

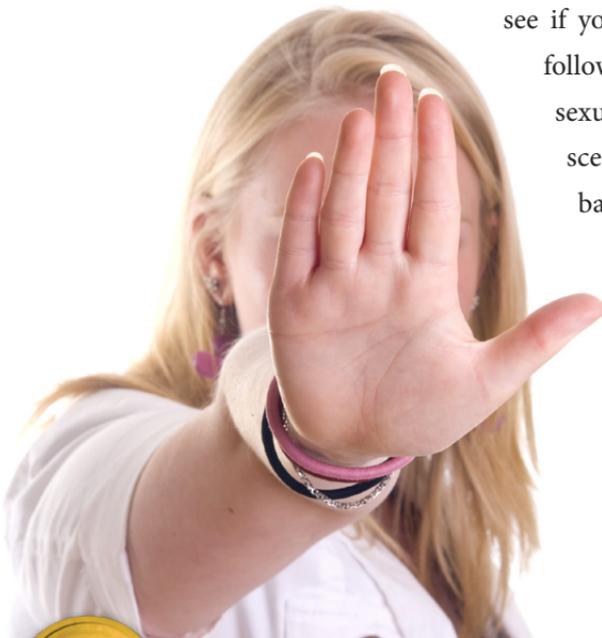
test your

Sexual Assault Knowledge

Think you know what sexual assault is and what isn't?

Let's put your knowledge to the test and see if you can identify which of the following scenarios constitute sexual assault. The following scenarios are fictional and not based on any particular case.

However, they represent situations that could be commonly experienced by college students.



Matt and Brandy

Sophomore Matt and freshman Brandy start hanging out. There's definitely chemistry between them. After a few weeks, Spring Break rolls around and they agree to go away for two days.

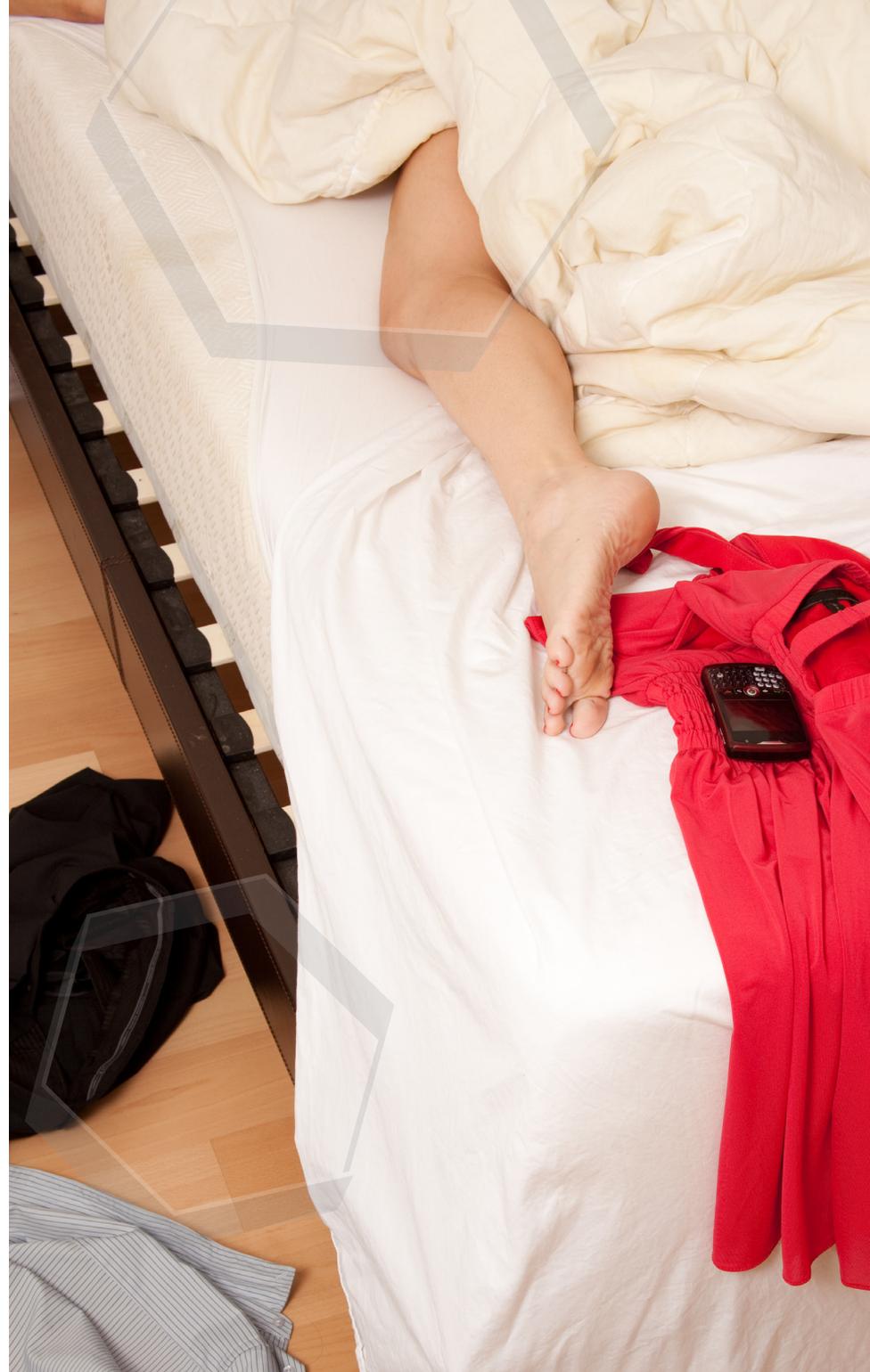
They've gotten close but haven't had sex, although she's spend the night in his room. His friends say to him, "She'll loosen up with a little tequila."

On Spring Break, Matt and Brandy start doing shots of tequila. Back in the room, they start fooling around. She tells him the room is spinning and she feels like she's going to pass out from all the tequila. He says, "Don't worry" and they have sex.

In the morning, she says to Matt angrily, "What did we do?!"

What is this?

This is Rape. Someone who is intoxicated cannot legally give consent. The University of Wyoming mandates that a person cannot give consent if the victim is incapacitated due to self-induced or forced intoxication from alcohol and/or other drugs. (www.uwyo.edu/uwprd/_files/SexualAssaultreportform.pdf)



John and Christine

Sophomore John is seeing sophomore Christine. Back at his room, they start kissing. He touches her breasts. She moves his hand away. He puts it back. She moves it away again. He puts his hand under her skirt. She says “stop,” he tries again, she moves his hand away again.

What is this?

This is Sexual Assault. The University of Wyoming defines sexual assault as intentional sexual contact characterized by use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault includes rape, non-consensual sodomy (oral or anal sex), indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), assault with an object, or attempts to commit these acts. In addition, if John continues to ignore Christine’s requests and persists in the same way, it could very easily become attempted or completed rape.



Jose and Mike

Junior Jose and senior Mike have been seeing each other for several months and they have had sex several times.

Mike goes to visit Jose at his apartment. They start fooling around, Mike stops Jose at one point and says, “not tonight.”

Jose says, “Come on.” He pushes Mike to the bed, thinking Mike is just teasing him. Jose enters Mike.

Mike says afterwards, “I told you id didn’t want to.” Jose says, “I thought you were just kidding.”

What is this?

This is Rape. Because consent was not given, this case is considered rape. In some cases, a person may physically resist, but simply saying “no” or “stop” is sufficient under the law to indicate lack of consent. In addition, it is important to note, consent is not implied simply because you go home with someone.





Dan and Jennifer

Junior Dan and senior Jennifer meet at a party. They go home together at the end of the night. They start kissing and fooling around, but Jennifer isn't ready to have sex with Dan. He says, "Come on. It's no big deal. I know you've had one night stands before. No one cares." She says, "Maybe. But I'm not going to do it with you."

That night, he keeps pressing the issue and each time he asks she says "No." She must have said no 15 times and Dan keeps pulling at her clothes and trying to enter her. She becomes so tired of the incessant asking, she finally agrees by saying "If you're going to do this, put a condom on."

What is this?

This is Rape. Consent was not freely given. By continuously insisting that she should have sex, Dan coerced Jennifer into agreeing to sex. However, this is not true consent as it was forced and badgered out of Jennifer. Further, his pulling at her clothes and trying to enter her could be considered sexual assault.

After the Game

One of the intramural athletic teams has just finished a game. The team members have developed a good rapport and joke around a lot with each other in the locker room after games.

That day, one of the team members gets tackled in the locker room by a couple of other guys on the team. As a handful of other players stand around, two players hold the first one down.

One of the team members grabs a golf club left behind by another team and sticks the handle into the intramural player's rectum. The player squirms away pretty quickly, so the penetration was only slight. Everyone laughs.

What is this?

This is Sexual Assault. The University of Wyoming would consider this assault with an object. The individual who stuck the golf club into the player's rectum is guilty of sexual assault. The players who held the victim down could also be charged with conspiracy to commit sexual assault. While those who stood around and laughed are not directly involved, they are bystanders and some would say that this makes them morally accountable as well.



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