

CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT

One in 5 women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college (Krebs, Lindquist, Warner, Fisher, & Martin, 2007). The majority of these crimes (90%) on college campuses are never reported (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000). Several national initiatives are underway, including the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault and the *It's On Us* campaign, to change cultural norms and engage the campus community in prevention (White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault, 2014).

STATISTICS

- Among college women, nine out of 10 victims of sexual assault knew the person who sexually assaulted them (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000).
- In a nationally representative survey of adults, 37.4% of female rape victims were first raped between ages 18-24 (Black et al., 2011).
- 27% of college women have experienced some form of unwanted sexual contact (Gross, Winslett, Roberts, & Gohm, 2006).
- 40% of colleges and universities reported not investigating a single sexual assault in the previous five years (U.S. Senate Subcommittee, 2014).
- 30% of colleges and universities offered no training on sexual assault to students nor law enforcement officers (U.S. Senate Subcommittee, 2014).
- 70% of colleges and universities did not have a protocol for working with local law enforcement (U.S. Senate Subcommittee, 2014).

- Of the self-reported perpetrators, 75% reported that they had used alcohol prior to their most recent perpetration incident. Incidents involving alcohol were much more likely to include attempted or completed rape than incidents without alcohol (Kingree & Thompson, 2014).
- Nearly two-thirds of college students experience sexual harassment, and less than 10% of these students tell a college or university employee (Hill & Silva, 2005).

CONSENT

Consent is understood as an affirmative agreement to engage in various sexual or non-sexual activities. Consent is an enthusiastic, clearly communicated and ongoing yes. One can't rely on past sexual interactions, and should never assume consent. The absence of "no" is not a "yes." When sex is consensual, it means everyone involved has agreed to what they are doing and has given their permission. Nonconsensual sex is rape. A person who is substantially impaired cannot give consent.

TITLE IX

According to the U.S. Department of Education, "Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities which receive federal financial assistance." It states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

For the purposes of Title IX, sexual violence falls under the definition of sexual harassment. The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is responsible for enforcing Title IX and provides guidance to schools/agencies to assist them in complying with the law. If someone is a victim of discrimination, they may file a complaint with OCR under Title IX (U.S. Department of Education, 2014).

CLERY ACT

The Clery Act is a federal law enforced by the U.S. Department of Education that requires colleges and universities in the U.S. to disclose information about campus crime. As part of the law, schools must publish an annual security report, maintain a public crime log, release crime statistics, issue timely alerts about crime, implement an emergency response plan, and have procedures for handling missing persons cases.

CAMPUS SEXUAL VIOLENCE ELIMINATION (SAVE) ACT

In March 2013, the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act was signed into law as part of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Reauthorization. The SaVE Act is an amendment to the Clery Act and requires that all institutions of higher learning must educate students, faculty, and staff on the prevention of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This legislation increases standards of campus response, disciplinary proceedings, and prevention education.

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