

The Myths

- ▷ Sexual assault is an act of passion.
- ▷ People secretly desire sexual assault.
- ▷ People invite sexual assault by acting or dressing seductively.
- ▷ Sexual assault is a crime that takes place in dark, isolated locations.
- ▷ Perpetrators look and act strangely.
- ▷ Only young, attractive people are sexually assaulted.



The Facts

- ▷ Sexual assault is an act of violence and hostility - not an act of passion.
- ▷ Fantasizing about aggressive sex is not the same as desiring sexual assault.
- ▷ Approximately 60% of sexual assaults occur in or about the home.
- ▷ Approximately 50% of sexual assaults occur during the day.
- ▷ In most cases, the victim knows their perpetrator.
- ▷ Most perpetrators aren't armed.
- ▷ The majority of sexual assaults are pre-planned.
- ▷ Nationwide, only 1 out of 10 sexual assaults are reported.



STOP Violence Program

Dean of Students Office
University of Wyoming
1000 E. University Avenue
Department 3135
Knight Hall Room 118
Laramie, Wyoming 82071
www.uwyo.edu/stop

(307) 766-3296

Office Hours: 8am-5pm

After Hours: (307) 766-STOP (7897)

Resource produced by the STOP Violence Program
Distributed by the Dean of Students Office

Prevention

minimizing chances of sexual assault



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Preventing Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is a crime which affects all members of society both as its victims, and as those close to them. The more informed all citizens are about the crime of sexual assault, the better prepared they will be to prevent it. (Although not as common, the incidence of males sexually assaulting other males is on the increase. Thus, whenever discussing the crime of sexual assault, it is important to remember that women are not the only victims.)

The longer the one dating partner waits to set limits on the other's [unwanted] sexual initiatives, the higher the risk of being sexually assaulted. Dating partners should discuss intents or viewpoints about sex as soon as they decide they are on a date. The important factor is direct and explicit statements.

**Consent.
Both partners must
consent at all times.
Otherwise it is assault.
Stop means stop.**

Think Safely

Safety In A Social Situation

- ▷ When first meeting a new friend, exchange phone numbers, not addresses.
- ▷ Keep someone apprised of your whereabouts when dating someone for the first time.
- ▷ It is a good idea to refrain from going to bars and clubs alone. However, should you choose to do so, have your own transportation available, and use it.
- ▷ Don't allow alcohol or drugs to cloud your common sense.
- ▷ Know what your personal social standards are and stick to them.



**Sexual
Assault
Affects both
Women
and Men**

Protect Yourself

- ▷ Get to know any potential date well as a friend before going anywhere alone with them.
- ▷ Never accept a ride home from a social function with someone you've just met.
- ▷ If you're interested in dating a person, go out with them in a group, and be on the lookout for warning signs.
- ▷ Don't let anyone you don't trust get you alone in your room.
- ▷ If you fear someone, tell someone in a position of authority about your concerns. If that person refuses to help you, find another.
- ▷ Don't take no for an answer.

Safety On The Street

- ▷ Travel in well lighted, well traveled areas.
- ▷ If possible, walk in pairs.
- ▷ Avoid shortcuts, bushy areas, and alleyways.
- ▷ Walk assertively and maintain a sharp awareness of your surroundings.
- ▷ Use a blue campus safety phone if necessary.

Signs of Unhealthy Boundaries

- ▷ Talking at an intimate level on the first meeting.
- ▷ Falling in love with a new acquaintance.
- ▷ Being overwhelmed by a person - preoccupied.
- ▷ Acting on the first sexual impulse.
- ▷ Being sexual for partner, not self.
- ▷ Not noticing when someone invades your boundaries.
- ▷ Touching a person without asking.