

UNIVERSITY OF
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Clermont College
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Mike Domitzr
Can I Kiss You?
PO Box 20906
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Jaime McCauley
Clermont College Resource Center
4200 Clermont College Dr.
Batavia, OH 45103

Dear Mike,

I know this is *long* overdue, so I'll start out with an apology for that. But I want you to know what a great presentation you gave at Clermont College and how much the students appreciated your work. Your presentation was amazing in that you have the ability to take a light-hearted yet serious approach to a very touchy subject. Also amazing is your ability to reach both men and women. By looking through the lens of gender socialization you show how something like sexual assault can be so common and so misunderstood at the same time. But you offer a simple solution to this problem- ask!

For men, asking involves stepping outside of the 'take-charge, go-out-and-get-it' male paradigm. Yet, you show them how this is sexy and a turn on for the women they are with (not to mention that it should keep them out of their college judicial affairs office for sexual assault charges). Also, it is so important for men to hear anti-rape messages from other men. Too many well-intentioned sexual assault prevention messages go unheard because men tune out women they perceive to be 'male-bashers' or 'femi-nazis'. It is so important to reach out to men in ways that they do not feel blamed or threatened by the information, otherwise all of our hard work falls on deaf ears.

For women, asking means overcoming the image of the 'nice girl' that would never take an active role in a sexual or romantic encounter. Here too, you show women that men don't necessarily like guessing what women want or how they feel and that a woman who knows what she wants is sexy. This kind of assertiveness may go a long way in keeping women out of situations where they feel that they are "in over their heads". More importantly, you convey the importance of assertiveness for women without crossing the line into 'victim blaming'- awesome!

I cannot stress enough how much I enjoyed your presentation and how valuable it was for the students. I've been doing sexual assault prevention work for nearly ten years and

have seen the good, the bad, and the ugly as far as sexual assault prevention programs go. Yours is certainly one of the best, if not the best, of all the programs that I've witnessed. You are doing such great and important work. What an extraordinary way to honor not only your sister, but victims of sexual assault everywhere. Your program truly had an impact at Clermont College. I can just imagine the ripple effect your message has sent through our community, and our country, by reaching out to people and encouraging them to take a moment to care- and ask!

Thank you so much!

Sincerely,



Jaime McCauley
Director, Clermont College Community Resource Center

PS. Below I have enclosed some quotes from students who wrote extra-credit papers on your program.

"Mike explains that if the person you like asks you for a kiss, it doesn't ruin the moment- it makes it memorable. It isn't awkward, it's a major turn on!"

"Mike stresses that it doesn't hurt to ask, it hurts not to."

"Mike has a passion for talking to people and helping men and women relate to each other."

"I really enjoyed what Mr. Domitz had to say. Some of the topics, well most of them, I have taken into consideration when I am out on a date with someone else."

"At first I thought asking someone "Can I Kiss You" was stupid, but after watching the presentation I realized how important asking is. I could relate to what was being talked about because I have found myself in many scary situations."

"I recommend having him back to talk again. He helped change my views and I know he can change others."

"I'm very glad I had the opportunity to hear Mike speak; it really changed my beliefs. I admired his passion and dedication to help decrease rape."