

Survivors of Sexual Assault

Facts about sexual assault

Sexual assault is sexual contact initiated against a person without consent.

UCNP defines consent as follows:

- Consent must be informed, freely and actively given, and an understandable exchange of affirmative words or actions that indicate a willingness to participate in mutually agreed upon sexual activity.
- It is the responsibility of the initiator to obtain clear and affirmative responses at each stage of sexual involvement.
- The lack of a negative response is not consent.
- Consent may not be given by any individual who is intoxicated or incapacitated by drugs and/or alcohol either voluntarily or involuntarily consumed.
- Past consent of sexual activities does not imply ongoing future consent.

Examples of sexual assault include:

- Completed or attempted rape
- Threats of rape
- Sexual coercion
- Unwanted sexual contact with force or threat of force
- Unwanted sexual contact without consent

Although most assaults are committed by men against women, men can be assaulted by women, and same-sex assaults also occur.

In the event the victim has identified a student or student organization as the responsible party of the victimization, please contact the Office of Student Conduct at 521-4328.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Listen without conveying judgment and be aware that victims can feel shame and anger.

Refer the student to the appropriate members of the EAS committee.

If the student needs immediate medical attention refer to Health Services (521-6219) for testing for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and the “morning after” pill.

Refer the student to the Counseling Center (521-6202) for assessment and counseling options.

If the student wants to report the assault to the police the student must go to the hospital so evidence can be collected.

If the student needs help addressing academic issues as a result of the sexual assault, refer the student to the Student Affairs Office at 521-6175.

Inform the student of other resources.

AVOID

Expressing judgment even when high-risk behaviors on the part of the victim (e.g., voluntary intoxication) were involved.

Pressuring the student to file a police report.