

MYTH vs FACT

- Myth** *The victim must have "asked for it" by being seductive, careless, drunk, high, etc.*
- No one asks to be abused, injured, or humiliated. This line of thought blames the victim for what happened instead of the perpetrator who chose to commit the crime. Individuals of all ages and genders, have been targets of sexual assault. Not one of them "caused" their assailant to commit a crime against them.
- Fact**
- Myth** *If you wouldn't have been drinking, you wouldn't have been sexually assaulted.*
- Alcohol is a weapon that some perpetrators use to control their victim and render them helpless. As part of their plan, an assailant may encourage the victim to use alcohol, or identify an individual who is already drunk. Alcohol is not a cause of rape; it is only one of many tools that perpetrators use.
- Fact**
- Myth** *Most perpetrators are strangers to their victims.*
- Most rapes are committed by someone that the victim knows: a neighbor, friend, acquaintance, co-worker, classmate, spouse, or partner.
- Fact**
- Myth** *Sexual assault is often the result of miscommunication.*
- Sexual assault is a crime, never simply a mistake. It does not occur due to miscommunication between two people. Sexual assault is any unwanted sexual contact obtained without consent.
- Fact**
- Myth** *Individuals who commit rape are mentally ill or psychotic and cannot help themselves.*
- Very few perpetrators are mentally incompetent and/or out of touch with reality. Rapes may be planned or carried out by anyone.
- Fact**
- Myth** *It is okay to pressure or talk someone into sexual activity*
- No! This falls into the category of coercion. Coercion is a tactic used to intimidate, trick, or force someone to have sex with him or her without physical force.
- Fact**

Campus and Community Resources

Counseling/Referral

UCI Campus Assault Resources and Education (CARE) www.care.uci.edu	(949) 824-7273
Sexual Assault Victims Services Hotline (24 hour)	(949) 831-9110
UCI Counseling Center	(949) 824-6457
UCI Student Health Center (Mental Health)	(949) 824-5304
Cascade Centers (Employee Assistance Program)	(800) 433-2320

Violence Victims

Human Options Domestic Violence Shelter Hotline	(949) 854-3554
Orange County Domestic Violence Assistance Program	(714) 935-7956
Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 799-7233
National Child Abuse Hotline (24hr) www.childhelp.org	(800) 422-4453

Shelters

Human Options Emergency Shelter and Bilingual Hotline	(949) 854-3554
Laura's House 24 hour toll free hotline	(866) 498-1511
Laura's House Heart Chatline —Text 'HEART' to	(949) 484-8440
Women's Transitional Living Center	(714) 992-1931

Hospitals/Medical Assistance

Anaheim Regional Medical Center 1111 W. La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801	(714) 774-1450
Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center 1250 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404	(424) 259-4503
Hoag Hospital 16200 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618	(949) 764-4624
Saddleback Memorial Medical Center 24451 Health Center Drive, Laguna Hills, CA 92653	(949) 837-4500
UCI Student Health Center	(949) 824-5301
UCI Health Education	(949) 824-9355

Legal/Administrative Assistance

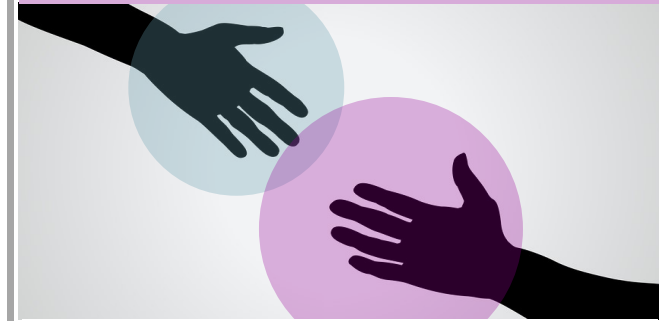
Legal Aid Society of Orange County	(800) 834-5001
Western State Immigration Clinic	(714) 459-1101
UCI Office of Equal Opportunity & Diversity www.oeod.uci.edu	(949) 824-5594
UCI Office of Student Conduct www.dos.uci.edu/conduct	(949) 824-5590

Mediation

Dispute Resolution Services	(949) 975-0244
UCI Ombudsman	(949) 824-7256

Revised 6/30/20

Sexual Assault Information



Officer: _____

Report #: _____

Date: _____



UCI Police Department

150 Public Services Building

Irvine, CA 92697-4900

(949) 824-5223

www.police.uci.edu

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault occurs when physical sexual activity is engaged in without the consent of the other person, male or female. The conduct may include:

- ◆ Physical force, violence, threat, or intimidation
- ◆ Ignoring the objections of the other person
- ◆ Causing the other person's intoxication or impairment through the use of drugs or alcohol
- ◆ Taking advantage of the other person's incapacitation (including voluntary intoxication), state of intimidation, or other inability to consent
- ◆ Sexual battery

Rape is a specific form of sexual assault that includes an act of intercourse (vaginal, anal, or oral penetration), accomplished with a person who does not consent to the sexual contact or is incapable of consenting. This includes situations in which a victim is...

- ◆ Forced to engage in intercourse
- ◆ Threatened with harm if they do not participate
- ◆ Prevented from resisting due to intoxication from alcohol or drugs
- ◆ Incapable of giving consent because of disability
- ◆ Asleep or unconscious to the nature of the act

*Being forced into sexual activity, even if it is a date, a steady relationship, or a casual acquaintance, is still **SEXUAL ASSAULT**. Nothing a person does, says or wears gives anyone the right to commit an assault, sexually or otherwise.*

You can lower your risk of sexual assault

There are things you can do to reduce your chances of being sexually assaulted. Follow these tips from the National Crime Prevention Council.

1. Be aware of your surroundings—who's out there and what's going on.
2. Walk with confidence. The more confident you look, the stronger you appear.
3. Be assertive—don't let anyone invade your space.
4. Know your limits when it comes to using alcohol. *NEVER* leave your drink unattended—no matter where you are.
5. Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable in your surroundings, leave.
6. Be wary of isolated spots, like underground garages, offices after business hours, and apartment laundry rooms. Go with a friend when in doubt.
7. Avoid walking or jogging alone, especially at night. Stay in well-traveled, well-lit areas.

What to do if you're sexually assaulted

If the assault just occurred, the following actions must be taken:

1. Preserve the evidence of the attack; don't bathe or brush your teeth.
2. Place clothing worn during the assault in a paper bag.
3. Write down all the details you can recall about the assault and perpetrator.
4. If the assault took place in your home, do not rearrange and/or clean up anything.
5. Seek medical attention. Ask the hospital for an evidence collection (also known as a "rape exam"), test for STDs and pregnancy, and if you think you may have been drugged, collect a urine sample for analysis.

VICTIM BILL of RIGHTS

California law provides crime victims with important rights. If you are the victim of crime, you may be entitled to the assistance of a victim advocate who can answer many of the questions you have about the criminal justice system. Victim advocates can assist with the following:

1. Explain what information you are entitled to receive while proceedings are pending.
2. Assisting you in applying for restitution to compensate you for crime-related losses.
3. Communicating with the prosecution.
4. Assisting you in receiving victim support services.
5. Helping you prepare a victim impact statement before an offender is sentenced.

Counseling

The violation, loss of trust, and humiliation can have serious long-term impact after experiencing a sexual assault. It is not unusual for a person to withdraw, feel guilty or distrustful. However, there are many people who understand and places where support is available while recovering. Professional counseling is a very important step in helping someone who has been sexually assaulted regain control of her/his life. You may begin the healing process by contacting the UCI Campus Assault Resources and Education (CARE) office at: **(949) 824-7273**