

Bold Ideas Colloquium Speaker Series

Friday, October 30, NOON to 1PM

via Zoom at:

Zoom Link:

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/65530379529?pwd=0C1vyw5U0OfY5tZ4XYvI6BIKy4tTbH.1>



Expecting Betrayal: What Happens When Sexual Assault Survivors Expect Institutions to Fail Them?

Gena K. Dufour, Postdoctoral Fellow, College of Community and Global Health

Abstract: Universities have faced increasing scrutiny regarding their responses to campus sexual violence. *Institutional Betrayal* is a framework for understanding how institutional actions and inaction can cause further harm for survivors of violence. Building on this

framework is *Fear of Institutional Betrayal*, which captures the expectation (or fear) that if sexual violence were to happen, the institution would not adequately meet the survivor's needs. This talk explores institutional betrayal in a variety of contexts (e.g., military, religious, medical, legal), and how experiences or anticipation of betrayal may shape survivors' health and decisions about seeking help.

Talk Learning Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- 1: Understand and define Institutional Betrayal and its implications for campus sexual violence
- 2: Identify health concerns associated with Institutional Betrayal and Fear of Institutional Betrayal
- 2: Apply Institutional Betrayal frameworks in other institutional settings (e.g., justice, military, religious, medical)

Speaker Biography: Gena K. Dufour is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow in the College of Community and Global Health in the Max Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Manitoba. She has a Master's of Applied Sciences in Forensic Psychology from Saint Mary's University (Nova Scotia), and a Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology from the University of Windsor (Ontario). As an applied psychologist, her research explores the way victims of gender-based violence interact with larger systems and institutions on a day-to-day basis. She studies the complex ways in which policies, processes, and protocols can impact recovery after victimization. Gena focuses mostly on sexual assault and intimate partner violence in community, legal, health, and educational contexts, and uses mixed-methods approaches to research design and data analysis. Ultimately, all of her work seeks to answer the questions: What are the psychological experiences of victims of gender-based violence who are attempting to navigate social institutions while healing from trauma? And how can social institutions better respond to the needs of victims who are seeking justice and healing?

