

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 Center.....	203.432.2000 (24/7) (Confidential) (Sexual Harassment & Assault Response & Education) at Yale Health, Lower Level. <i>Drop-in weekdays 9am-5pm.</i>
Security Escort	203.432.WALK
Mini Bus	203.432.6330
University-Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct (UWC)	203.432.4449
Title IX	provost.yale.edu/title-ix
Walden Peer Counseling (undergrads)	203.432.TALK
Communication & Consent Educators (CCEs; undergrads)	203.432.0847

Yale Mental Health & Counseling Center

8:30am-5pm, Mon-Fri	203.432.0290
After hours & weekends.....	203.432.0123

Yale Health Medical Services

OB/Gyn	203.432.0222
Student Health	203.432.0312
Acute Care	203.432.0123

Other Resources

Yale Chaplain's Office.....	203.432.8752
Yale LGBTQ Resource Office.....	203.432.0309

Public Safety

Yale Police Department.....	203.432.4400
New Haven Police Department	203.946.6316 or 911

In the Community

CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services 24-hour Toll-Free	
(English).....	1.888.999.5545
(Spanish)	1.888.568.8332
Women and Families Center	203.389.5010
Planned Parenthood.....	203.503.0450
Yale-New Haven Hospital.....	203.688.2222