

If a friend is assaulted:

- Listen
- Believe
- Don't blame
- Support your friend's choices:
  - o Professional support from Counseling Center and/or Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center.
  - o University and/or criminal reporting options

ON-CAMPUS OPTIONS

**Your Resident Advisor or Resident Director**  
for support and direction

**Counseling Center** 4210  
for crisis or ongoing counseling

**Public Safety** 4441  
for immediate safety concerns and assisting with off-campus law-enforcement involvement

**Dean of Students** 6475  
for making a Pepperdine report

OFF-CAMPUS OPTIONS

**Los Angeles County Sheriff** 911

**Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center** 310-319-4000  
for emergency services 24/7

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

Counseling Center

24255 Pacific Coast Highway

Malibu, CA 90265

(310) 506-4210

<http://services.pepperdine.edu/counselingcenter/>

Because One is Too Many...

**SEXUAL ASSAULT**

Understanding Issues

Reducing Risks

Becoming Part of the Pepperdine Solution



**COUNSELING CENTER**

**IMMUNITY FOR VICTIMS**

To encourage the reporting of sexual assault, victims who come forward to make a report are offered immunity from policy violations (e.g. underage drinking) related to the incident.

## UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES

Sexual assault is nonconsensual sexual contact, most commonly perpetrated by someone known to the victim. It doesn't always include force. Those who are under 18 or are incapacitated due to drugs or alcohol are not able to give consent.

Unfortunately, sexual assault occurs at alarming rates. Approximately 1 in 6 university women and 1 in 30 university men report being victimized. Sadly, Pepperdine is not exempt from this all-too-common problem.

Pepperdine takes sexual assault seriously – it's illegal, and it's against Pepperdine's policies and values. The effects on victims can be devastating and the potential consequences for perpetrators are also serious.

## REDUCE YOUR RISK

Nothing can absolutely guarantee your safety. However, there are steps you can take to significantly reduce your risk.

- Avoid intoxication or the use of recreational drugs. Being incapacitated, or being around those who are makes you more vulnerable to exploitation.
- Communicate clearly and assertively regarding your wishes and limits about physical contact. You always have the right to change your mind; communicate that clearly too.
- If you go to parties, go and leave with friends and watch your drink.
- Keep your residence hall door locked at night and anytime you leave.
- Do not invite people you don't know well into your room alone. Let an RA, RD, or Public Safety know if you need help getting an unwanted guest to leave your room.
- Avoid walking alone at night. Consider calling Public Safety for an escort. If you do walk alone, walk assertively in well-lit areas, and be aware of your surroundings.
- If you find yourself being victimized, do what you can to stop the perpetrator---Yell "Fire", threaten to report, whatever you believe might work.

But remember, whether or not you are successful, you are not responsible for another's crime.

## BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Sexual assault is not just a "women's issue." Men can be victims, and most men have significant women in their lives, such as friends, girlfriends, sisters, and mothers who have been victims of sexual assault. For positive changes to occur, **we must all** be part of the solution. Here's how:

- In dating and intimate relationships, make sure you understand what your partner wants. Do not assume that desire for affection equals a desire for sex.
- Listen well. Assume "No" means "No." If you aren't sure what your partner is communicating, or believe you are receiving mixed messages, say so. If you remain confused, assume the answer is "No."
- Avoid intoxication or the use of recreational drugs. Being under the influence is no excuse for sexual assault.
- Don't initiate or tolerate actions, comments, or jokes that condone rape or other sexual violence.
- Speak up if situations don't seem right. Help your friends understand that sexual assault is not ok.