

Poised for Prevention

U.S. Sexual Violence Prevention Policy

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Premise

Poised for Prevention

Advocacy Coalitions

Social Construction



Advocacy Coalitions

You Pick Two

feminists

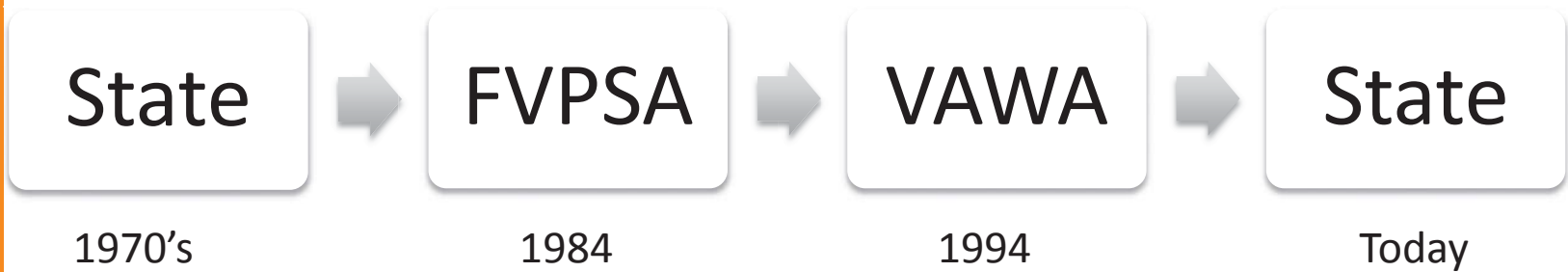
public health

Social Construction

Policy Targets

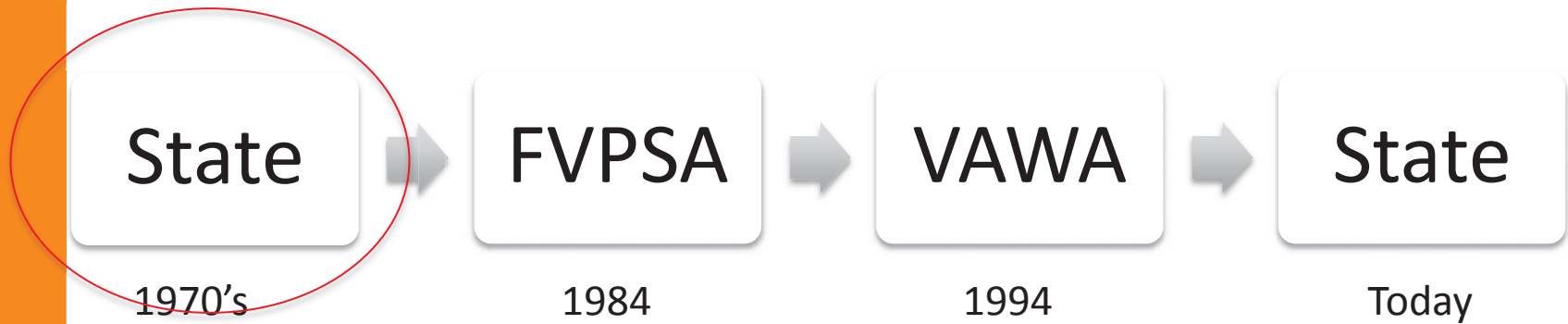
women

Policy Trajectory



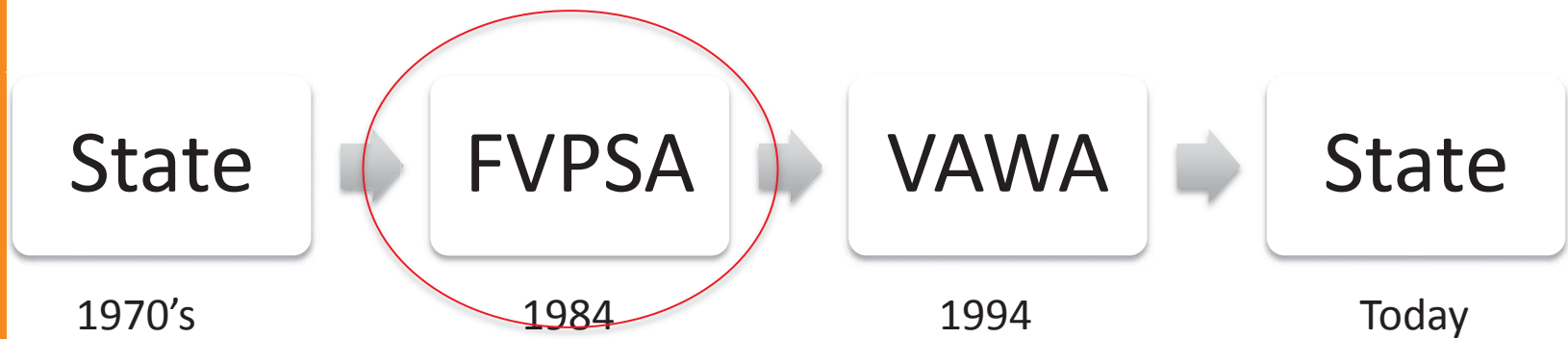
Policy Trajectory

feminist organizing



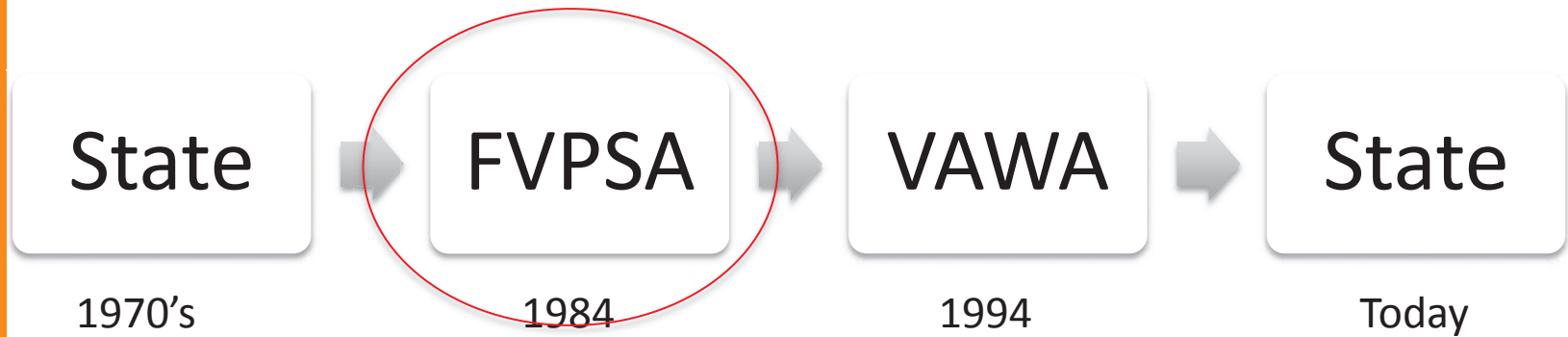
Policy Trajectory

1st federal policy

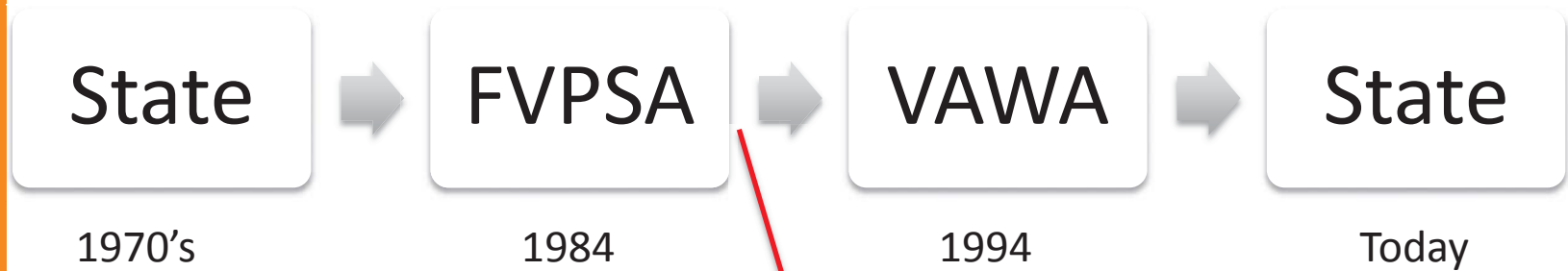


Policy Trajectory

2000's - DELTA



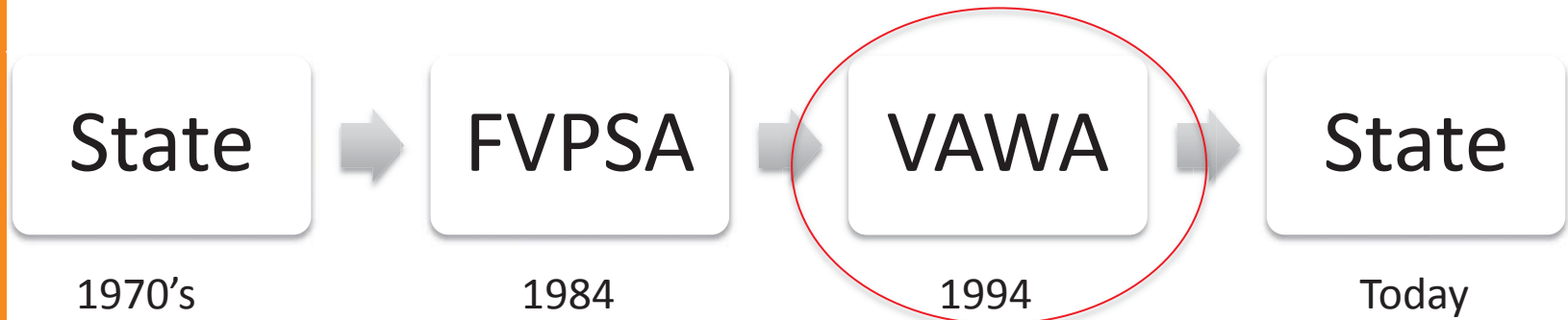
Policy Trajectory



C. Everett Koop,
“Violence is a
public health
issue.”

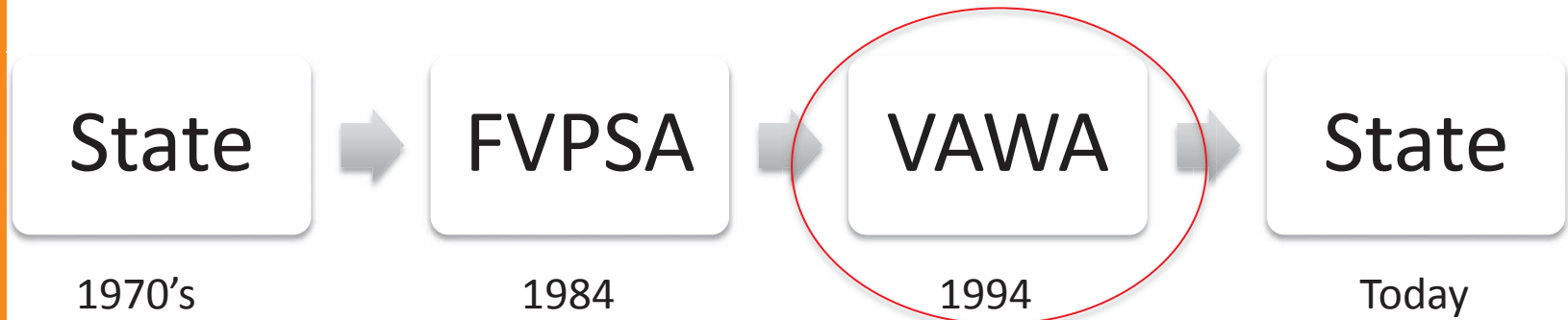
Policy Trajectory

our favorite



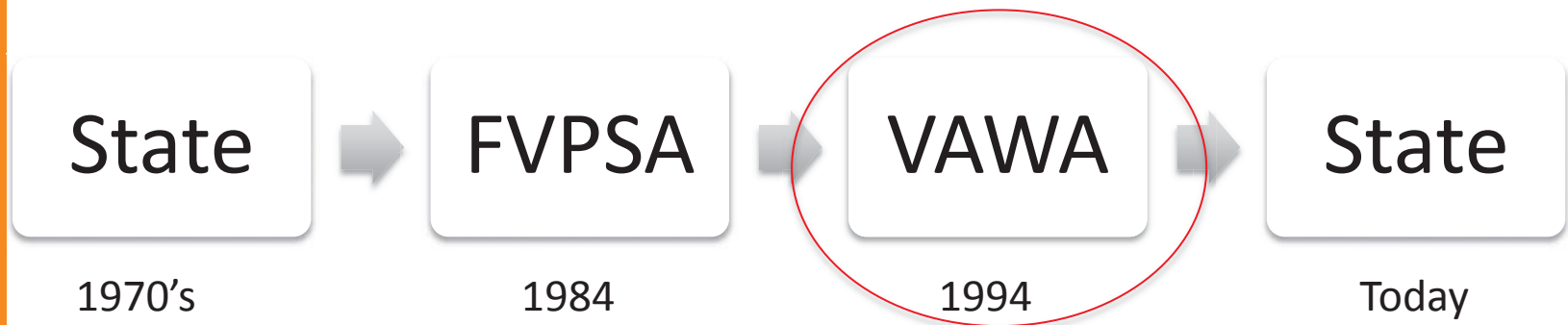
Policy Trajectory

RPE



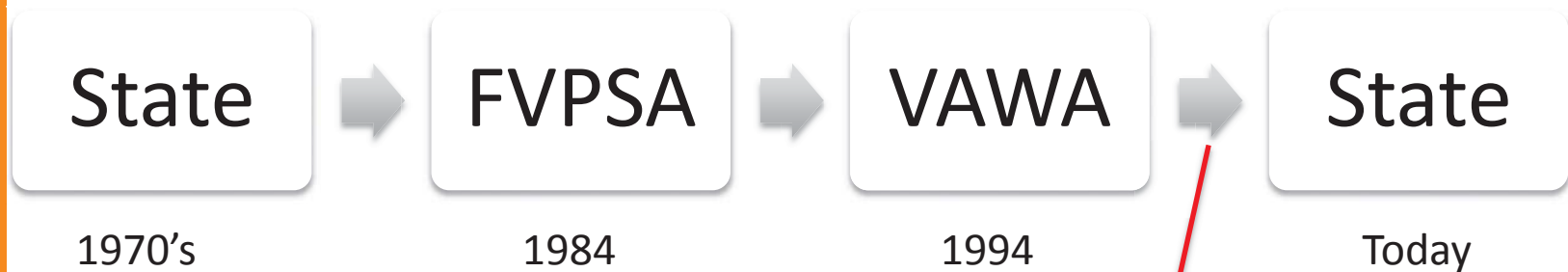
Policy Trajectory

2000's – RPE allocations



Policy Trajectory

Missteps

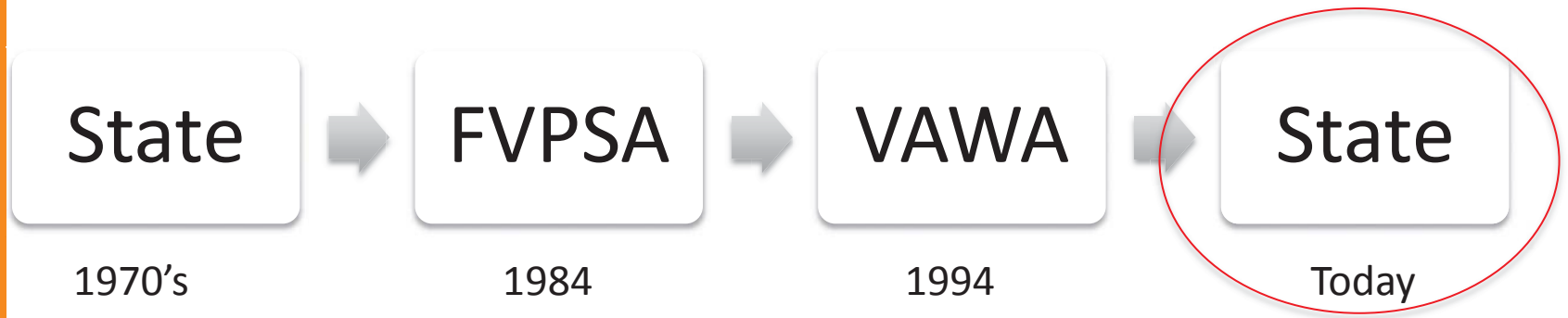


“Sex crimes provoke fear and anger among citizens, leading to the development of social policies designed to prevent sexual violence... “ (Levenson & D’Amora, 2007)



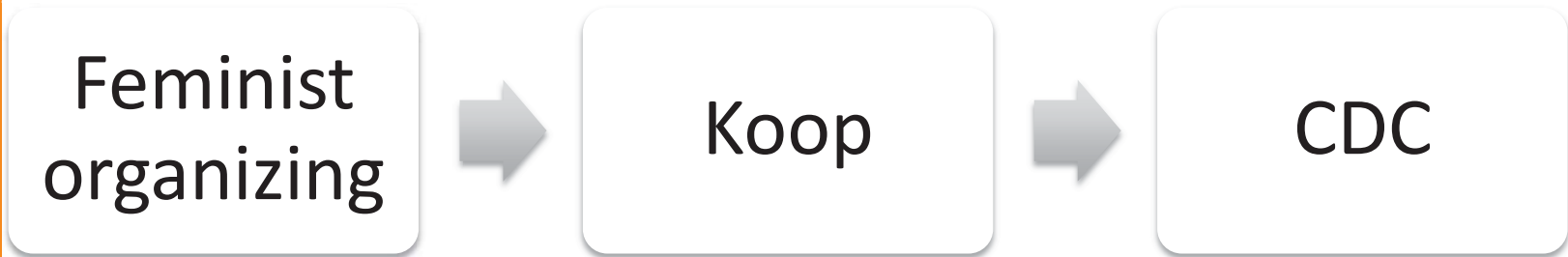
Policy Trajectory

educational standards



Policy Trajectory

Advocacy Coalitions



legitimacy to
primary prevention



Implications

Advocacy Coalitions

Feminists



Public
Health

“...the ACF predicts that stakeholder beliefs and behavior are embedded within informal networks and that policymaking is structured, in part, by the networks among important policy participants”
(Sabatier & Weible, 2009)



Implications

Advocacy Coalitions

Feminists



**Public
Health**

Initiated Policy Response

Implications

Advocacy Coalitions

Feminists

Initiated Policy Response

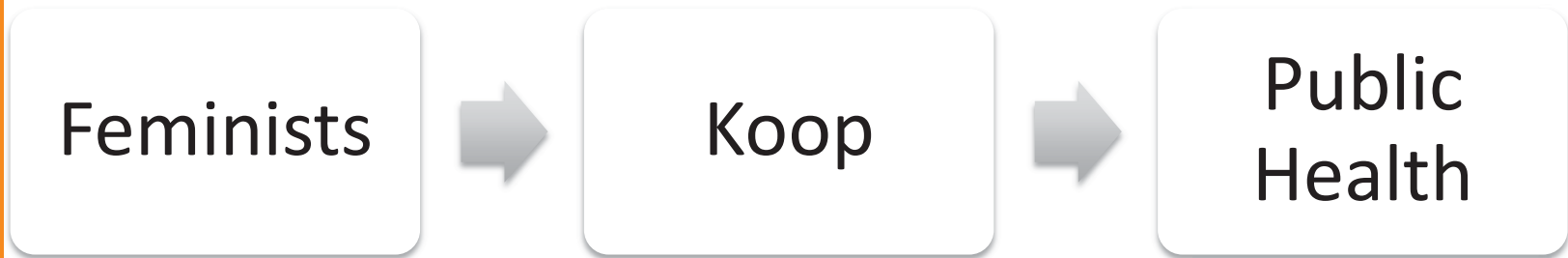


**Public
Health**

Primary Prevention

Implications

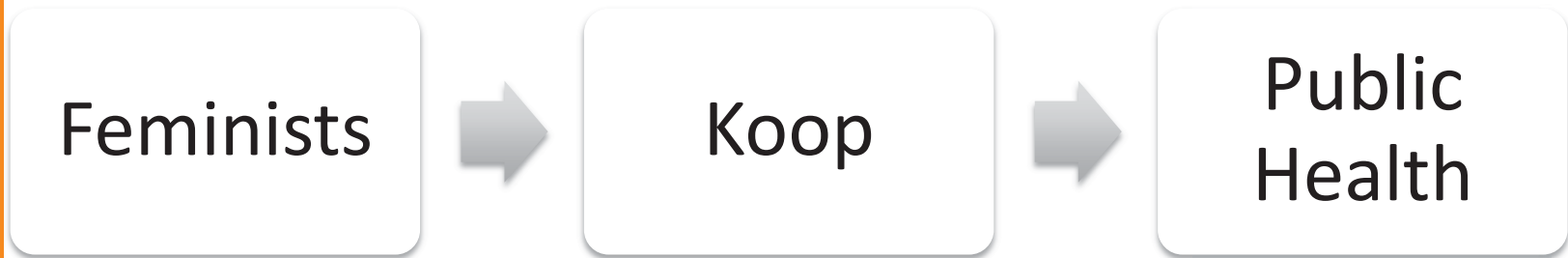
Advocacy Coalitions



- 1) Public health professionals see SV/DV as “their issue.”
- 2) SV/DV movements value public health approach.

Implications

Advocacy Coalitions



Primary Prevention as “Better Than” Other Approaches

≠ Replacement

Advocacy Coalitions

Feminists



**Public
Health**

Initiated Policy Response

Primary Prevention

One Belief

sexual and domestic violence is unacceptable and must be addressed through policymaking

Feminists

strengthen policies



Public Health
RESOURCES

shift approach

One Belief

sexual and domestic violence is unacceptable and must be addressed through policymaking

Feminists

strengthen policies



Public Health
RESOURCES

change policymaker and public perceptions of what is valuable

One Belief

sexual and domestic violence is unacceptable and must be addressed through policymaking

Feminists

strengthen policies



Public Health
RESOURCES

change policymaker and public perceptions of what is valuable

current state of SV/DV policy



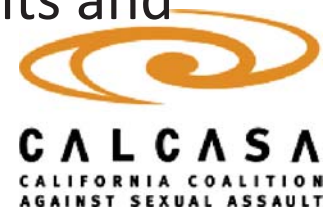
Implications

Social Construction

Women



“policy designs socially construct target populations in positive and negative terms and distribute benefits and burdens so as to reflect and perpetuate these constructions” (Ingram, Schneider, deLeon 2009)



Implications

“this is an issue that affects *you* and that *you* should care about; this is an issue for *everyone*”

Women



Public

Opportunities leading to today's “poised for prevention”



CALCASA
CALIFORNIA COALITION
AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

Implications

“this is an issue that affects *you* and that *you* should care about; this is an issue for *everyone*”

Women



Public

Focus on women weakens,
VAWA questioned



Implications

“this is an issue that affects *you* and that *you* should care about; this is an issue for *everyone*”

Women



Public

Women still matter, but
not as much

Implications

“this is an issue that affects *you* and that *you* should care about; this is an issue for *everyone*”

Women

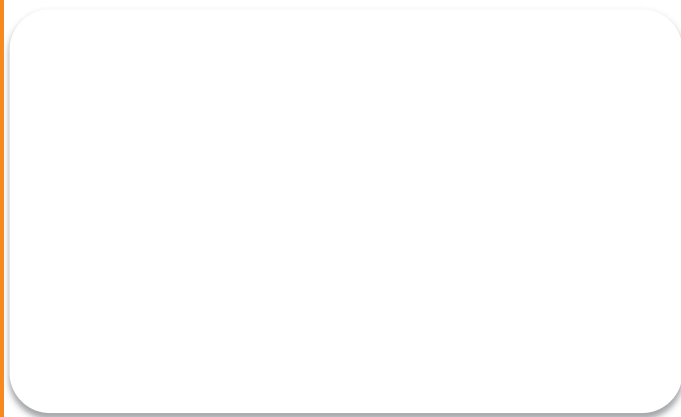


Public

Open door for other groups

Implications

“this is an issue that affects *you* and that *you* should care about; this is an issue for *everyone*”



Public

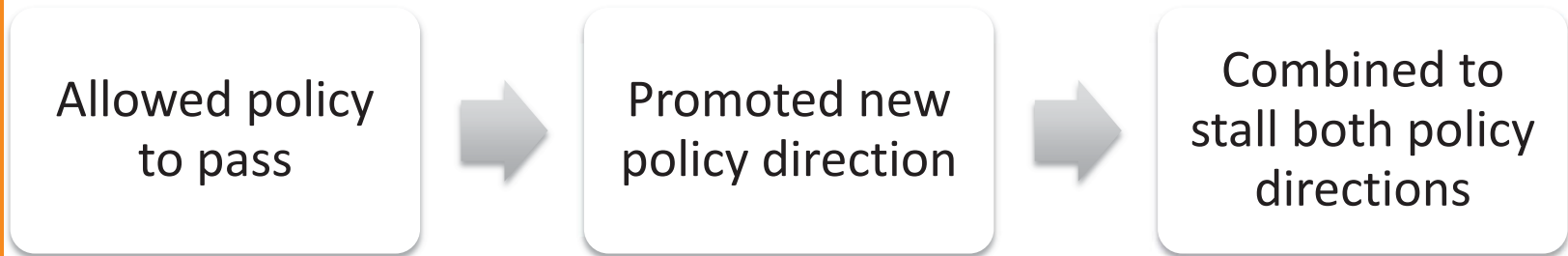
- + Push forward primary prevention policy
- Stall overall VAW policy
- Create barriers to VAW policy

VAWA



A Complicated Picture

Social Constructions



SV Prevention Policy

Developed from
initial feminist
efforts



Prompted by
Koop's
pronouncement



Cemented by
shifts in power

Summary

- Policy development slow & continues today
- Factors that facilitated development of prevention policy
 - Impeded overall SV policy progress
 - Also Impeded SV prevention policy development

Summary

- No bad intent; 2 coalitions one policy subsystem
- Feminists created SV policy arena; allowed for prevention policy
- New public perception of SV
- Both work(ed) together
- Both relevant & needed today



Conclusion

comprehensive
approach



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