

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- ♦Your desires may be beyond your control, but your actions are always within your control, and within your responsibility.
- ♦Don't let embarrassment or peer pressure keep you from doing what is right for you.
- ♦Think about the consequences of your actions and their potential impact on your own and others' future.
- ♦Don't risk the possibility of expulsion from the College or legal action, by acting against the wishes of the person you're with.
- ♦Talk about sexual expectations with your partner prior to the "passion of the moment".

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM

The Sexual Assault Response Team consists of Gustavus staff who have been trained in responding to victims of sexual assault. SART members will work with you to keep you safe, advocate for you and help you access resources both on and off campus. They will keep the circumstances of the assault as confidential as possible.

If you have been sexually assaulted you are strongly encouraged to contact a SART member directly or by calling Safety and Security (x8888) and asking to speak with a SART member — 24 hours a day.

SART MEMBERS

Patty Dawson, SART Leader
Licensed Practical Nurse
Health Services
(507) 933-7165

Sara Sletten
Community Service Center
(507) 933-6018

Andrea Junso
Student Activities Office
(507) 933-6282

Jason Stratman
Environmental Health and Safety
(507) 933-7494

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Matt Grochow, Detective
St. Peter Police Department
(507) 931-1550

Crime Victim Services, Inc.
1-507-233-6662
1-800-630-1425 (24-hour Crisis Safeline)
www.crimevictimservices.org

WHAT EVERY MAN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SEXUALITY AND SEXUAL ABUSE

Material in this brochure borrowed with permission from the Women's Center at Minnesota State University - Mankato

TALKING ABOUT SEXUALITY

Talking openly about sexuality in our culture is very difficult. As a consequence, many men are trapped in myths about what it means to be a “real man.” We cling to age-old stereotypes that men are strong, competitive, aggressive, “macho” types, while women are supposed to be passive and compliant. Men may tend to “sexualize” their relationships with women, perceiving sex as the goal of a relationship rather than just one facet of it. As a result, when a woman says “no” to sex, men often feel rejected as persons. However, they are simply expressing their desire not to participate in a single act.

Sexual expression occurs best under conditions in which both persons feel safe and free to be themselves. When two people do not know and understand each other’s sexual expectations, it’s quite likely that they may have very different needs, desires and limits. Therefore, talking about expectations of physical intimacy should happen throughout the relationship.

WHAT IS A SEXUAL CRIME?

Sexual assault is a criminal act of violence. It is perpetrated primarily by men against women, but it can happen to anyone regardless of gender, age, race, strength, sexual practice/orientation, or size. People don’t talk about it, so the survivors of this “crime that didn’t happen” can feel alone and isolated as they struggle to heal from the trauma. Survivors often experience a second victimization when they are told it was their fault for “asking for it” or “letting it happen.”

Statistics show that sexual assault, particularly acquaintance rape, happens on all campuses and in communities of all sizes.

At Gustavus, we believe that every student needs to know what constitutes a sexual crime, what precautions should be taken, and how survivors can get help.

BECAUSE MEN ARE RAPED...

Statistically approximately 6% of all rapes are perpetrated against men - the fact is men are sexually assaulted too. The need to deny the existence of male sexual assault is still strong. It is partly rooted in the mistaken belief that men are immune to being victimized, that a man should be able to fight off any attacker if he is a “real man.” Two other closely related beliefs are that men can’t be forced into having sex with a woman because men always want sex and

that male victims of sexual assault must be gay, therefore only attacked by other men. These pervasive beliefs of masculinity lead to an increased risk for survivors getting depressed, getting into trouble at work, getting physically hurt, or developing alcohol and drug problems. For more information, please visit the Montana State University-Northern’s web site on Male Survivors.

DATE OR ACQUAINTANCE RAPE

Date or acquaintance rape can happen in all types of environments. With its high number of social activities, the campus setting may offer opportunities for date rape to occur.

Sometimes the relationships between the victim and the offender or the circumstances that are involved make a victim of “date rape” hesitant to report a sexual crime. Sometimes the offender is a date or a friend. Sometimes there was alcohol or drug consumption by the victim.

The offender may be a person with an emotional problem. Or the offender may misread or imagine that a desired “silent message” or attitude is being communicated by the victim.

PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT

- ◆ Discuss your sexual desires and limits openly.
- ◆ Gauge your level of intoxication; in fact, avoid alcohol and drugs entirely. You may compromise your ability to make a responsible decision about sexual activity. An intoxicated person is not capable of consent.
- ◆ A person who is asleep, mentally incapacitated, physically helpless, unconscious or impaired due to drug or alcohol consumption is considered unable to consent.
- ◆ Don’t think that because a woman dresses in a “sexy” manner and flirts that she wants to have sexual intercourse.
- ◆ Don’t assume that previous permission for sexual contact applies to the current situation.
- ◆ “No” means no. Don’t read other meanings into that answer. Seek active consent.
- ◆ Any form of sexual contact against a person’s will is against the law.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

If a person engages in non-consensual sexual intercourse due to physical force, coercion or threat – actual or implied – the act is considered either first or third degree criminal sexual conduct in the State of Minnesota.

If a person is forced to engage in any form of sexual contact other than intercourse, under the circumstances mentioned above, it is considered criminal sexual conduct in the second or fourth degree.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Conduct or communication of a sexual nature, whether physical, oral or written that is perceived as threatening, intimidating or humiliating to a person or group is considered sexual harassment. Acts of harassment can range from verbal suggestion or innuendo to offensive physical contact.

MYTHS ABOUT SEXUAL CRIMES

Myth: Victims are to blame in some way for the incident.

Fact: No one asks to be sexually assaulted, nor does anyone’s behavior justify the crime. The offender is responsible for the crime regardless of the survivor’s appearance, behavior, judgement or previous action.

Myth: If the victim was drunk or drugged, he or she was asking for it.

Fact: Inability to give consent is not “asking for it.” Forcing sexual contact on another person when that person is physically or mentally incapacitated is criminal sexual conduct (rape) in the State of Minnesota.

Myth: Sexual assault is impulsive behavior.

Fact: Offenders often have plans in place before sexual assaults occur. They may find ways to isolate and intimidate the victim.

Myth: If a woman is forced to have sex with a friend, date, boyfriend, spouse or someone she knows, it isn’t really rape.

Fact: Sexual intercourse that is forced, by a friend or stranger, is rape. Often it is more traumatic because the victim’s trust in others and in her own judgment may have been shattered.

Myth: Men can’t stop themselves when sexually aroused.

Fact: Men are both capable of and are responsible for controlling both their minds and bodies—just as women are.

Myth: Sexual harassment is harmless. Those who object have no sense of humor.

Fact: Harassment is humiliating and degrading. No one should have to endure it.