

1 in 5 college women and 1 in 10 college men are victims of acquaintance rape.

90% of rape victims know their attackers.

Shattering the Silence of Acquaintance Rape

Jessica Harris, 2010 Deerfield High School graduate, will tell her story of courage and resilience at a free community event, Thursday March 12

The statistics are shocking, but it's the single personal tragedy that hurts most. In her freshman year of college, Deerfield High School graduate Jessica Harris was sexually assaulted by a group of young men whom she knew. She will share her story openly and honestly next month at an important community event in the hope of preventing it from happening to others.

"It begins with educating students about the dynamics of acquaintance rape," says Deerfield High School Principal Audris Griffith. "We urge the community, particularly older high schoolers and their parents, to learn the importance of being upstanders rather than bystanders." Jessica's story, she says, needs to be heard. "This resilient young woman who found her voice inspires us all to stand together and raise ours."

The program, presented by Angles in partnership with Deerfield Parent Network (DPN), begins at 7 pm on Thursday, March 12 at the Deerfield High School auditorium, 1959 Waukegan Road.

Angles (formerly Links) is a not for profit organization whose mission is to inform and empower young people by providing health care, education, and support relating to their sexuality. DPN is a parent-run, all-volunteer organization that provides programs to: **SHARE** resources, experiences and ideas of professionals; **EDUCATE** parents on strategies and tools for effective parenting; and, **EMPOWER** families and schools in the communities of Deerfield, Riverwoods, Bannockburn and Highland Park. Visit www.angles.org or www.deerfieldparentnetwork.org.