

## Resources

There are a number of resources available on campus and in the community to support complainants of relationship and sexual violence. Complainants are encouraged to seek medical attention, counseling services, and report any incidence of sexual violence. Seeking support is crucial.

### Medical Services

Going to a hospital immediately following the incident provides complainants with urgent care as well as an opportunity for valuable evidence collection. The primary concern for complainants is safety and to address medical issues.

- *John Peter Smith Hospital*  
1500 S. Main St.  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
817-702-3431
- *Student Health Clinic (UNTHSC Campus)*  
3400 Camp Bowie Blvd.  
Fort Worth, TX 76107  
817-735-5051
- *Baylor Hospital*  
1400 Eighth Ave.  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
817-926-2544
- *Harris Methodist Hospital*  
1301 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Fort Worth, TX 76104  
817-250-2000

### Counseling/Advocacy Services

- *Student Assistance Program*  
866-640-4777
- *UNTHSC CARE Team*  
817-735-2740  
CARETeam@unthsc.edu

To submit a **CARE Team** referral, use the *student of concern form* at [www.unthsc.edu/studentofconcern](http://www.unthsc.edu/studentofconcern)

### Local Police Departments

If you wish to make a non-university related report, you may contact your local police department. Evidence collection aids a possible police investigation.

- *Dallas Police Department*  
Non-Emergency: 214-671-3001  
1400 S. Lamar St., Dallas, TX 7521
- *Fort Worth Police Department*  
Victim Assistance: 817-392-4390  
350 W. Belknap St., Fort Worth, TX 76102
- *Denton Police Department*  
Non-Emergency: 940-349-8181  
215 E. McKinney St., Denton, TX 76201

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## WHAT TO DO ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE

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### Education

**Title IX for Graduate Students:** The University of North Texas Health Science Center promotes student health and safety through the use of WeComply, a **mandatory** program for all new incoming students. It educates students about the elements of healthy relationships, being a good communicator, understanding and reporting sexual assault, the importance of sexual consent, and the role of bystanders in creating safe, healthy communities.

### Awareness Programming

- Stalking Awareness Month (January)
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April)
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October)

### Training

#### Active Shooter:

- Hide Out/Get Out/Take Out
- How to respond when law enforcement arrives
- Recognizing signs of workplace violence

#### Managing Disruptive Personalities in the Classroom:

- Who is a disruptive individual?
- Things to avoid when dealing with disruptive individuals
- Special tactics to follow when dealing with disruptive individuals
- Active shooter information
- What actions should you take when confronted by a disruptive individual?
- Communication with law enforcement
- Creating a mental description of a disruptive individual
- Communicating with a disruptive individual

#### Campus Safety and Personal Awareness:

- Campus orientations
- Emergency phones
- Less lethal options
- Limitations
- Parking lot safety
- Misconceptions
- Holiday travel
- Bike safety

#### Stalking Awareness:

- What is stalking, examples of stalking, and stalker behaviors
- What to do if you are the victim of stalking
- What information is important for law enforcement to have in a stalking case

Students, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to report all crimes. Reporting can help protect the complainant's safety; ensure the individual receives proper medical care, support services, and information regarding options and rights; and prevent future assaults by the respondent. We are here to help you through this. You can expect a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation of your complaint. We will communicate with you throughout the process, to keep you in control of the situation and feeling as safe as possible.

**The Division of Student Affairs:** Dr. Trisha VanDuser, Title IX Coordinator  
Student Service Center, Room 221/817-735-2508/Trisha.VanDuser@unthsc.edu  
Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm

You may contact the Title IX Coordinator who will begin an investigation upon receipt of a complaint. If the respondent was a student, investigation of possible violations of the Student Code of Conduct and Discipline could result in disciplinary sanctions up to expelling a student from the university. The Title IX Coordinator may also be able to immediately remove another student from the university if the student puts the university community at immediate risk. The Title IX Coordinator may also be able to assist with changes in academic arrangements if reasonable accommodations are available. The Title IX Coordinator will assume responsibility for your ongoing opportunities to take full advantage of your educational program. The Title IX Coordinator can also assist with the following:

- Filing a complaint with the university conduct process and the appropriate law enforcement agencies against the student(s) who caused harm.
- Obtaining a no contact order between the impacted party and the respondent, which would prohibit contact between both parties through any means of communication. It also prohibits others from making contact on their behalf.
- Filing for an Emergence Protective Order with the District Attorney's Office. This is a court-ordered petition that prohibits contact between the complainant and the respondent.
- Coordinate any reasonable arrangements that are necessary for ongoing safety.
- Assist in adjusting academic schedules, providing access to academic support services, and advocating on the complainant's behalf.

**UNTHSC Police Department:** 3600 Mattison Avenue/ 817-735-2600

You may file a police report with campus police for incidents occurring on campus or with local police for sexual assaults occurring off campus. When making a report to police, you may choose to report using a pseudonym so your name will not appear in public files.

## Support for Complainants

If you or someone you know experiences sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, UNTHSC is here to *fully* support you. A complainant of sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking will have a wide range of emotions following an incident. It is important to utilize available resources or refer complainants to receive necessary care and begin to process the events. Below are recommendations for complainants.

- Get to a safe place immediately. Call 911 (off campus) or *UNTHSC Police* at 817-735-2600 (on campus), if you are in immediate danger.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible. Visit the *Student Health Clinic*, or go to a local hospital's emergency department for injuries, or if sexual assault occurs, for pregnancy prevention or STD testing.
- Contact a hotline for safety planning. A safety plan is not a safety guarantee, but it can help. *The National Domestic Violence Hotline* is 1-800-799-7233.
- Seek free, confidential counseling through the *Student Assistance Program*. Call WellConnect at 866-640-4777. Help is available for the person assaulted and for UNTHSC students helping the complainant of sexual assault. Other free local counseling resources are available too.
- Keep all evidence and report them to law enforcement and campus authorities. This includes proof of every incident and emails, social media posts, notes, phone, and text messages.
- Utilize campus resources. *The Division of Student Affairs* may be able to assist with changes in academic arrangements if reasonable accommodations are available.

### Support for Respondents

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

### How You Can Support a Complainant

Say something - lend a listening ear  
 Guide complainants to campus and community resources  
 Never judge complainants  
 Remind complainants their feelings are normal  
 Validate complainants in their feelings  
 Focus on their strengths  
 Find your own support

***You are not alone. We are here to help.***

## Bystander Intervention

Bystanders can intervene before or while an act of sexual or relationship violence takes place. Bystanders have the power to simply and safely change the outcome of such situations. Below are some ways you can intervene.

- Provide a distraction which disturbs an interaction
- Directly engage one or more of the people involved
- Get police or other authorities involved
- Tell someone else and get help
- Ask someone in a potentially dangerous situation if they are okay and/or want to leave
- Ensure they get home safely
- Remind a possible respondent that incapacitated people can't give consent
- Help remove someone from the situation
- Provide options and a listening ear

### Being a Proactive Bystander

There are multiple actions you can take to help prevent sexual and relationship violence proactively too.

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

**Don't just hope someone else will step in. You have the ability to stop a terrible, life-altering situation. Be part of the solution!**

## Risk Reduction

There are preventive measures you can take to reduce risk and protect yourself and others from incidents of dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking. Remember to NEVER blame yourself if an act of sexual or relationship violence occurs! The *only* person responsible in that situation is the respondent.

- Trust your instincts
- Don't worry about offending someone
- Make your boundaries known as early as possible
- Say "NO" clearly and confidently
- Notice when your boundaries aren't being respected
- Emphasize your right to have your boundaries respected
- Be "situationally aware" of your surroundings and who is present
- Don't be afraid to seek help in situations where you feel unsafe
- Walk with others or in a group
- Take responsibility for your alcohol/other drug intake, and recognize these substances can lower your inhibitions, making you vulnerable to someone who views a drunk/high person as a sexual opportunity
- Keep doors and windows locked in your car and home
- Create a buddy system with your friends
- Encourage friends to challenge you, if you're about to make a poor decision

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

### Reducing the Risk of Being an Aggressor

Make sure you don't commit a crime of sexual or relationship violence

- Listen to your partner – be aware of verbal and non-verbal cues
- Clearly communicate your intentions and ask for consent
- Only proceed with sexual activity if there is *clear* consent
- Respect your partner and their personal boundaries
- Watch your alcohol/other drug intake so decision-making isn't impaired
- Don't make assumptions about consent, sexual availability, attraction, or limits – communicate!
- Don't take advantage of someone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs – they can't give consent
- Don't abuse any power advantage to intimidate or scare your partner

Source: Cal Poly Pomona's "Myths and Facts about Sexual Violence", Cal State, Long Beach, Office of Equity & Diversity

## Campus Disciplinary Proceedings

Resolving cases of sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or 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 meetings and hearings.

### Possible Outcomes

If the respondent is found responsible for violating university policy, sanctions will be assigned. Possible sanctions include: loss of privileges; disciplinary probation; suspension (cannot be enrolled at UNTHSC for a period of time); expulsion (cannot enroll at UNTHSC permanently); trespass from all or part of campus; and/or no contact orders. If there is not sufficient evidence to conclude the respondent violated university policy, then no sanctions are imposed.

### Options to Appeal

If the respondent is sanctioned to disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion, then either party could ask the Committee on Student Conduct to review the decision. The investigators and the respondent must attend the Committee's review. The complainant can attend in person, by phone, Skype, or by another method, or could choose not to attend at all. Each party that attends the Committee review will present to the Committee, which includes any witnesses or questions from the Committee. The Committee will share its decision with all parties in writing.

**Retaliation:** Any action, treatment or condition likely to dissuade a reasonable person from reporting or causing to report or participating in an investigation of a suspected violation of this policy, from filing a criminal complaint, or from accessing services provided under this policy, including an action that affects an individual's educational or other relationship with UNTHSC or an employee's compensation, promotion, transfer, work assignment, or performance evaluation.

**Retaliation** against any person who reports or encourages another to report sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking or retaliation, who participates in an investigation conducted under this policy, or who seeks assistance or guidance from any university department or external official or organization authorized to remediate conduct prohibited under this policy is strictly prohibited.

It is our university's priority to ensure students are protected from sexual and relationship violence. Helping you better understand how to protect yourself and others is a key campus concern. You should *never* have to contend with sexual or relationship violence – and we strictly prohibit these crimes.

The federal Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) put new obligations in place for colleges and universities under its Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) provision in 2014. These new regulations are designed, in part, to help prevent sexual assault 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.

Source: VAWA Final Regulations, *Federal Register*, 10/20/14

### Definitions

Sexual assault is covered under VAWA. It is important to know what each one means. The following definitions are listed in the UNT Health Science Center Student Code of Conduct and Discipline.

**Sexual Assault:** An offense that meets the definition of rape, sodomy, sexual assault with an object, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System edition of the Uniform Crime Reporting system. A sex offense is any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent.

*Rape* is defined as the carnal knowledge of a person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. The 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 complainant.

*Sodomy* is defined as oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

*Sexual Assault with an Object* is defined as to use an object or instrument to

unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

*Fondling* is defined as the touching of the private parts of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, without the consent of the complainant, including instances where the complainant is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

*Incest* is defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

*Statutory Rape* is defined as non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

### Consent

Consent means words or actions that show an active, knowing, and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. Crimes of sexual and relationship violence occur when consent is not given. You must *always* obtain consent. Before initiating sexual activity of *any* kind, ask for consent.

Failure to say "no" should never be assumed as a "yes." You must obtain clear, voluntary consent, in the moment that is free of coercion, intimidation, force or threats.

If, at any time, you are unsure that consent has been given or withdrawn, do NOT proceed with *any* sexual activity. Consent for one act does not mean you can proceed with other acts – everyone has a right to change their mind. Also, prior consent does not constitute future consent.

Consent can't be given if the individual is unconscious, asleep, incapacitated (due to alcohol/other drugs), a minor, or physically/mentally impaired.

### Role of Alcohol

Many sexual assaults involve alcohol. It is important to remember alcohol can impact an individual's ability to give consent, impair both the complainant's and respondent's judgement, and increase expectations.

### Role of Alcohol

The consumption of alcohol or drugs does not put the blame on the complainant. A student who is assaulted under the influence of alcohol or drugs is encouraged to seek help and entitled to university and community assistance.