## Consent

#### Who?

Consent may only be given by someone who is capable of doing so. Someone who is asleep, unconscious, intoxicated, or incapacitated for any other reason cannot give consent. A person is mentally or physically incapacitated when that person lacks the ability to make or act on considered decisions to engage in sexual activity. Engaging in sexual activity with a person whom you know -- or reasonably should know -- to be incapacitated constitutes sexual misconduct.

#### What?

Check in with your partner about their desires and communicate your own desires, too. Consent means positive, unambiguous, and voluntary agreement to engage in specific sexual activity throughout a sexual encounter. Consent cannot be inferred from the absence of a "no"; a clear "yes," verbal or otherwise, is necessary. Consent cannot be obtained by threat, coercion, or force.

## Why?

Talking with sexual partners about desires and limits may seem awkward, but it can serve as the basis for positive sexual experiences shaped by mutual willingness and respect. Communicating can put you in sync with your partner to help create an experience you both want.

#### When?

Consent to some sexual acts does not constitute consent to others, nor does past consent to a given act constitute present or future consent. Consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual encounter and can be revoked at any time.

## How?

Although consent does not need to be verbal, verbal communication is the most reliable form of asking for and gauging consent, and you are thus urged to seek consent in verbal form. Non-verbal signs (e.g., body language and facial expressions) are also important so pay attention to whether your partner is enthusiastic or reluctant. Consent can only be accurately gauged through direct communication about the decision to engage in sexual activity. Presumptions based upon contextual factors (such as clothing, alcohol consumption, or dancing) are unwarranted, and should not be considered as evidence for consent.

#### Read Yale's definition of Consent:

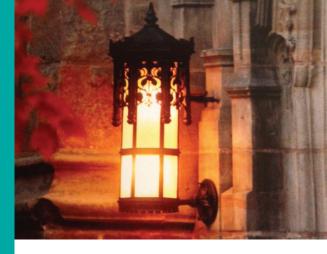
smr.yale.edu/definitions-sexual-misconduct-consent-and-harassment

## For more information, visit:

The SHARE Center www.sharecenter.yale.edu/

University-Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct www.provost.yale.edu/uwc

Title IX provost.yale.edu/title-ix



# **RESOURCES**

Campus	
SHARE Center203.432.2000 (24	4/7) (Confidential)
(Sexual Harassment & Assault Response &	
at Yale Health, Lower Level. <i>Drop-in weekd</i>	
Security Escort	
Mini Bus	
University-Wide Committee on	200.402.0000
Sexual Misconduct (UWC)	203 432 4440
Title IXprovos	200.402.4449
Walden Peer Counseling (undergrads)	
Communication & Consent Educators	203.432. IALN
	000 400 0047
(CCEs; undergrads)	203.432.0647
Vala Mantal Health 9 Counceling Conta	. w
Yale Mental Health & Counseling Center 8:30am-5pm, Mon-Fri	
After hours & weekends	
Alter hours & weekends	203.432.0123
Yale Health Medical Services	
	202 422 0222
OB/GynStudent Health	
Acute Care	203.432.0123
Other December	
Other Resources	000 400 0750
Yale Chaplain's Office	
Yale LGBTQ Resource Office	203.432.0309
Dublic Cofety	
Public Safety	000 400 4400
Yale Police Department	
New Haven Police Department203.	946.6316 or 911
In the Organismit	
In the Community	
CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services	
24-hour Toll-Free	4 000 000 5545
(English)	
(Spanish)	
Women and Families Center	203.389.5010

Planned Parenthood.......203.503.0450 Yale-New Haven Hospital ......203.688.2222