

7. Edward Shlikas

Unaffiliated

Jurisdiction Harford County

Status Active -

Filed Write-In - 09/13/2018

Email edwardshlikas@gmail.com

Question: What are the most important challenges facing victim-survivors of sexual and/or intimate partner violence in Baltimore City and how do you propose to address them? *

Answer: Getting victim-survivors to feel comfortable enough and supported enough to come forward to sexual and/or intimate partner violence. I propose to address this by talking about it more on the campaign trail and on Twitter, enacting and funding laws which make it easier for victim-survivors to come forward and report sexual and/or intimate partner violence, as well as protect victim-survivors from their abusers.

Question: What actions have you personally taken to support victim-survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence in Baltimore City? *

Answer: I talk and tweet about victim-survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

Question: Sexual violence and intimate partner violence are cross cutting issues that deeply impact already vulnerable communities, particularly people of color, LGBTQ populations and others. If elected, what kind of policies, if any, will you pursue to promote support for victim-survivors? *

Answer: I will pursue enacting and funding laws to promote support for victim-survivors which will make it easier for victim-survivors to come forward and report sexual and/or intimate partner violence, as well as protect victim-survivors from their abusers.

Question: Would you support legislation so that people reporting sexual or intimate partner violence cannot be arrested and/or detained, either for self defense, immigration status, prostitution, drug use, or any other crime that may have engaged in before or during the assault?

*

Answer: Yes

Question: Intimate partner violence has been identified as a predictor of substance abuse problems and/or addiction as victim-survivors try to cope, thereby increasing the risk that survivors may be arrested for chemical dependency. What legislation or actions would you propose to address this intersection of chemical dependency and intimate partner violence or sexual assault? *

Answer: I propose legislation which would end the "War on Drugs," legalize all plants, including Cannabis, Coca, and Poppy, and offer medical grade opioids with known provenance, dosages, and ingredients, without requiring a prescription, so that victim-survivors, and all Americans, will be allowed to safely cope with pain, trauma, and stress, like many victim-survivors of sexual or intimate partner violence experience, without the added threat and risk of overdosing and being arrested for trying to naturally cope with the pain, trauma, and stress associated with being a victim-survivor of sexual or intimate partner violence.

Question: In what ways would you offer support to undocumented victim-survivors? *

Answer: I believe that undocumented victim-survivors should be treated the same way you would treat an undocumented person who required healthcare, you provide them the same ethical treatment as you would a documented victim-survivor.

Question: What kind of comprehensive training about sexual and intimate partner violence would you require for law enforcement? *

Answer: Train law enforcement how to spot, counsel, and handle sexual and intimate partner violence, giving the support the alleged victim-survivor needs.

Question: Do you support legislation that would allow those convicted of human trafficking to vacate convictions related to their trafficking? Why or why not? *

Answer: Too vague of a question.

Question: Do you support legislation that would give employees who are victim-survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner violence and stalking to take earned paid time off to address the issues related to the violence? Why or why not? *

Answer: I support giving employees a reasonable amount of Paid Time Off (PTO) to deal with personal issues like sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking because it helps the employee be a better employee.

Question: Do you support legislation that would support victim-survivor privacy by amending the Maryland's Public Information Act as it applies to images captured by law enforcement body cameras? Why or why not? *

Answer: I believe in privacy.

Question: How will you help victim-survivors who are refugees access services within their community? *

Answer: Give them access to support networks.

Question: Do you support legislation that would require public officials to respond to requests for a certification of helpfulness within 90 days? Requiring public officials to respond to requests for a certification of helpfulness within 90 days. Certifications of helpfulness are used in U Visa applications, which are available to persons in the US without status who are victims of violent crime and assist with prosecution. Survivors of rape, incest, human trafficking, and other sex crimes are among those eligible. *

Answer: Not familiar enough with "certification of helpfulness" to comment.

Question: Do you agree with the need for providing rape victim-survivors with PrEP treatments for 28 days as emergency treatment to prevent HIV infection? Why or why not? *

Answer: Yes, as long as it is not prohibitively expensive, to prevent HIV infection, which would

negatively impact a person's life, and cost a lot of money to treat.

Question: Victim-survivors consistently report that services designed to aid and help them often have long wait lists and criterion that exclude a number of would-be clients (this is a particularly urgent issue within transgender populations, individuals with chemical dependencies, those experiencing homelessness, communities of color and people with felony charges). Given the dearth of funding allocated to these agencies, and the ever-growing needs, how would you prioritize funding for our communities? *

Answer: I would support adequate and reasonable funding for these services based on the circumstances.

Question: Studies show that when children have access to comprehensive sex education which includes curriculum on consent, healthy relationships, and is affirming of gender identity/expression, they are less likely to become victim-survivors of childhood sexual abuse. How would you improve Maryland's sex education? *

Answer: Teach students at a reasonable age about consent, healthy relationships, and gender.