

What is Sexual Violence*?

Sexual violence, which includes rape, is any unwanted physical contact with the intimate parts of a person's body for the purposes of sexual gratification, humiliation, or degradation. Sexual Violence can happen to anyone, regardless of gender.

What is Consent*?

Consent is defined by Seton Hall University as **clear, unambiguous and voluntary agreement between the participants to engage in specific sexual activity**. Past consent between the participants does not imply future consent. Silence or the absence of resistance does not imply consent. Consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not imply consent to engage in sexual activity with another. Consent can be withdrawn at any time. Coercion, force, or threat of either invalidates consent. Someone who is incapacitated cannot give consent. Incapacitation may be due to the use of alcohol and/or other drugs, may be if a person is asleep or unconscious, or may be due to an intellectual or other disability that prevents the student from having the capacity to give consent.

What is Relationship Violence*?

Relationship violence (also known as, and can include, intimate partner violence, dating violence, and domestic violence) is a pattern of behavior in an intimate relationship used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation. This can be verbal, emotional, and/or physical. Examples include: slapping, name-calling, damaging property, and threats of abuse or physical harm.

What is Stalking*?

Stalking is defined as engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's personal safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.

*Please note that these definitions are contained within Seton Hall's Sexual Misconduct Policy, and may not be the same standard applied in a law enforcement proceedings.

Resources and Contacts

Confidential Resources

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Phone: (973) 761-9500

Health Services

Phone: (973) 761-9175

Campus Ministry

Phone: (973) 761-9545

Off Campus Contact

South Orange Police Department

Phone: (973) 763-3000

Other Important Contacts

Office of the Dean of Students & Student Conduct

Phone: (973) 761-9076

Lori Brown

Director of EEO Compliance,

Title IX Coordinator

Phone: (973) 313-6132

Karen Van Norman

Associate Vice President & Dean of Students,

Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Phone: (973) 761-9076

Rachelle Paul

Sr. Associate Athletics Director, SWA,

Deputy Title IX Coordinator

(973) 761- 9494

Public Safety and Security

(973) 761-9300

For more information, please visit

www.shu.edu/titleix



SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

How to Support a Student Who Has Been Accused of Sexual Misconduct



Department of Student Life. 973.761.9076. University Center, Room 239.

If a friend discloses to you that he or she has been accused of sexual assault or another form of sexual violence, it may be hard to know what to do next. Here are a few tips to help you navigate the conversation and process.

Connect your friend to resources on campus.

Encourage the student to meet with the Dean of Students or the Title IX Coordinator. These offices can provide resources to someone who has been accused of sexual misconduct and inform him or her about next steps. Their contact information is on the back of this pamphlet.

Recommend that your friend seek counseling.

Your friend may find it helpful to process the emotions and difficulties he or she is experiencing as a result of the allegation. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can be of assistance, and can be reached at 973.761.9500.

Educate yourself on the issue of sexual assault.

Increase your own knowledge of the various types of sexual violence. Some definitions have been printed on the inside flap of this pamphlet. You can also familiarize yourself with the Student Code of Conduct and the disciplinary process by visiting www.shu.edu/offices/student-life/community-standards/community-standards.cfm.

Listen.

Sometimes just offering an ear is enough. Provide a safe, non-judgmental space for your friend to explain the situation. Offering an ear as he or she attempts to navigate this experience might be all the support your friend needs at this time. Don't push your friend to discuss more than he or she feels comfortable with.

Don't contact the Complainant or alleged victim.

If either you or your friend attempts to contact the Complainant directly or indirectly, it will be seen as retaliation and result in disciplinary action. For more information on the Non-Retaliation Policy, please see the Student Code of Conduct referenced above.

Practice privacy and confidentiality.

Don't share your friend's story or situation with others unless you are required to do so. Don't perpetuate rumors or misinformation, and definitely don't discuss it on social media. If someone asks you about the situation, refuse to comment or speculate.

Don't forget to take care of yourself.

It's important to be mindful of your own needs and make sure you are taking care of yourself. Supporting a friend through any trauma can be difficult and emotionally draining. Recognize this and don't hesitate to ask for help or seek support for yourself when you need it. Consider speaking with a CAPS counselor yourself. The resources listed on this brochure are available to you, just as much as they are available to victims or the accused.

Things To Remember...

- You can help a friend without making judgement as to whether or not a sexual assault occurred. Determining whether or not a violation took place is the responsibility of campus administrators and/or the legal system.
- Violence or retaliation is not the answer to helping your friend. Harassing and threatening behaviors are not helpful and could undermine any court or judicial proceeding taking place and will result in disciplinary sanction.

