

# WHAT IS SEXUAL CONSENT?

## POSITIVE

Showing in words and actions that you **freely** agree to participate in a sexual activity.

Needs an **enthusiastic** YES, it must be **loud** and **clear**.

## ONGOING

**Continuing** to give permission throughout the sexual encounter. You can withdraw your consent at any time.

Consent is asking **every time** - an ongoing process of **giving** and **getting** permission.


## INFORMED


Consent must be given by someone who is **willing** and coherent.



Consent must be **informed**. It is knowing the risks and benefits and choosing to proceed.



Consent is **wanting** to do something, not feeling like you have to or should do it.


## WHAT CONSENT ISN'T



 Consent is NEVER implied. The absence of a **NO** is not a **YES**.


 Saying yes on one occasion doesn't mean someone will say yes every time.

 People who are significantly impaired by alcohol or drugs, people who are asleep, unconscious, or otherwise unable to communicate, cannot consent. 

 Saying yes to one act doesn't mean someone has said yes to others. If the conditions of the act change, consent is no longer valid. 


 Consent may be compromised by an existing power imbalance within a relationship.

 Silence is NOT consent. 

 Consent cannot be obtained through coercion, psychological or emotional manipulation, physical violence, or threat.

## PUTTING IT IN PERSPECTIVE

**1 in 4** North American women will experience **SEXUAL ASSAULT** during their lifetime<sup>1</sup>

 **80%** of those cases will be perpetrated by someone they know

**1 in 2** **TRANSGENDER PEOPLE** are sexually abused or assaulted<sup>2</sup>

Almost all Canadians agree that sexual activity between partners should be consensual but

**67%** **DON'T UNDERSTAND** what consent means<sup>3</sup>

In 2019, **16.6%** of **QUEEN'S STUDENTS** reported experiencing sexual touching without their consent<sup>4</sup>

# STEPS FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE AFTER A RECENT SEXUAL ASSAULT

Queen's is committed to providing non-judgmental sexual violence support and response.

## 1

### GO TO A SAFE PLACE

For safety assessment and planning, call:  
**Queen's 24hr Emergency Response Centre**  
**613-533-6111**  
or  
**911**

**24/7 CRISIS AND SUPPORT LINE**  
Sexual Assault Centre  
Kingston  
**613-544-6424**

## 2

### SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION

For confidential services, call the **Sexual Assault/ Domestic Violence Program, Kingston Health Sciences Centre (KHSC) Emergency Dept. – KGH Site**

**613-549-6666** ext 4880 24/7

Ask for the SA/DV nurse

Services include:

- Emergency medical care
- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, HIV, and pregnancy
- Forensic evidence collection (including the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit).

Call or go to **Health Services**  
Mitchell Hall, 1st floor  
69 Union Street  
**613-533-2506**

**TO HAVE SOMEONE ACCOMPANY YOU TO THE HOSPITAL**  
**SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRE KINGSTON**  
**613-544-6424** (Crisis Line 24/7)

**SEXUAL HEALTH RESOURCE CENTRE**  
JDUC Room 223  
shrckingston.org  
**613-533-2959**

#### FOR EVIDENCE COLLECTION, TRY NOT TO:

- shower, bathe, or use the washroom prior to a medical exam
- change, wash, or destroy clothing
- clean up the scene

## 3

### GET SUPPORT

#### To seek support contact

- **Barb Lotan**, the Queen's University Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Coordinator for information and to review your options (referrals, accommodations, and filing a complaint)  
**613-533-6330** or [bjl7@queensu.ca](mailto:bjl7@queensu.ca)

#### • Counselling Services

Mitchell Hall, 1st Floor  
69 Union Street  
**533-6000** ext. **78264**

Ask for an appointment with a counsellor; indicate it is a crisis related to sexual assault

For peer support visit: **AMS Peer Support Centre**  
JDUC Room 26 and 34 **613-533-6000** ext. **75111**

Information about additional resources can be found at [queensu.ca/sexualviolencesupport](http://queensu.ca/sexualviolencesupport)

Choosing to disclose what happened to seek support does not initiate a complaint process. You are never required to file a complaint of sexual violence with the University or with the police. If you choose to submit a complaint, you may determine your level of participation in the formal process.

If you disclose to a University employee, other than a healthcare provider, they are required to notify the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Coordinator.

#### ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING OPTIONS

Counsellors are also available in residences, athletics, and some faculties and schools (Graduate Studies, Engineering, Commerce, Education, Medicine, Arts & Science).

To find more information about counselling services on campus visit:  
[queensu.ca/studentwellness/counselling-services](http://queensu.ca/studentwellness/counselling-services)

## 4

### EXPLORE OPTIONS

To find out more about filing an internal complaint, contact:

#### Barb Lotan

Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Coordinator  
[bjl7@queensu.ca](mailto:bjl7@queensu.ca)  
Weekdays, daytime hours  
**613-533-6330**

To report directly to Kingston Police Services, contact:  
**613-549-4660**

**Campus Security and Emergency Services:**  
can help with reports to Kingston Police  
**613-533-6733**