



Sexual Assault and Rape

What defines sexual assault?

- Sexual violence is a sex act completed or attempted against a victim's will or when a victim is unable to consent due to age, illness, disability, or the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- It may involve actual or threatened physical force, use of guns or other weapons, coercion, intimidation, or pressure.
- Sexual violence also includes intentional touching of the victim without their will or consent, voyeurism, or undesired exposure to pornography.
- The perpetrator of sexual violence may be a stranger, friend, family member, or often intimate partner.

How often does it happen?

- According to the National College Women Sexual Victimization Study, between 1 in 4 college women experience completed or attempted rape during their college years.
- A recent National Crime Victimization Survey found that women were 16 times more likely than men to experience rape and sexual assault.
- In addition the survey found that 62% of rape and sexual assault victims knew the perpetrator. More than 40% of rapes and sexual assaults came at the hands of a person the female victim called a friend or acquaintance.
- Females ages 12 to 24 are at the greatest risk for experiencing a rape or sexual assault.
- Of the incidents of sexual victimization, the vast majority occurred after 6 p.m. in living quarters. For completed rapes, nearly 60 percent that took place on campus occurred in the victim's residence, 31 percent occurred in other living quarters on campus and 10 percent occurred at a fraternity.

What can females do to prevent it?

- At parties, mix your own drinks and at bars, watch when the bartender makes your drink.
- When you go to a party, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, watch out for each other, and leave together.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you don't know or trust.
- Think about the level of intimacy you want in a relationship, and clearly state your limits.
- Know that sex is not a male entitlement. You can say "no" at any time.
- If you feel pressured, afraid, or uncomfortable, leave, get help, or protest loudly.
- Be clear about your desires, limits, and expectations.
- Don't listen to persuasion. You don't have to give reasons and be assertive. Do not be afraid to set limits.
- Realize that consent to some sexual activity does NOT imply consent to all kinds of sexual activity.

For more info:

- **Sexual Assault Center of Northeast Georgia, Inc.-** 706-353-1912
- **RAINN (Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network)-** National Hotline Number 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)
- **Violence Against Women Office:** <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo>