Sexual Violence & Relationship Violence

What every student needs to know

WOMEN'S CENTER
KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY

Sexual Violence:

- Sexual violence happens any time someone is forced, pressured, or coerced into sexual contact.
- Rape and sexual assault is a crime regarding power and control.
- If a person is unconscious, intoxicated, or under the influence of drugs, they cannot consent to sex.
- Over 60% of rape and sexual assault incidents go unreported.
- Men and LGBTQ victims are less likely to report incidents due to victim blaming and societal misconceptions surrounding the definition of sexual assault.

1:4 women are sexually assaulted before they reach the age of 18

1:6 men experience sexual assault in their lifetime

85%
...of victims are assaulted by someone they already know.
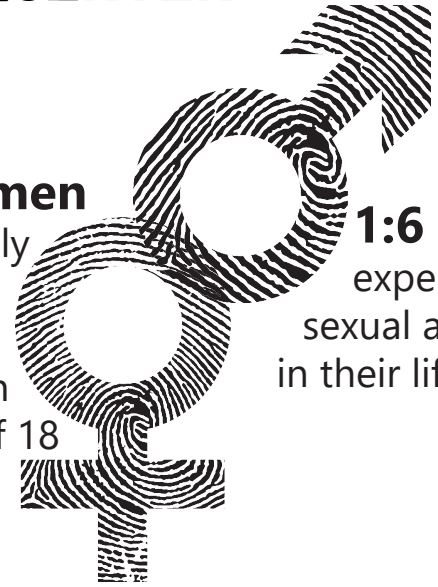
Relationship Violence:

- Relationship violence consists of mean or abusive behavior used to control someone in an intimate relationship.
- Women ages 16-24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence.
- Threats, harassment, humiliation, intimidation, and physical attacks are all forms of relationship violence.
- People in abusive relationships may feel pressured to stay due to unrealistic beliefs, fear for their safety or the safety of others, isolation from loved ones, lack of support, or lack of resources.

Incident Prevention:

- Communicate openly about your feelings, desires, and boundaries when it comes to sex and relationships.
- Examine your attitudes about sexuality, gender, and how the two impact violence. Masculinity does not equal aggression; feminity does not equal submission.
- Educate yourself about sexual and relationship violence, as well as sexism and gender inequality.
- Speak up to educate others; discourage victim blaming statements and the use of stereotypes.
- Act out and be an ally to those working to end gender violence in all of its forms. Refuse to be a bystander.

**Violence does not discriminate.
Anyone can experience it, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.**

Getting the help you need

How to handle a sensitive issue

- The option to report rape, sexual violence, harassment, or abuse to Public Safety, the Dean of Students, Title IX Coordinator, and/or local police.
- To have every effort made to keep your privacy respected.
- Speak with a supportive agency, such as Safe Berks or our HEART at KU advocates.
- Request a change of on-campus living arrangements, employment, transportation, or academic schedule for yourself or someone you've reported for harassment.
- Be considered for pardon of other conduct violations related to the incident, such as KU's alcohol policy.

Your Rights On Campus:

- Protection against discussion of any non-relevant, past sexual history.
- Have a "no contact" and/or "stay away" directive issued for one or both individuals involved.
- Provide input on whether or not to move forward with charges and/or participate in a hearing.
- Have the option to remain present during an entire conduct hearing, participate in it, or provide testimony from a remote, on-campus location.
- Be informed of the outcome of a hearing, the potential for appeal, and when the results of a hearing have become final.

If You or Someone You Know Has Experienced Sexual or Relationship Violence:

- Listen to and believe what someone says.
- Reassure them that the violence is not their fault.
- Ask before touching or hugging to show support.
- Keep it confidential and respect their privacy.
- Don't press for details, allow them to talk on their terms.
- Be respectful of their right to decide whether or not to report the incident.
- If they want to seek assistance, offer to go with them.
- If the incident just occurred, make sure they get somewhere safe.
- Make sure you have support as well—being an ally also means taking care of yourself.

Do not discriminate victims based on gender or sexuality.

Need someone to talk to?

On Campus Resources:

Public Safety Emergency	Old Main,	610-683-4001
Non-Emergency Services	B-Wing	610-683-4002
Counseling Services	Beck Hall,	610-683-4072
Health & Wellness Center	Rm. 122	610-683-4082
Dean of Students Office	Stratton, Rm.119	610-683-1320
Title IX Coordinator/Social Equity	Old Main, Rm. 2	610-683-4700
Safe Berks/HEART at KU	Old Main,	610-372-9540
The Women's Center	Rm. 126	610-683-4655
Safe Berks text line	Text SAFE BERKS to 20121	

For more on campus policy and safety: https://www.kutztown.edu/sexualmisconduct

heart at KU
Healing Environment Advocate Response Team

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