



# Prevailing Approaches to Youth-focused Relationship Violence Prevention in the U.S.

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**WPI**



**Banksia Gardens**  
Community Services



# **Banksia Gardens Community Services: *Good People Act Now (GPAN)***



**YOUTH LED VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM**

Raise Awareness    Gender Equity    Safe Space

Peer Influence    Respectful Relationships    Bystander Action



**Violence Against  
Women is  
Prevalent in  
Broadmeadows,  
Australia**

**AUSTRALIA**

**1 in 3** women have  
experienced physical  
violence

**BROADMEADOWS**

**2nd** highest rates of  
family violence in Victoria



**Providing GPAN  
with an evidence  
base for their  
programs**



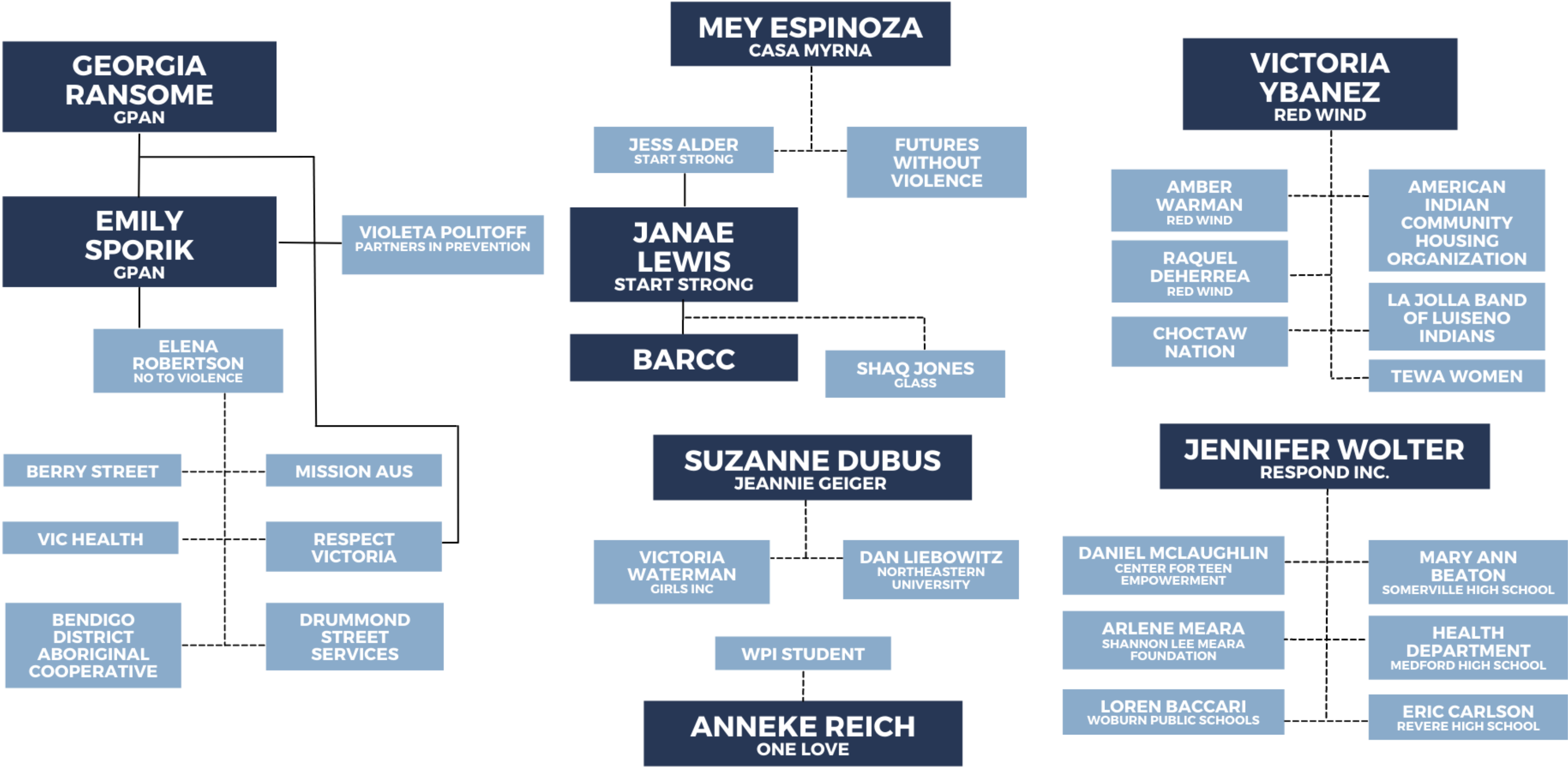
# Identifying Relevant Relationship Prevention Programs in the United States

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## OBJECTIVE 1

- Identified **32**  
relevant programs
- Interviewed **7**  
professionals
- Viewed **5** webinars

# Network Map



*Victoria Ybanez - Red Wind  
Consulting, Inc.*

*Yumey Espinoza - Casa Myrna*

*Janae Lewis - Start Strong*

*Suzanne Dubus - Jeanne Geiger Crisis  
Center*

*Jennifer Wolter - RESPOND, Inc.*

*Anneke Reich - One Love Foundation*

*Representative from Boston Area  
Rape Crisis Center*

# Experts Interviewed

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# Main Interview Discussions

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*Gender equity and diversity*

*Outreach methods and approaches to diversity*

*Defining and measuring success*

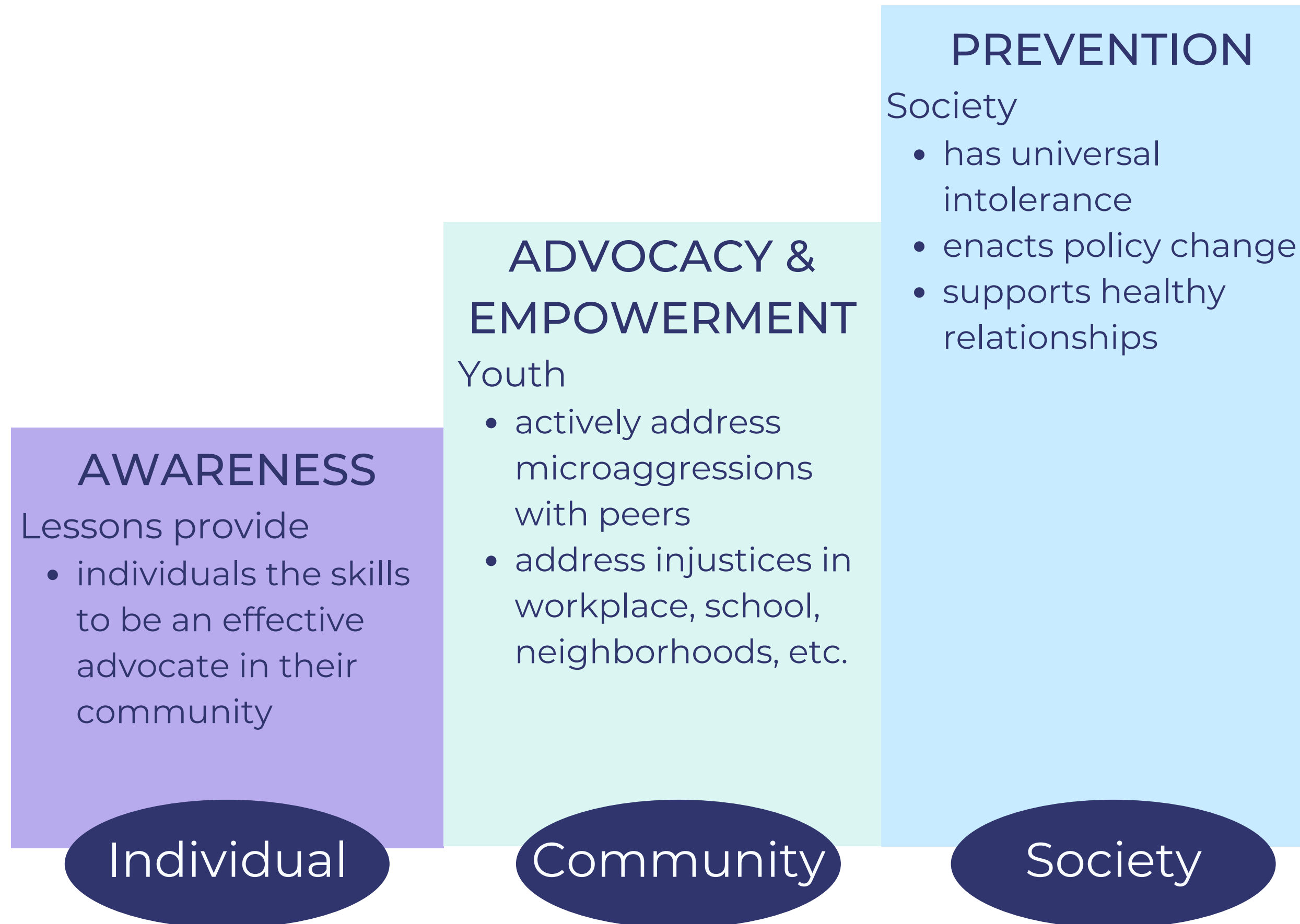
*Effective practices*

*Participant feedback and evaluation*

*Evidence base or framework*



# Theory of Change



# Exploring Effective Practices of Relationship Prevention Programs in the U.S.

## OBJECTIVE 2





**Gender equity** is a multifaceted topic that is addressed at many relationship violence prevention programs in the United States.

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# Gender Equity is essential in violence prevention discussions







**Youth leadership is important in preventing relationship violence at a young age.**



# Youth Leadership is an effective technique to reduce violence



Relationship  
violence lessons  
are most effective  
when **reinforced**  
**over multiple**  
**sessions.**

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**50 hours per year  
over 4-5 years**

-Suzanne Dubus, Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center



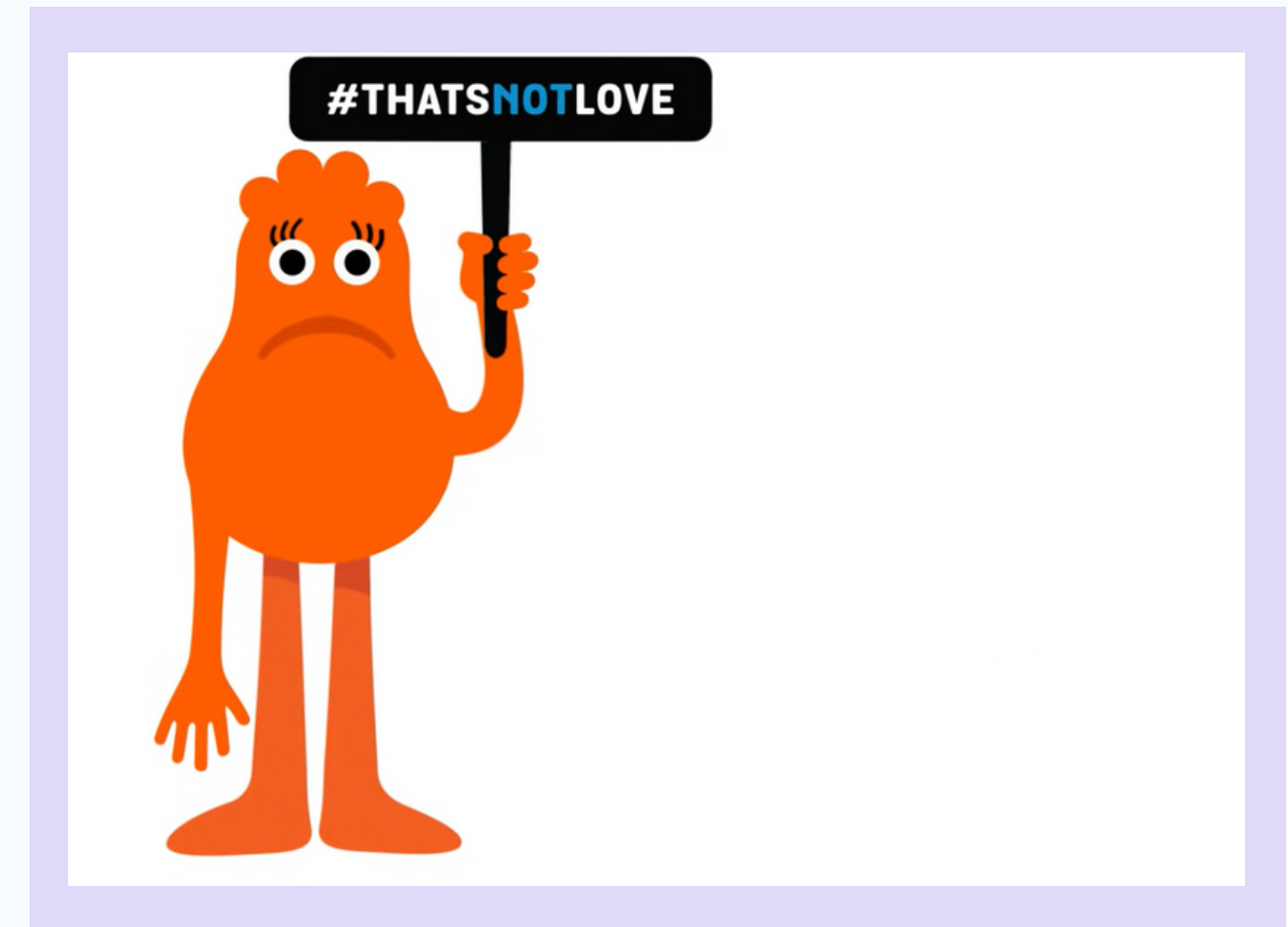
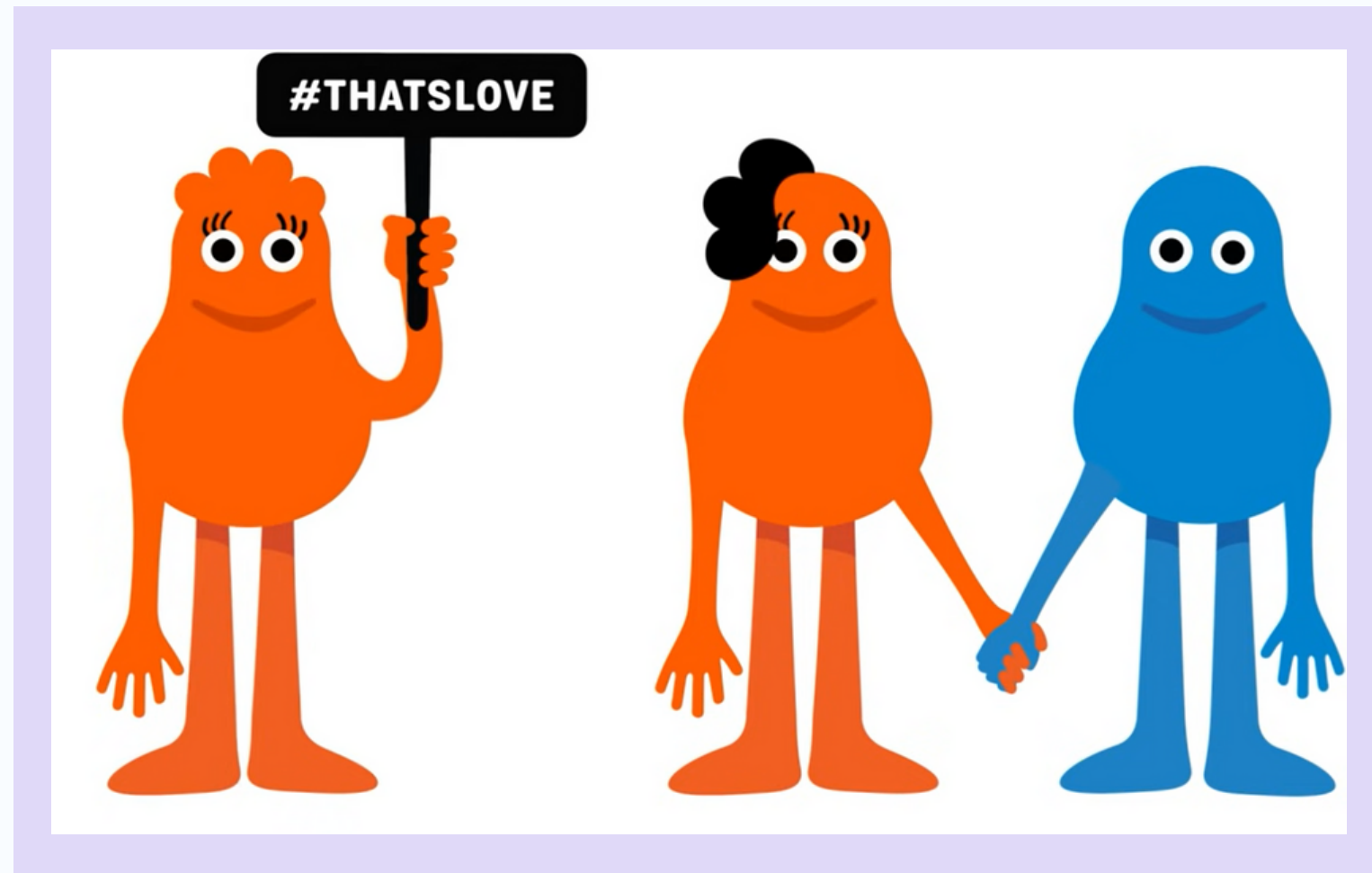




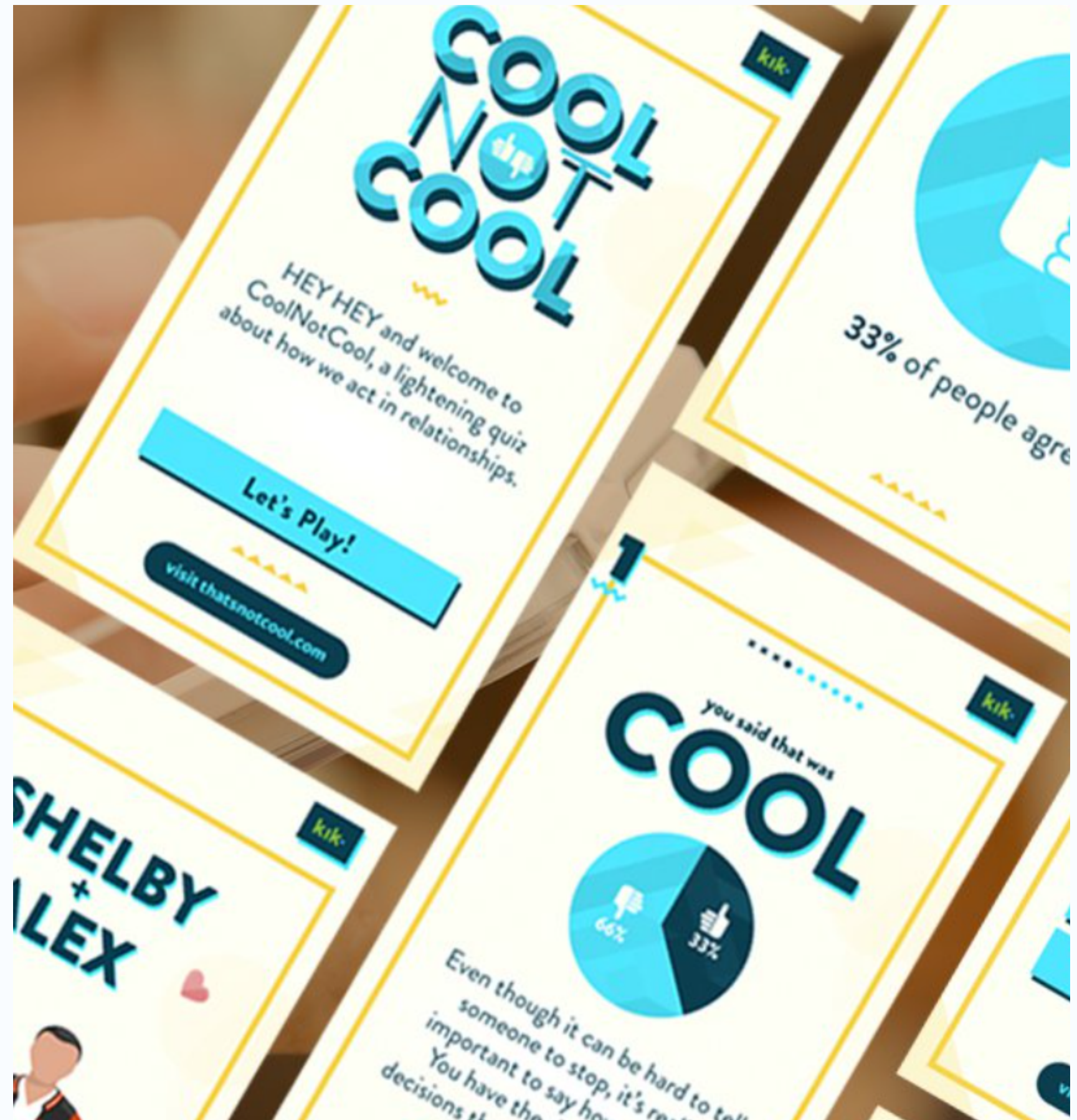
Young people are able to relate to **scenarios and storytelling** and have beneficial discussions surrounding the characters and stories.



# Storytelling is effective in engaging youth in violence prevention



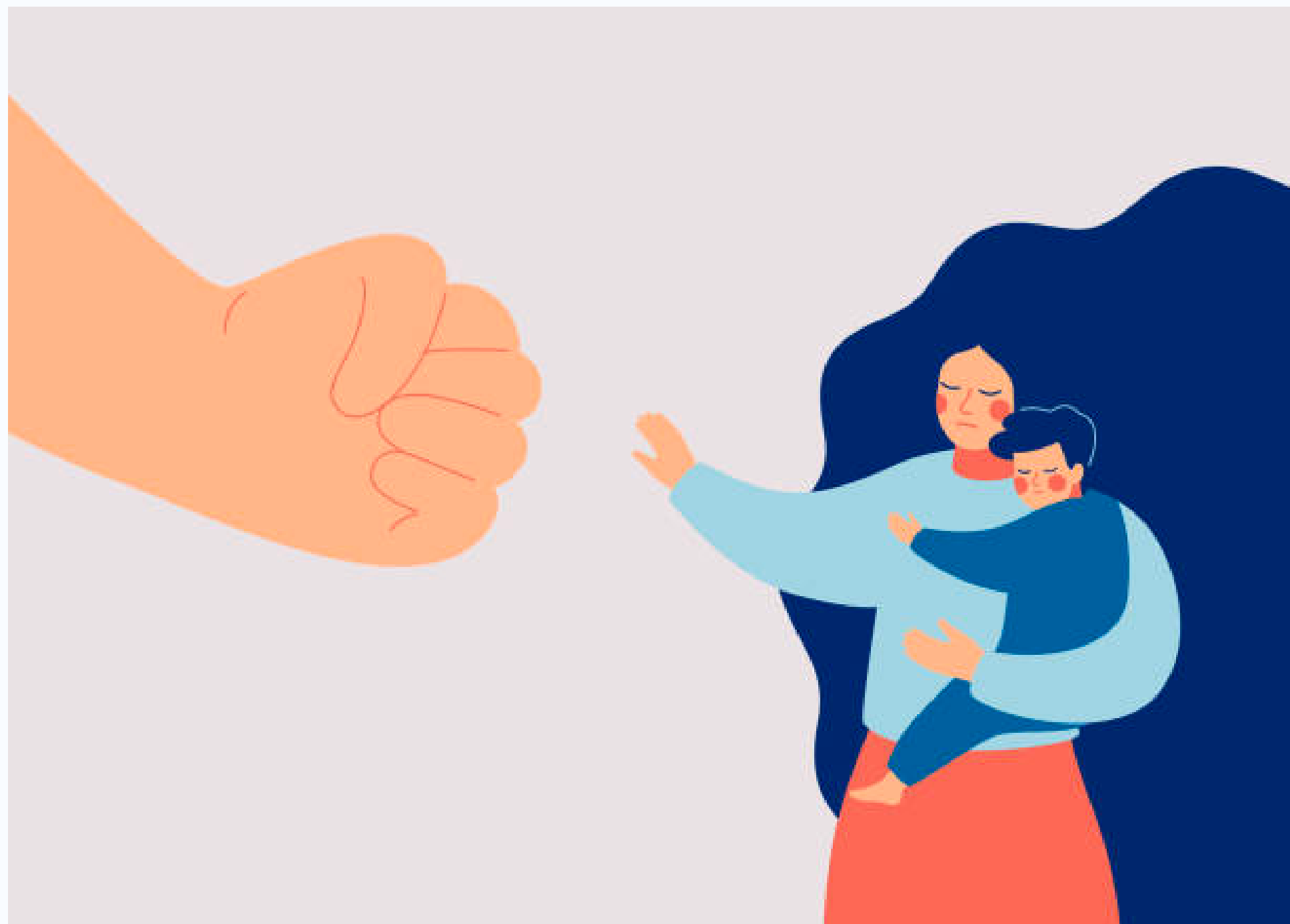
Young people respond better to lessons that are tailored to their age group.





# Tailoring Lessons to the Audience is an effective technique to engage youth





**Trauma-informed** services are an effective approach to prevent the intergenerational cycle of violence.



# Trauma Informed Services are essential to reducing future violence

A boy who sees his  
mother being abused is

**10 X**

more likely to abuse his  
female partner as an adult.





# Recommendations

- Readily available crisis resources
- Collaboration with BGCS Project REAL - incorporation of trauma informed services
- Incorporation of online resources such as CoolNotCool and RespectEffect

**Do not use this website if you suspect your computer is being monitored.** CLOSE

Website and email history may be viewable even if you delete your browser history and delete files.  
Access a safe computer to use the internet.

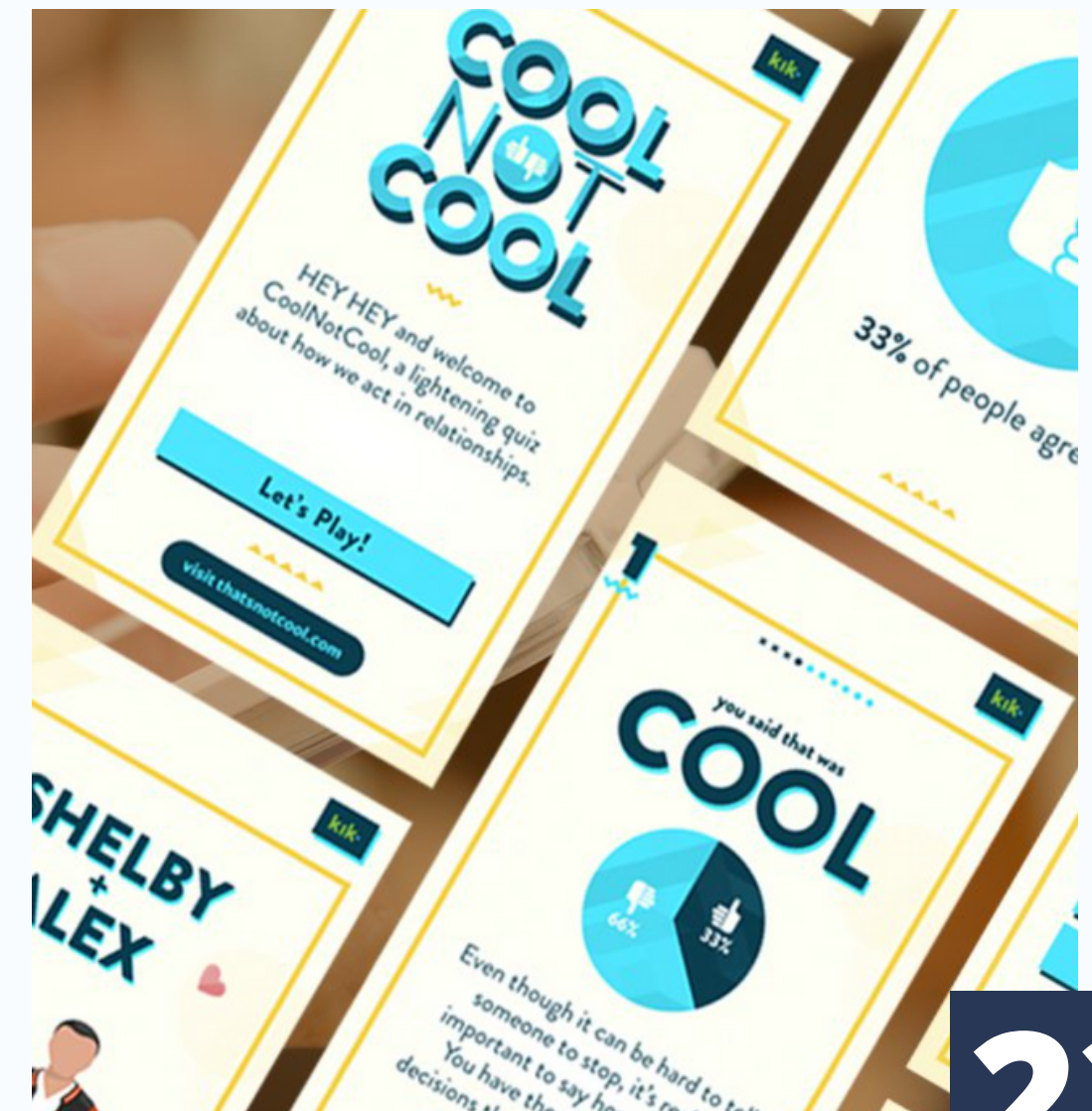
The "**Safety Exit**" in the top menu allows you to quickly leave this website.

**If you are in immediate danger, please dial 911.**

**RESPOND's Support Line (8AM-6PM, M-F): (617) 623-5900**

**SafeLink – 24/7 Crisis Hotline: (877) 785-2020**

**24/7 National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233**



*Gender equity*

*Youth Leadership*

*Reinforcement over multiple sessions*

*Storytelling and scenarios*

*Tailoring to audience*

*Trauma-informed services*

# Conclusions





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**Thank you!  
Questions?**

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