SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY AT THE NEW SCHOOL

VISIT THE SEXUAL ASSAULT WEB SITE: WWW.NEWSCHOOL.EDU/STUDENTSERVICES/HEALTH/SEXUAL-ASSAULT-PREVENTION

What is Sexual Assault?

The New School Sexual Assault Policy defines sexual assault as **nonconsensual** sexual intercourse or sexual touch, or sexual exploitation. If you are forced, coerced, or intimidated to submit to any kind of sex act, including unwanted touching of your or another person's intimate body parts, it is sexual assault. If you are asleep, unconscious, or incapacitated by drugs or alcohol, you are considered unable to consent to sexual activity. If someone commits any sex act upon you when you are unable to consent, it is also sexual assault. These behaviors are a serious violation of The New School Sexual Assault Policy and are against the law in New York State. To check out the full New School Sexual Assault Policy: http://www.newschool.edu/sexualassault

Consent is Hot, Assault is Not: Know the Difference

All sexual activity should be consensual. This means that you and your sexual partner have freely and explicitly given permission to each other to be touched in ways you are comfortable with. It is your right to pick and choose what types of sexual activity you want to participate in. Say yes to what you want, and no to what you don't want. You do not need to explain why; it is just your right! And remember: ask questions like "May I kiss you?" or "Is it ok if I…"

Reporting

If you have been sexually assaulted you are encouraged to report it in person or by phone to any of the following university offices:

- Student Support and Crisis Management
  79 Fifth Avenue, 5th Floor
  212.229.5900 x3189 or x3710
- Student Rights and Responsibilities
  79 Fifth Avenue, 5th Floor
  212.229.5349
- Campus Security
  55 West 13th Street, Mezzanine Level
  212.229.7001 (24 hours)

Once a report is filed the university official receiving the report or another appropriate official will provide the following information to you:

- Clear explanation of the university investigative and hearing procedures
- Where to access medical care
- Information about legal options
- Where to access support services on and off campus

Legal Options

In addition to the university's student disciplinary process and those disciplinary procedures applicable to faculty and staff, you have the right to pursue criminal prosecution and/or civil litigation. You can go to the precinct corresponding to the area where the crime occurred or call the New York Police Department Special Victims Report Line at 646.610.7273. The hotline provides the option of getting some information without having to disclose your name. With that information you can then decide whether to go forward with the reporting process. You should never be pressured to file a report. It is your decision to report unless:

- There is suspicion or evidence of child abuse when a report to Administration for Children's Services at 800.635.1522 is mandated;
- There is an injury by a deadly weapon, when medical staff only is mandated to report the crime to the police.

Reporting a sexual assault to the police does not obligate you to file criminal charges or pursue other legal action. In the case of sexual assault, however, prompt reporting and a comprehensive medical examination completed at a hospital emergency department within 96 hours of the assault will aid the legal process.

The Office of Student Support and Crisis Management working with Campus Security are available to provide support and advocacy with local police. The university is committed to providing full and prompt cooperation and assistance in notifying the proper law enforcement personnel if you so choose.

The Importance of Medical Care

You have the option of going to a hospital emergency room for medical care. This is especially important if it is within 96 hours of the assault. To preserve the evidence, it is best not to shower, wash, douche, eat or drink, if possible. Carry evidence in a clean paper bag. If it is post 96 hours of the assault, it is still recommended that you receive medical care, but you will not have available all the options discussed below. You have the right to refuse all or any parts of the treatment/evidence collection. The medical care following a sexual assault includes:

- a physical exam to check any internal or external injuries
- evidence collection (if presenting within 96 hours of the assault)
- preventive treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections
- preventive treatment for HIV (if presenting within 36 hours)
- emergency contraception (if presenting within 72 hours)
- medical follow-up referrals and information

Please note: Going to a hospital emergency room does not mean you have to report the crime to the police. You can go to the emergency room and get medical attention/evidence collection and then take some time to think about whether you want to report the crime to the police. The hospital emergency room is required to store the evidence for 30 days. If you do not want medical care from a hospital ER, it is still encouraged you seek medical attention. You can see your private medical provider or our Medical Services, where you may feel more comfortable. Just note that you will not have available all the options stated above, especially evidence collection.

The Importance of Medical Care, *continued*

It is recommended that you go for medical care at one of the hospitals listed below. These hospitals have Rape Crisis Programs and have trained Advocates available 24 hours. The Advocates will provide emotional support and information and help with the police reporting process.

- Beth Israel Hospital Emergency Department
  16th Street at 1st Avenue – phone: 212.420.4054
- Roosevelt Hospital Emergency Department
  1000 Tenth Avenue (at 59th Street) – phone: 212.523.4728

To learn more about the evidence collection procedure, please visit:
http://www.health.state.ny.us/professionals/protocols_and_guidelines/sexual_assault/docs/protocol_appendix_q.pdf

Psychological Concerns

As a survivor of sexual assault you may experience a wide range of emotional reactions, and the decision to report the assault and seek help is a very personal and complex one. It is encouraged that you seek support as soon as you are ready. As reactions can vary and may include shock, denial, anxiety, guilt, anger, and self-blame, as well as nightmares, changes in sleeping and eating patterns, flashbacks, and depression, you may want to seek professional assistance either on campus at Counseling Services located at 80 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor, or off campus at one of the local Rape Crisis Centers.

Resources for Survivors, Allies and Advocates

The New School Resources

Campus Security – 212.229.7001 (24 hours)
Student Counseling and Medical Services - 212.229.1671
After Hours Nurse Advice Line – 212.229.1671, option 1 (when Counseling and Medical Services are closed)
Student Support and Crisis Management - 212.229.5900 x3189
Student Rights and Responsibilities - 212.229.5900 x3656

Hotlines – 24 Hours

Safe Horizon: Rape and Sexual Assault Hotline - 212.227.3000
RAINN Online Hotline: https://ohl.rainn.org/online/
NYC Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project - 212.714.1141
Suicide Prevention (LifeNet) - 800.543.3638
New York Asian Women's Center – 888.888.7702
Domestic Violence Hotline – 800.621.HOPE (4673)

LGBTQI Resources

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center
208 West 13th Street
212.620.7310

The New York City Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project (AVP)
240 West 35th Street, suite 200
212.714.1184

Sexual Assault Advocacy and Counseling Services

St. Luke's-Roosevelt Crime Victims Treatment Center
411 West 114th Street
212.523.4728
www.cvtc-slr.org/

Beth Israel Medical Center, Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Intervention Program
317 East 17th Street
212.420.4054

New York City – 24 hours

Police and for Emergency - Dial 911 (24 hours)
NYPD Special Victims Liaison Unit Report Line - 646.610.7273 (24 hours)

Domestic Violence

St. Luke's-Roosevelt Crime Victims Treatment Center
411 West 114th Street
212.523.4728

Beth Israel Medical Center, Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Intervention Program
317 East 17th Street
212.420.4054

HIV/AIDS Testing

Lower East Side Harm Reduction Center at The New School Student Health Services
80 5th Avenue, 3rd floor
212.229.1671
Hours: Mondays, 12-2 PM (hours may vary during breaks)

New York City Department of Health
800. TALK.HIV or 212.447.8200 (call for information: multiple testing sites)

Local Pharmacy (accepts coverage under the university sponsored Student Health Insurance plan)

Duane Reade (Open 24 hours)
378 Sixth Avenue (at Waverly Place)
212.674.5357

Other

Women's Rights at Work - 888.979.7765
New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault - 212.523.4344
New York State Crime Victim's Board - 718.923.4325