

Definitions & Statistics

Definitions:

Sexual harassment: unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature in which submission to or rejection of such conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an individual's work or school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or school environment.

Sexual abuse: Any unwanted sexual contact, including sexual touching and fondling

Rape/sexual assault: Forced sexual intercourse, including vaginal, anal, or oral penetration. Penetration may be by a body part or an object.

Consent: Consent occurs when both partners freely and willingly participate in sexual activities.

The legal definition of rape includes any sexual contact without consent. Consent cannot be legally given in the state of Illinois if a person is:

- Under 17
- Mentally incapacitated
- Drunk or high
- Coerced
- Forced

Additionally, the absence of "no" does not mean "yes." So, even if a person does not fight back or explicitly say "no," they still are not necessarily giving consent.

Statistics:

Sexual violence is disturbingly common. In fact, it is the most common violent crime on American college campuses today. Victims of sexual assault span every age, race, gender, class, and demographic. Porchlight works with survivors whose assault occurred in college.

- 1 in 4 women will experience rape or attempted rape during college.
- 84% of rape victims know their attacker.
- For every 1 rape reported, it is estimated that 6 are not.
- In 75% of college rapes, alcohol is involved. 55% of victims and 80% of perpetrators were intoxicated. Alcohol is the #1 date-rape drug.
- 1 in 12 college men admitted that they have performed acts that could be defined as rape.

*Information compiled from Porchlight and ICASA resources