

Sexual Assault

Yale's Definition of Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is any kind of nonconsensual sexual contact, including rape, groping, and any other nonconsensual sexual touching.

Definition of Sexual Consent

Sexual activity requires consent, which is defined as 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 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.

Consent cannot be obtained from someone who is asleep or otherwise mentally or physically incapacitated, whether due to alcohol, drugs, or some other condition. 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.

Guidance Regarding Sexual Consent

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.

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. 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.

What happens when I call SHARE?

SHARE counselors are available 24/7 at 203.432.2000 to provide confidential information, advocacy, and support for your immediate care needs and advise you on your options over the longer term. Yale community members can drop in (Lower Level Yale Health) 9am-5pm weekdays or call to schedule a time to meet.

What complaint procedures are available at Yale for students?

The University can address allegations of sexual misconduct through a hearing or non-hearing process. Many forms of sexual misconduct are also prohibited by Connecticut and federal law including Title IX of the education amendments of 1972 and could result in criminal prosecution or civil liability. Complaints can be filed through the University Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct (UWC) or with a Title IX Coordinator and SHARE can help to facilitate this process. More information is available at: sharecenter.yale.edu. Students may also contact the Yale Police at 203.432.4400 or the New Haven Police at 911.

What should I do immediately following a sexual assault?

- 1. Safety and Support:** Find a safe place – a friend's place, call SHARE (203.432.2000), residential Dean, FroCo, Peer Liaison, Yale Police Acute Care (203.432.0123).
- 2. Forensic and Medical Decisions:** SHARE can help you decide whether you would like any medical attention or to complete evidence collection at the Yale New Haven Hospital Emergency Department. Medical attention can be received even if you are not interested in evidence collection. Medical attention is available at Yale Acute Care 24/7; prophylactic treatment for STIs & HIV, & emergency contraception are also available.



RESOURCES

Campus

SHARE Center.....	203.432.2000 (24/7) (Confidential) 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 and Consent Educators (CCEs; undergrads)	203.432.0847
Yale Chaplain's Office.....	203.432.8752
Yale LGBTQ Resource Center	203.432.0309

Yale Mental Health & Counseling Center

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

Yale Medical Health Services

OB/Gyn	203.432.0222
Student Health	203.432.0312
Acute Care	203.432.0123

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 Hotline (English).....	1.888.999.5545
(Spanish).	1.888.568.8332
Women and Families Center	203.389.5010
Hope Family Justice Center	203.800.7204
Planned Parenthood.....	203.503.0450
Yale-New Haven Hospital.	203.688.2222

For more information, visit:

The SHARE Center

www.sharecenter.yale.edu

University-Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct

www.provost.yale.edu/uwc

Sexual Misconduct at Yale

www.smr.yale.edu

Title IX: provost.yale.edu/title-ix