

Sexual Assault & Partner Abuse

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

If you have been sexually assaulted:

- Talk to a friend or someone you feel comfortable confiding in
- Call the SACS free and confidential sexual assault hotline, 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 the victim

- Don't pressure your friend/family member to give details; allow the victim to talk at her/his own pace
- Call the sexual assault hotline if you have questions or need support for yourself

In Connecticut, if you are a victim of sexual assault you are given certain rights. 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 telephone 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 her/his 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 (you must report the crime to police within 5 days to be eligible for compensation)

In addition, the State Constitution gives crime victims and their families the right to:

- Be treated with fairness and respect throughout 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 the 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

(Taken from the Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services brochure, "Through Any Door")

Wesleyan University Sexual Misconduct Policy

All members of the Wesleyan community should be treated with respect and be free from all forms of harassment and abuse. Sexual misconduct is a violation of University policy and encompasses harassment, coercion, intimidation and/or sexual assault. Sexual misconduct includes any sexual activity for which consent is not given.

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. This includes acts of date rape, acquaintance rape, stranger rape or gang rape.

Cases of sexual misconduct reported to the University will be referred to the Student Judicial Board for adjudication. For information about this policy and Wesleyan Judicial Resources and Processes, refer to The Code of Non-Academic Conduct, found online at www.wesleyan.edu/studenthandbook/

(Taken from the Wesleyan University Student Handbook)

Support Resources for Victims & Survivors of Sexual Assault

If you have experienced a sexual assault and are in need of medical attention, emotional support or information on judicial options, these resources may be of assistance.

For On Campus numbers, dial 860-685-xxxx.

On Campus Emergency Numbers

- Office of Public Safety
 - Emergency x3333
 - Non-Emergency x2345
- Davison Health Center
 - x2470 (24 hour physician on call)
- Office of Behavioral Health for Students
 - x2910 (24 hour therapist on call)

Off Campus Emergency Numbers

- Middlesex Hospital 347-9471
- Middletown Police 911
- Sexual Assault Crisis Service (SACS)
 - 24 hour confidential toll free hotlines:
 - English 888-999-5545
 - Spanish 888-568-8332

On Campus Support Resources

Confidential Medical Services

- Office of Behavioral Health for Students, x2910
 - Dr. Philippa Coughlan, Director
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/obhs
- Davison Health Center, x2470
 - Dr. Davis Smith, Medical Director
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/healthservices

(Continued on reverse)

Additional Resource Offices

- Office of the Dean of the College
 - Michael Whaley, Interim Dean of the College, x3160

Class Deans:

- 2008: Vancenja Rutherford, x2765
- 2009: Louise Brown, x2758
- 2010: Marina Melendez, x2765
- 2011: Noel Garrett, x2758

Alice Hadler, Associate Dean for International Student Affairs, x2832
Sarah Lazare, Associate Dean for Student Academic Resources, x2332
Danny Teraguchi, Dean for Diversity & Academic Advancement, x2272
Web: www.wesleyan.edu/deans

- Office of Student Services & Campus Programs, x2775

Michael Whaley, Dean of Student Services, x3160
Scott Backer, Asst. Dean of Student Services, x3162
Rick Culliton, Dean of Campus Programs, x2627
Web: www.wesleyan.edu/student-services

- Office of Public Safety, x2345
 - David Meyer, Director
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/publicsafety

- Davison Health Center, x2470
 - Joyce Walter, Director, x2656
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/healthservices

- WesWELL, Office of Health Education
 - Lisa Currie, Director, x2466
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/weswell

- Office of Residence Life, x3550
 - Fran Koerting, Director
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/reslife

- Office of Affirmative Action
 - Dianna Dozier, Associate Director, x2456
 - Web: www.wesleyan.edu/affirm

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Resources for Wesleyan Students



Compiled by
WesWELL, the Office of Health Education
www.wesleyan.edu/weswell

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