



Prevention, Awareness & How the Violence against Women Act Protects you

Sexual Assault,
Dating Violence,
Domestic Violence &
Stalking on Campus

Protection and Prevention

Protecting you from sexual and relationship violence – and helping you better understand how to protect yourself and others – is a key campus concern. You should *never* have to contend with sexual assault, dating violence or stalking – and we strictly prohibit these crimes. They have no place in our community.

The federal Violence Against Women Reauthorization act (VAWA) put new obligations in place for colleges and universities under its Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act provision in 2014. These new regulations are designed, in part, to help prevent sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, while also raising awareness and providing support at every turn. Our campus community is committed to creating a safe environment for all students and this brochure offers tools to help make it happen.

The four main categories covered under VAWA include sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking.

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is an offense that meets one of the following definitions:

Rape – (The current FBI definition of rape which came into effect Jan. 1, 2014) “Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim”

Fondling – The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

Incest – Sexual intercourse between people who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape – Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

The majority of sexual assaults which occur on campuses across the United States happen between people who know one another. Alcohol is often a factor, too, impairing the perpetrator or victim’s judgment. You are never responsible for being sexually assaulted though! The only one responsible for a sexual assault is the assaulter.

Dating Violence

If someone you are in a romantic/intimate relationship with pinches, kicks, slaps, hits or shoves you, those are **physical** instances of dating violence.

If that person keeps you away from friends and family, shames you, calls you names, bullies or publicly embarrasses you on purpose, those are **psychological and emotional** examples of abuse.

And if that person forces or coerces you to engage in sexual activity when you're unable to consent – or don't want to consent – that's **sexual** abuse.

All of these actions constitute dating violence. It's violence committed by a person who is or has been in a romantic/intimate relationship with you. It can include the types of abuse mentioned above or the threat of such abuse. You *never* deserve to be treated this way and it's a crime.

Dating violence can take place in person or via technology, such as repeated texting or posting sexual photos of a partner online without consent.

Domestic Violence

The crime of domestic violence can be committed by:

- A current or former spouse or intimate partner
- A person with whom you share a child
- A person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from the person's acts

In most abusive relationships, possessive and controlling behaviors are present. These may include controlling money, put-downs, keeping you away from family and friends, destroying your property, threatening to hurt/kill your pets, controlling who you see/where you go/what you do, preventing you from working or attending school, pressuring you sexually, intimidating you with weapons, threatening to harm your kids or take them away, scaring you with looks and actions, driving dangerously when you are in the car, preventing you from leaving, forcing drug or alcohol use, physically hurting you and/or your children, threatening to harm himself/herself if you leave and more.

These actions are all about having power and control over an intimate partner. Domestic violence can happen to people of all genders, races, abilities, ages, nationalities, sexual orientations, religions, socioeconomic and educational levels. It is always a crime.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline is
1-800-799-7233 or 1-800-787-3224 (TTY)

Stalking

Stalking is when someone engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that causes that person to fear for his/her safety or others. It also causes the stalked person to substantial emotional distress.

According to the Stalking Resource Center over 85 percent of people are stalked by someone they know with behaviors that control, track or frighten them, including.

- Threatening to hurt you, family friends or pets
- Showing up or driving by where you are
- Following you
- Monitoring your phone and computer use
- Using technology to track you
- Damaging your home, car, or other property
- Spreading rumors about you online, in public or by word of mouth
- Digging for information about you
- Sending unwanted gifts, notes, texts, or emails

Being stalked can lead to anxiety, stress, irritability, an inability to sleep or concentrate, and depression. You don't have to feel this overwhelmed, vulnerable and unsafe – let us help.

Sources: VAWA Final Regulations, *Federal Register*, 10/20/14; Stalking Resource Center; CDC's Veto Violence

Central students are expected to conduct themselves with sexual purity and guard against even the appearance of sexual impropriety. Therefore students are expected to abstain from sexual intimacy unless they are legally married to each other (as is currently defined by the State of Missouri and Scripture).

Source: Student Conduct Code CCCB Pg. 25

It is important to know that there are Federal guidelines which designate "Consent"

Crimes of sexual and relationship violence take place without someone's consent.

"Consent is the affirmative, unambiguous and voluntary agreement to engage in a specific sexual activity".

If you are initiating sexual activity there must be clear consent before taking ANY action. Failing to say "no" does not mean he/she is saying "yes." You must obtain clear consent in that moment that is completely voluntary, without coercion, intimidation, force or threats. If you are not certain that consent has been given or if consent is withdrawn you must NOT act!

Consent given for an earlier act doesn't mean that you can automatically proceed with other acts. And your partner certainly has the right to change his/her mind.

Consent also cannot be given if someone is unconscious, asleep or incapacitated (due to drugs or alcohol), a minor, or physically or mentally impaired.

Sources: Wellness Resource Center's "Consent" page, Temple U; VAWA Brochure U. of Miami; U of California's VAWA Training; "Defining and understanding Consent", Whitman College.

What to Expect From US

If you or someone you know experiences sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking, our institution is here to *fully* support you.

Support

We are here to help you through this. You can expect a prompt, fair and impartial investigation of your complaint. That includes helping you receive counseling and medical assistance, while also offering protective measures to help you feel safe on campus.

Support for Respondents

Those accused of sexual assault, dating violence and stalking can also find support through counseling and other services. Please ask if you're unsure where to find the support you need.

Those accommodations may be related to your academic, living, transportation, and workplace situations, if you request them and they are reasonably available. At times we may need to act quickly to protect your safety, so we may not be able to obtain your written consent ahead of time. Please know, though, that we will be in communication with you throughout the process, to keep you in control of the situation and feeling safe as possible.

Reporting

Numerous people here serve as Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) who are trained to listen, take your report and guide you to appropriate resources. You will receive information about support options and the student disciplinary process, plus how to pursue a criminal complaint – if YOU choose to do so.

Under federal Clery Act Law, CSAs must report when and where a crime occurred, but not necessarily who was involved. When it comes to confidentiality, our institution will balance the need to keep the campus community safe with protecting your request for confidentiality to the maximum extent possible.

Campus Disciplinary Proceedings

Resolving cases of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking involves a fair, impartial campus disciplinary process. These proceedings will be held within a reasonably prompt timeframe. As part of this process, both the complainant and the respondent will have equal opportunities to have an advisor of their choice present. Both parties will also be given timely notice of meetings, plus timely, equal access to information that will be used during the meetings and hearings.

Once a disciplinary proceeding is over, the complainant and respondent will be alerted regarding the outcome and the appeal process.

Risk Reduction

To protect yourself and your friends from incidents of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, there are preventative measures you can take to reduce risk...

- Trust your instincts
- Don't worry about offending someone – just get out of there
- Make your limits known as early as possible
- Say "NO" clearly and firmly
- Notice when your boundaries aren't being respected
- Assert your right to have those boundaries respected
- Be "situationally aware" by taking note of your surroundings and who is present
- Don't be afraid to ask for help in situations where you don't feel safe
- Take responsibility for your alcohol/other drug intake, and acknowledge these substances lower your inhibitions, making you vulnerable to someone who views a drunk/high person as a sexual opportunity
- Walk with others
- Lock doors and windows in your car and living space
- Look out for your friends and ask that they look out for you, too
- Respect a friend who challenges you if you're about to make a poor decision

And NEVER blame yourself if an act of sexual violence occurs! The *only* person responsible in that situation is the perpetrator

Sources: U. of California VAWA Training; Cal State; Long Beach, Office of Equity & Diversity

Reducing the Risk of Being an Aggressor

To make sure that you don't perpetrate the crime of sexual or relationship violence...

- Listen to your partner – note verbal and non-verbal cues
- Clearly communicate your intentions
- Respect your partner and his/her personal boundaries
- Watch your alcohol/other drug intake so decision making isn't compromised
- Don't make assumptions about consent, sexual availability, attraction or limits – communicate!
- Don't take advantage of someone who is drunk or drugged – they can't give consent!
- Don't abuse any power advantage (gender, size, etc.) to intimidate or scare your partner

Sources: Cal Poly "Myths and facts about Sexual Violence"; Cal State, Long Beach, Office of Equity & Diversity

VAWA at Central Christian College of the Bible

Here at CCCB, we strictly prohibit the crimes of sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.

Reporting and Support

If you have experienced sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking – or witnessed it – you can report to any of the Student Life officials on campus (RA's, RD's, Dean of Men, Student Services Director, Dean of Women, Executive Director of Student Development). They will help provide support and resources, while also guiding you in how to seek protective measures and file a criminal complaint (that is YOUR choice).

You can also find immediate support at:

Safe Passage	Moberly Police Department
1-800-616-3754 -or-	660-263-0346 -or-
660-269-8111	911

Policies and Procedures

If a sex offense occurs, it will be investigated in a prompt, fair and impartial manner. Our disciplinary policy involves a model where the complainant and respondent are interviewed separately, physical evidence is gathered and witnesses are questioned. This process is designed so those involved don't have to retell their stories multiple times to multiple people. This process is facilitated through the Student Development office.

Prevention and awareness campaigns

To raise awareness and hopefully prevent incidents of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking we provide the following educational opportunities:

- Presentations during orientation
- Material presented in various locations throughout the campus
- Training for all responsible responders on our campus

Bystander Intervention

When an incident of sexual or relationship violence is about to take place, bystanders can intervene simply and safely, often flipping the switch to change the outcome. Some positive ways to intervene include:

- Provide a distraction that interrupts an interaction
- Directly engage one or more of the involved parties
- Get police or other authorities involved
- Tell someone else and get help
- Ask someone in a potentially dangerous situation if he/she is okay and/or wants to leave
- Make sure that he/she gets home safely
- Remind a potential perpetrator that incapacitated people can't give consent
- Help remove someone from the situation
- Provide options and a listening ear

Don't just hope that someone else will step in.

You have the ability to stop a terrible, life-altering situation.
BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

Being a proactive Bystander

There are multiple actions you can take to help prevent sexual and relationship violence proactively too, such as:

- Believe that sexual and relationship violence is unacceptable
- Treat people with respect
- Speak up when you hear victim-blaming statements
- Talk with friends about confronting sexual and relationship violence
- Encourage friends to trust their instincts in order to stay safe
- Be a knowledgeable resource for survivors
- Don't laugh at sexist jokes or comments
- Look out for friends at parties
- Educate yourself and your friends
- Use campus resources
- Attend awareness events
- Empower survivors to tell their stories

Providing a distraction

Sometimes all it takes is a distraction to interrupt a potentially dangerous interaction.

- Call a friend's cell repeatedly
- Spill something on purpose
- Tug on your friend's arm insistently
- Ask where the bathroom is
- Interrupt the conversation
- Turn off the music
- Separate those involved
- Tell your friend we need

