



PREVENTION TIPS :

- Say “no” as if you mean “no;” if you don’t mean “no,” then don’t say it.
- Be clear, honest, and consistent in your verbal communications about sexual desires and limits.
- Trust your instincts. If you have any hesitations about a man, think carefully about dating him. Pay attention to situations that make you uncomfortable and think of ways to decrease potential problems.
- Be aware that non-verbal behaviors or actions may be interpreted differently than you intended. This DOES NOT mean it is your fault if you are assaulted.
- Avoid excessive use of alcohol and/or other drugs.
- Forced sex is NEVER acceptable; it is rape.
- “No” means “no.” Don’t read other meanings into that word.
- You are responsible for your own sexual actions.
- Dating for a long time, spending money on a woman, or having previous sexual intercourse does not obligate a woman to have sex.
- Help friends understand that forcing sex does not make a “man.”

Remember: NO ONE ASKS OR DESERVES TO BE RAPED!

There is help...someone you can talk with, who will listen, who understands.

FOR ASSISTANCE OR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Office of Student Affairs
Room 244
Andrew J. McKelvey Campus Center
Telephone: (724) 946-7110

Counseling Services
Student Health Center
Telephone: (724) 946-7927 or 7928

Campus Public Safety Office
Room 165
Andrew J. McKelvey Campus Center
Telephone: (724) 946-7126 (office);
6217 (supervisor); 7777 (emergency)

New Wilmington Police
Telephone: (724) 946-8111

Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County
Telephone: (724) 652-9036 (24-hour Hotline)

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Room 244
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Sexual Assault

What you need to know about...





SEXUAL ASSAULT: WHAT IS IT?

Sexual assault is unwanted sexual intercourse, fondling, kissing, holding...any sexual contact forced on you and without your consent by a stranger or someone you know.

Acquaintance rape is using physical force, emotional pressure, blackmail, or mind games to force sexual intercourse.

Some rapes are accompanied by other violence, such as hitting, threats with a weapon, or confinement. But many rapes are accomplished through threat of force or through coercion.

If someone feels humiliated, violated, loss of control, or angry after a sexual experience, it may be an indication that sexual coercion has taken place.

Any sexual intercourse that occurs after one person says "no," is rape. It is rape even if "no" was said after both persons consented to sexual behavior such as kissing or touching. It is against your will and against the law. It is a crime.

Rape is hard to think about – for both women and men. We do not want to think that rape can happen to us or to someone we love. But rape does happen. And it is such a frightening mystery to most of us that we have learned to believe a lot about rape which simply is not true.



SOME FACTS ABOUT RAPE:

Rape is not the victim's fault.

Rape is not sexual passion.

Rape is an act of power, control, and violence.

Over 80% of rape victims know their attackers. It is often a friend, date, neighbor, lover, ex-lover, or co-worker.



YOUR REACTION AS A VICTIM

Victims of sexual violence experience many different feelings such as confusion, denial, shock, fear, self-blame, embarrassment, and helplessness.

They may also experience:

- feelings of guilt and responsibility;
- concerns about their ability to make judgments about people;
- difficulty trusting themselves and others;
- feelings of being conned, cheated, or manipulated; or
- difficulty accepting what happened as rape.



IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF RAPE, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO:

- Report the rape to someone who can help, such as a close friend, family member, the Women's Shelter/Rape Crisis Center, the Student Affairs Office, Counseling Services, your RA or Residence Director, Campus Security.
- The net result of not reporting a rape is that the rapist may go on raping. By reporting a rape, even if you don't want your attacker prosecuted, you at least advise authorities of the situation. The more rapes that are reported, the greater the effort local and campus officials can make to eliminate the problem.
- You should receive immediate medical attention. This will help alleviate fears about sexually transmitted disease and pregnancy. It will also aid in collecting evidence which can be used if you want the rapist prosecuted. Do not wash the clothes worn during the attack, and never bathe or douche after being raped – obtain a medical examination first.

Remember: You can get medical and emotional care without reporting the rape to the police. You can report the rape to the police without going to court. But the rapist can't be prosecuted in a criminal court unless you have reported the rape to the police.



THE COLLEGE'S RESPONSE

- If you have been the victim of a sexual assault, you are urged to contact the Student Affairs Office. The Student Affairs staff is here to assist you at any time. Remember, you have the option to contact any of the authorities listed on the back panel. If you wish to report the assault to the police, the College will assist you in doing so.
- A student(s) found responsible for committing a sexual offense will be subject to College disciplinary action that can range from an official warning through expulsion from the College.
- The accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have an advisor present during a College disciplinary hearing. Both the accuser and the accused will be informed of the outcome of any College disciplinary hearing pertaining to an alleged sex offense.
- The College will alter academic and living situations after an alleged sex offense, if these changes are requested by the victim and are reasonably available.
- Additional information concerning the College's disciplinary system can be found in the Westminster College Handbook for Students.
- Members of the campus community are encouraged to attend sexual assault workshops and seminars hosted by the College. Dates and times will be published throughout the year.

