

## DID YOU KNOW?

Rape and sexual assault happens to females and males of all ages, from infancy to the senior years.

98% of males who have raped boys reported they are heterosexual. Most males who assault men or women are married or report having girlfriends.

Sexual assault has nothing to do with the victim's present or future sexual orientation. Victims may be either heterosexual or homosexual.

A survivor is not at fault for the rape, even if she/he was in a secluded area, or had previous consensual sex with the attacker.

The fact a male victim of sexual assault ejaculated or became sexually aroused does not mean they were not raped or that they gave consent. These are normal, involuntary physiological reactions.

It is common for survivors of sexual assault to have feelings of embarrassment, anger, guilt, panic, depression, and fear even several months or years after the attack. Other common reactions include loss of appetite, nausea or stomachaches, headaches, loss of memory and/or trouble concentrating and changes in sleep patterns.

## FACTS FOR THE INMATE THAT SEXUALLY ASSAULTS OTHER INMATES:

You will be issued a conduct report. If found guilty, sanctions will be harsh. In addition, your supervision level will be reviewed and likely increased, which could mean a transfer to a higher security prison or unit with significantly less freedom of movement and limited privileges. If you have family, how will this affect them and/or how will it affect their ability to visit you?

All cases of sexual assault are also referred to the Ohio State Highway Patrol for criminal investigation. You may be prosecuted and if found guilty of a felony, any additional prison time will be added to your current sentence, per the Ohio Revised Code.

Consider that regardless of how you choose to characterize it, sex with a member of the same sex is a homosexual act. And these acts significantly increase your risk of HIV infection, along with exposing you to other sexually transmitted diseases.

If you have trouble controlling your actions seek help from mental health staff and/or consider participating in programs designed to control anger or reduce stress. To reduce immediate feelings of anger or aggression try talking to or writing a friend, meditate or do breathing exercises to relax, work on a hobby, or engage in some type of exercise.

# Sexual Assault Awareness



Ohio  
Department of  
Rehabilitation &  
Correction

## SEXUAL ASSAULT

Sexual assault as defined by DRC Policy 79-ISA-01 is "Any contact between the sex organ of one person and the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, or any intrusion of any part of the body of one person, or of any object into the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, by the use of force or threat of force." The offender uses sex as a weapon to assault the body, the mind, psyche and spirit.

Sexual assault affects everyone, either directly or through the experiences of those we care about. It is not only a women's issue as it can affect persons of any gender, age, race, ethnic group, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or disability.

The statistics are proof of this problem: According to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), in 2002 there were 247,730 victims of rape (This number does not include victims 12 or younger), seven out of every eight rape victims were female, and one in every eight rape victims was male. A 1998 study indicates that about 2.78 million American men have experienced an attempted or completed rape and one out of every six American women have experienced an attempted or completed rape.

## RAPE AVOIDANCE

The only way rape can be prevented is when a potential rapist chooses NOT to rape. However, you may avoid an attack by keeping the following safety guidelines in mind:

Be aware of situations that make you feel uncomfortable. Trust your instincts. If it feels wrong, LEAVE.

Don't let your manners get in the way of keeping yourself safe. Don't be afraid to say "NO" or "STOP IT NOW."

Walk and stand with confidence. Many rapists choose victims who look like they won't fight back or are emotionally weak.

Avoid talking about sex, and casual nudity. These things may be considered a come on, or make another inmate believe that you have an interest in a sexual relationship.

Do not accept commissary items or other gifts from other inmates. Placing yourself in debt to another inmate can lead to the expectation of repaying the debt with sexual favors.

Avoid secluded areas. Position yourself in plain view of staff members. If you are being pressured for sex, report it to a supervisor immediately.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

### If the attack has just happened...

Get to a safe place. **REPORT THE ATTACK TO A STAFF MEMBER IMMEDIATELY.** The longer you wait to report the attack the more difficult it is to obtain the evidence necessary for a criminal and/or administrative investigation.

Request immediate medical attention. You may have serious injuries that you are not aware of, and any sexual contact can expose you to sexually transmitted diseases.

Do not shower, brush your teeth, use the restroom, or change your clothes. You may destroy important evidence.

If you have been attacked or witness an attack, but you are unwilling to report it to institutional staff, then you may call (614) 995-3584 from an inmate telephone to leave a message for central office staff. This line will be checked daily for messages.

### Later on...

Seek the support of a trusted friend, family member or staff member, such as the chaplain or the victim services coordinator. The days ahead can be traumatic and it helps to have people who care about you supporting you.

Seek professional help. Mental Health staff is available for crisis care 365 days a year, to listen and offer support.

It is the policy of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to provide a safe, humane, and appropriately secure environment, free from the threat of sexual misconduct for all inmates by maintaining a program of prevention, detection, response, investigation, and tracking. The Department shall maintain a zero tolerance for sexual misconduct in its institutions and in any facilities with which it contracts for the confinement of inmates. Sexual misconduct among inmates and by staff towards inmates is strictly prohibited. All allegations of sexual misconduct and/or sexual harassment shall be administratively and/or criminally investigated.

## **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT NOT TO BE SEXUALLY ABUSED OR HARASSED.**

Incidents or Suspicions of Sexual Abuse, Sexual Harassment and Retaliation  
Can be reported to **ANY STAFF MEMBER**:

- Verbally to **ANY STAFF MEMBER**
- In Writing to **ANY STAFF MEMBER**
- Operations Support Center (614) 995-3584
- Outside Agency Hot Line (614) 728-3155  
(No cost to call from inmate Phone)

Inmates shall be given the opportunity to remain anonymous upon request to the outside agency.

There will be **NO** retaliation for reporting incidents of sexual abuse or harassment.

Family and friends can report allegations of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and retaliation on your behalf:

- By calling (614) 995-3584
- By emailing [DRC\\_ReportSexualMisconduct@odrc.state.oh.us](mailto:DRC_ReportSexualMisconduct@odrc.state.oh.us)

Within 7 days of your arrival or transfer to an institution you will watch an Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) education video. The video will inform you of ODRC's zero tolerance policy against sexual misconduct. The video is in English with a deaf interpreter. It also is closed caption with a Spanish outline at end of video. If you need additional assistance understanding anything in the PREA inmate education video or institution inmate handbook, see your unit staff.

## **PREVENTION/DETECTION**

All inmates shall be screened and assessed upon admission to the Department and for all subsequent intra-system transfers. All inmates shall be assessed for risk of sexual victimization or abusiveness within 72 hours of intake and upon transfer to another institution. These screenings shall be initiated in the PREA Risk Assessment System by medical personnel during intake medical assessments and shall be completed by unit management within the 72 hour period. No sooner than 15 days, but no later than 30 days from the inmate's arrival at any

institution, the inmate shall be reassessed regarding their risk of victimization or abusiveness based upon any additional, relevant information received since that institution's intake screening of the inmate. Unit management shall complete the assessments. As a result of these screenings, inmates shall be assigned a PREA Classification.

The Unit Management Chief or their designees shall make appropriate housing assignments based upon PREA Classifications. The information shall be used to assist in housing, food, work, education, and programming assignments. If it is learned that an inmate is subject to substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse, staff shall take immediate action to protect the inmate at risk of victimization.

Mental Health Services shall attempt to conduct an evaluation on all known inmate-on-inmate abusers within 60 calendar days of learning of such history and offer treatment when deemed appropriate.

Unless otherwise precluded by Federal, State, or local law, medical and mental health practitioners shall be required to report sexual abuse and to inform inmates of the practitioner's duty to report, and the limitations of confidentiality at the initiation of services.

### **SELF-PROTECTION**

Be aware of situations that make you feel uncomfortable. Trust your instincts. If it feels wrong, LEAVE!

Don't let your emotions get in the way of keeping yourself safe. Don't be afraid to say "NO" or "STOP IT NOW."

Many sexual abusers choose victims who look like they won't fight back or are emotionally weak. WALK AND STAND WITH CONFIDENCE.

Avoid talking about sex, and casual nudity. These things may be considered a come on, or make another inmate believe that you have an interest in a sexual relationship.

Placing yourself in debt to another inmate can lead to the expectation of repaying the debt with sexual favors. Do not accept commissary items or other gifts from other inmates.

Avoid secluded areas. Position yourself in plain view of staff members. If you are being pressured for sex, report it to a staff member IMMEDIATELY.

### **RESPONSE**

Upon report of an allegation of inmate sexual abuse, staff shall:

1. Separate alleged victim and abuser.
2. Take appropriate steps to preserve, protect and collect any evidence.

The institution will make available for the victim, a rape crisis center victim advocate if available, or a qualified institution victim support person.

## **TREATMENT**

### Medical Services Responsibilities

Follow appropriate protocol, assuring appropriate examination, documentation, transport to the local emergency department, testing for sexually transmitted diseases, counseling, prophylactic treatment, follow-up, and referral for mental health evaluation.

### Mental Health Responsibilities

Offenders referred to mental health by medical services following an allegation of sexual abuse shall be seen by an independently licensed mental health professional who shall complete further screenings or assessments consistent with Department policy.

The victim will be offered medical and mental health evaluations and treatment as appropriate. Treatment shall be provided to the victim at no charge.

The victim will be given access to victim advocates for emotional support, if needed, by providing them with mailing addresses and telephone numbers, including toll-free hotline numbers of local, State, or national victim advocacy or rape crisis organizations. This information shall be provided to the unit staff for communication to the inmates. The telephone calls to outside support services are not confidential.

The institution shall protect all inmates and staff who report sexual misconduct or cooperate with sexual misconduct investigations from retaliation by other inmates or staff.

Emotional support services shall be offered to inmates or staff who fear retaliation for reporting sexual misconduct or for cooperating with investigations.

## **INVESTIGATIONS**

All reports of sexual misconduct and retaliation shall be investigated and the findings documented in writing.

No institution shall require an inmate who alleges sexual abuse to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth-telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an allegation.

The institution investigator shall monitor all cases of retaliation.

A final decision on all allegations of sexual abuse shall be issued by the institution investigator within 90 calendar days of the initial filing.

If 90 calendar days is not sufficient to make an appropriate decision, the institution investigator may extend the decision up to 70 calendar days. The inmate shall be notified in writing of such extension and provide a date by which a decision will be made.

Following an investigation into an inmate's allegation that he or she suffered sexual abuse in an institution, the institution investigator shall inform the inmate as to whether the allegation has been determined to be substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unfounded.