHER YOU, REPORT IT TO A STAFF MEMBER YOU TRUST. YOU CAN TALK TO ME WHENEVER YOU NEED TO.
YOU WILL NOT BE PUNISHED OR MOVED FOR REPORTING HARASSMENT BY OTHER BOYS OR STAFF.

SO, I CAN GO BACK TO MY ROOM TODAY? I REALLY DON'T THINK I CAN HANDLE BEING MOVED OR WORRYING ABOUT BEING MOVED.

YES, YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM. I JUST NEED TO CALL MY SUPERVISOR TO LET HIM KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AND SOMEONE WILL ALSO NEED TO TALK WITH THE STAFF AND OTHER BOYS IN THE HOUSE FIRST.

HELLO MR. GRUMP, THIS IS MR. ANDREWS. I WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW ABOUT AN INCIDENT OF HARASSMENT GOING ON WITH CARLO GARCIA.

THANK YOU MR. ANDREWS, I APPRECIATE YOUR CALLING ME. I AM GOING TO MEET WITH MS. SMITH NOW TO MAKE SURE IT'S CLEAR THAT WE DO NOT MOVE YOUTH TO "PROTECT" THEM. WHILE I DO THAT WOULD YOU PLEASE SPEAK WITH THE OTHER STAFF ABOUT THIS?