

Some people question if what happened to them can really be called rape, especially if they knew the perpetrator.

EVEN IF...

You had sex before...

You knew the person...

You trusted the person...

You didn't fight back...

It happened a long time ago...

You never told anyone...

SEX WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT IS RAPE.

It is illegal and it is wrong.

Sexual assault is a general term that includes rape, sexual contact and other unwanted sexual behavior.

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WE TALK ABOUT
SEXUAL ASSAULT

YOU CAN TELL US ABOUT IT



Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.
96 Pitkin Street
East Hartford, CT 06108
860-282-9881
www.connsacs.org

IF YOU HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED:

- Talk to a friend or someone you feel comfortable confiding in.
- Call the free and confidential sexual assault hotline:
888-999-5545 (English) 888-568-8332 (Español)
- The hotline is available anytime, day or night, you want to talk and you don't have to give your name.
- Consider getting medical assistance.
- Remember that you can't control another person's behavior.
- It's not your fault.
- You are not alone.

HOW TO HELP A FRIEND/FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED:

- Believe your friend/family member.
- Tell your friend/family member that she/he is not to blame for the assault.
- Urge your friend/family member to get medical assistance.
- Remember, your supportive response will help the victim deal with the trauma of the abuse.
- Ask before touching your friend/family member.
- Don't pressure your friend/family member to give details; allow her/him to talk at her/his own pace.
- Call the sexual assault hotline if you have any questions or need support for yourself.

IN CONNECTICUT, IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT YOU ARE GIVEN THE RIGHT TO:

- Have your conversations with a sexual assault counselor remain confidential and not be used in court unless you give permission for them to be used.
- Not have your name, address or phone number disclosed in the courtroom during any proceeding in the prosecution of the case.
- Have your name and address remain confidential from people not involved in the case (the offender will have access to this information through his/her attorney) and released only by an order of the court.
- Apply for victim compensation for any injury you have suffered as a result of the crime.

IN ADDITION, THE STATE CONSTITUTION GIVES CRIME VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES THE RIGHT TO:

- Be treated with fairness and respect through the criminal justice process.
- Have the case heard and resolved in a fair and reasonable amount of time.
- Be reasonably protected from the offender throughout the criminal justice process.
- Receive notification of court proceedings.
- Attend the trial and all other court proceedings.
- Communicate with the prosecution.
- Have the opportunity to support or disagree with any agreement between the prosecutor and the offender, about the charges and sentence, and to make a statement to the court before it accepts the agreement.
- Make a statement to the court at sentencing.
- Restitution.
- Be given information about the arrest, conviction, sentence, imprisonment and release of the offender.

WHERE CAN A VICTIM GET HELP?

Call the 24-hour, toll-free, confidential hotline

1-888-999-5545 (English)
1-888-568-8332 (Español)

You will be connected to the sexual assault crisis center closest to you.

Sexual Assault Crisis Centers Provide:

- Certified sexual assault crisis counselors
 - Bilingual staff (Spanish/English)
 - Medical accompaniment
 - Legal advocacy
 - Support groups
 - Information and referral

These services are free and available to you regardless of race, sexual orientation, religion or immigration status.