

# SOUTHWEST PA SAYS

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# NO MORE

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## Southwest PA Students Take a Stand Against Dating Violence in Video Contest: *Winners and Results of "People's Choice" Online Vote Announced*

**PITTSBURGH, Feb. 25, 2016**– Teens from across the region took a stand against dating violence during Teen Dating Violence Awareness month by participating in a [Southwest PA Says No More](#) video contest. Young adults and teenagers are at the highest risk for all forms of dating violence, including verbal, emotional, physical and sexual abuse.

Southwest PA Says No More is pleased to announce the winning videos, selected from 18 entries submitted by local high school and college students. Students explored themes in their videos such as *it's not okay to act abusively, bystanders can be upstanders, and everyone should have healthy, mutually respectful relationships.*

- **First Place:** [Join Together and Say No More](#). This video, submitted by Monae Findley a senior of Gateway High School, demonstrated the difference between an abusive relationship and a healthy relationship. It also stressed that bystanders can be upstanders.
- **Second Place:** [Don't Be Left Unheard](#). Brentwood High School students, Casey Bourne, a sophomore, Maura Saladin, a junior, and Eric Boehm, a senior, made this video that encourages individuals in abusive relationships to seek help from counselors or other adults.
- **People's Choice:** [Get the Facts](#). This video, made by Payton Otterman, a junior at Gateway High School, offers striking statistics about teen dating violence followed by a series of calls to action.

Experts from Southwest PA Says No More partner agencies voted for the first and second place winners who will be awarded a \$500 and \$300 prize, respectively. The People's Choice winner, selected in an online vote, will receive a \$200 prize. To view the videos, visit:

<http://southwestpasaysnomore.org/category/contest/>.

"It's inspiring to see students' creativity and focus on healthy relationships, prevention and bystander intervention that are central to the mission of Southwest PA Says No More. We hope these videos will be shared throughout the community and that they will influence others to take a stand against dating violence," said Kristy Trautmann, Executive Director of FISA Foundation.

### About Southwest PA Says NO MORE

Southwest PA Says NO MORE is a growing community of organizations and individuals who are working to end domestic and sexual violence. FISA Foundation, in partnership with The Heinz Endowments and

United Way of Allegheny County developed Southwest PA Says No More to showcase the important prevention-focused work happening in this region, and to make it easier for individuals and organizations to take action to stop gender-based violence. More than 20 organizations across the region have partnered with Southwest PA Says No More, including the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. For information, visit [southwestpasaysnomore.org](https://southwestpasaysnomore.org).

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