

# Standards of Conduct

## Sexual Misconduct

### A. Definitions

Sexual misconduct is an umbrella term that Wesleyan uses to describe behaviors ranging from intimidation and coercion to sexual harassment and sexual assault. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual conduct within the context of employment or education. It encompasses a wide range of behaviors that have a negative effect on employees or students. Coercion is any action (including a verbal or physical threat) used by one person to compel another to participate in unwanted activity. Sexual assault is any unwanted, coerced, manipulated, or forced sexual contact or intercourse. Sexual assault is the legal term used by the state of Connecticut to describe all forms of forced sexual contact, including the act of rape. However, because the term “rape” is widely used in society and on college campuses, we include the following terms:

- Rape is an act of forced intercourse involving penetration. It can include vaginal, oral, or anal intercourse.
- Date rape is forced intercourse in a dating or social relationship.
- Acquaintance rape is forced intercourse by a known party, such as a friend, teacher, classmate, or coworker.
- Stranger rape is forced intercourse by an unknown assailant.
- Gang rape is forced intercourse by two or more individuals (known or unknown to the victim).

### B. Prevention

Experience has shown that incidents of sexual assault can occur on or near the Wesleyan campus. The University publishes a campus safety handbook that is made available to all community members. Students are encouraged to read this pamphlet. It is available at Public Safety.

Sexual assault is a topic that must be taken seriously by the entire Wesleyan community. Reducing the risk of sexual assault is not only an institutional responsibility but also an individual one. Increased awareness on the part of each member of the Wesleyan community will result in a safer campus for all.

Studies show that the majority (60–80 percent) of all women who have been sexually assaulted were acquainted with the men who assaulted them. Statistically, acquaintance sexual assault on campuses is most often perpetrated against first-year students. Acquaintance sexual assault, like stranger sexual assault, may include various degrees of force, ranging from emotional coercion to physical restraint, threat of violence, or the use of a weapon.

Anyone who feels uncomfortable with, or threatened by, a friend's or date's behavior should trust that instinctive reaction and take the following steps:

- Be clear and assertive about what behavior is acceptable.
- Say “no” firmly and repeatedly.
- Tell the offender to stop or leave.
- Keep the door open or invite another person in.
- Shout, scream, or use a whistle (available free from Public Safety).
- Use self-defense techniques if appropriate. Some situations provide an opportunity to fight back physically, others may not.

- Try to get out of the situation in any way possible.

In addition, Public Safety encourages students to take the following precautions on and around campus:

- Use the Safety Shuttle and Escort Service after dark.
- Walk with friends. There really is safety in numbers.
- Use all of the security hardware that is provided in the dorm or house.
- Be aware of where the police and emergency fireboxes are located on and around campus and use them in an emergency.
- Keep your corridor doors locked at all times.
- Walk only in well-lit pathways and stay alert to any sign of suspicious circumstances.
- Report all incidents or harassment, assault, or other crimes to Public Safety.
- Report the sound of a whistle being blown to Public Safety immediately.
- Report suspicious people or incidents to Public Safety by calling 685-3333 or campus ext. 3333.

### **C. Educational Programs**

Educational programs to promote awareness about sexual misconduct issues are coordinated by the Office of Health Education, the Dean's Office, the Office of Affirmative Action, and the Office of Residential Life. These programs include presentations to new students at Orientation; workshops in the residence halls facilitated by peer educators; and campus wide activities such as lighting and safety tours, speakers, films and projects such as the Sexual Abuse Survivors' Quilt. Anyone interested in working on educational programs is invited to join the Wesleyan Coalition Against Sexual Abuse (CASA), a group of concerned students, staff and faculty. Information may be obtained from the Health Education Office at ext. 2460.

### **D. Resources Available on Campus**

1. Confidential Medical Services:
 

Office of Behavioral Health for Students	685-3144
Dr. Philippa Coughlan, Director	
Davison Health Center	685-2470
Joyce Walter, Director	
2. Additional Resource Offices on Campus:
 

Office of Public Safety	685-2345
Maryann Wiggin, Director	
David Meyer, Associate Director	
Office of the Dean of the College	685-2772
Freddie Hill, Dean of the College	

Office of Student Services Michael Whaley, Dean of Student Services Richard Culliton, Associate Dean	685-2775
Office of Human Resources David Landsberg, Director Christina Peterman, Associate Director	685-2100
Office of Affirmative Action Katherine Friedman, Director	685-2456
WesWELL Health Education Office Lisa Farshtey Director	685-2460

### 3. Resources and Allies:

The following people have been trained to assist students to identify appropriate resources and services on and off campus. They have an open-door policy to talk and to help students understand various service/resource options.

Rev. Gary Comstock, Protestant Chaplain University Chaplains Office	685-2275
Dianna Dozier, Assistant Director	685-2456
Office of Affirmative Action Foreign Student Advisor	685-2829
International Studies Jeff Ederer, Director	685-3550
Office of Residential Life Lori Hunter-Union, Associate Dean	685-2900
Continuing Studies/Graduate Liberal Studies Marina Melendez, Director	685-2390
Graduate Student Services Kate Mullen, Assistant Athletic Director Physical Education	685-2888

### 4. Off-Campus Resources:

Sexual Assault Crisis Service of Central Connecticut Middlesex Hospital	1-888-999-5545 347-9471
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For information about Wesleyan Judicial Resources and Processes, refer to The Code of Non-Academic Conduct (see page 96).

### E. Emergency Numbers in Case of Sexual Assault—Day or Night

Wesleyan Office of Public Safety Davison Health Center	685-3333 or x3333 685-2470
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Sexual Assault Crisis Service of Central CT  
Middlesex Hospital  
Middletown Police Department

1-888-999-5545  
347-9471  
9-911