

Penn Violence Prevention

RESOURCE GUIDE

Policies, Procedures, and Resources

THIS GUIDE

provides information about relationship violence, stalking, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. It also gives an overview of resources and reporting options for students who experience interpersonal violence.

Questions? Concerns? Email PVP@vpul.upenn.edu

Relationship violence, stalking, sexual harassment, and sexual violence in any form, including sexual assault and rape, are prohibited by University policy. The definitions in this guide are adapted from the Sexual Misconduct Policy. This policy can be found on the Penn Violence Prevention website: <https://pvp.vpul.upenn.edu>.

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RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE,

also commonly known as dating violence or domestic violence, is defined as an act or a pattern of abuse committed by a person involved in a social, sexual or romantic relationship, past or present, with the victim. Relationship violence can encompass a broad range of behaviors that may include physical violence, sexual violence, emotional violence and economic violence.

Examples of abusive behavior include:

Using threats or insults

Hitting, pushing, strangling

Stealing money

Isolating from family & friends

Restricting access to birth control

NO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE NEEDS TO OCCUR IN ORDER FOR A RELATIONSHIP TO BE ABUSIVE.

HOWEVER, IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE OFTEN ESCALATE TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IN TIME.

WOMEN AGED **16-24** EXPERIENCE THE HIGHEST RATE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

STALKING

means engaging in a course of conduct directed at specific person(s) that would cause a reasonable person to (a) fear for their safety or the safety of others, or (b) suffer substantial emotional distress.

People are most often stalked by someone they know such as an acquaintance or an ex-partner, but you can also be stalked by a stranger. Stalking behavior is often mistaken for unwanted romantic attention and may not be taken seriously. However, if not interrupted, stalking can cause a victim to live in fear and alter their routine.

18-24

YEAR OLDS EXPERIENCE
THE HIGHEST RATES OF STALKING

Examples of stalking behavior:

- Following or spying on someone
 - Repeatedly making unwanted contact via email, phone, text messages, social media, letters, etc
 - Threatening someone or their friends & family
 - Leaving unwanted gifts or items
 - Destroying someone's property
-

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

University policy defines sexual harassment as unwanted conduct that is based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression and that:

- Conditions an educational or employment benefit on participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- A reasonable person would determine is so severe, pervasive, and/or objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to an educational or employment program or activity.

Sexual harassment can be exhibited using verbal, non-verbal behaviors and gestures, and physical contact.

ACCORDING TO
A NATIONAL SURVEY,

47%

OF UNDERGRADUATE
AND GRADUATE
STUDENTS
INDICATED
EXPERIENCING
SEXUAL
HARASSMENT

Examples of sexual harassment may include:

- Seeking sexual favors in return for the promise of a favorable grade
- Making sexual comments, gestures, or slurs
- Making offensive comments about someone's sexual orientation or gender identity
- Sending sexual images or messages

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

90%



OF COLLEGE SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVIVORS
KNOW THEIR ATTACKER

includes a range of behaviors in which an act of a sexual nature is taken against another person without the individual's consent or when the individual is unable to consent. Sexual assault (including but not limited to rape) is defined as someone having committed any of the following acts:

- Any physical sexual contact that involves the use or threat of force or violence or any other form of coercion or intimidation;
- Any physical sexual contact with a person who is unable to consent due to incapacity or impairment, mental or physical. This includes, but is not limited to, being incapacitated by use of alcohol or drugs, or being too young to consent.

What is Consent?

an affirmative decision to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity

.....
given by clear words or actions

.....
cannot be given by a person who because of youth, disability, intoxication or other condition is unable to lawfully give their consent

consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity

.....
may not be inferred from silence, passivity, or lack of resistance alone

.....
the existence of a current or previous relationship is not sufficient to constitute consent

Below are a few steps that a Penn student may choose to take immediately after experiencing sexual or interpersonal violence.

If needed, **FIND A SAFE PLACE** away from the perpetrator or from any other potential danger. If you feel unsafe, you can call Penn Police at 215.573.3333.

CONTACT SPECIAL SERVICES AT 215.898.4481.

Special Services (within the Division of Public Safety) is a confidential resource that is specially trained to respond to incidents of interpersonal violence. Special Services will discuss medical and reporting options such as receiving a Protection From Abuse Order and/or receiving a medical exam.

SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION as soon as possible.

The Philadelphia Sexual Assault Response Center (PSARC) is designated to provide forensic rape examinations to victims of sexual assault. It is recommended that students who wish to pursue legal action, or may want to pursue legal action in the future, receive this examination, which includes a collection of evidence. During this examination victims can receive treatment for injuries and sexually transmitted infections as well as emergency contraception. An advocate from Special Services can provide transportation and accompaniment to PSARC.

SPEAK WITH A RESOURCE, some of which are listed on page 6. These resources offer a range of services such as counseling, advocacy, safety planning, assistance with making a report, and housing and academic support.

CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT RESOURCES

The following resource offices are confidential, which means that the information shared with them generally will be held in confidence, consistent with the University's obligation to address these complaints, unless the person sharing the information gives their consent to the disclosure of that information. Confidential resources are not obligated to share identifying information with the Title IX Coordinator. All resources can connect students to other confidential offices on campus for academic, community, social, emotional, and psychological support.

Special Services, Division of Public Safety (DPS)

4040 Chestnut St, 215.898.6600

Special Services offers comprehensive support for any member of the Penn community who has experienced interpersonal violence. Special Services advocates can discuss reporting options, provide hospital and court accompaniment, and assist with implementing any necessary safety measures.

Penn Women's Center (PWC)

3643 Locust Walk, 215.898.8611

The Penn Women's Center provides education, advocacy, and crisis/options counseling. PWC works to promote gender justice, and empower, support, and advance personal and professional development. PWC supports students of all gender identities.

Student Health and Counseling (formerly CAPS)

3624 Market St, 215.898.7021

Student Counseling offers a range of services including consultation, group and individual counseling, and medication reviews. Student Counseling also has the Sexual Trauma Treatment Outreach and Prevention (STTOP) Team, a group of clinicians dedicated to providing care, support, and advocacy to students who have experienced interpersonal violence.

Student Health Service (SHS)

3535 Market St, Suite 100, 215.746.3535

The Student Health Service (SHS) can provide evaluation and treatment to victims of all forms of interpersonal violence. SHS providers can provide examinations, testing, and treatment of sexually transmissible infections, provide emergency contraception, and arrange for referrals. Office visits are covered in full by the Clinical Fee and the Penn Student Insurance Plan (PSIP). Charges for lab tests related to a sexual assault are waived.

Penn Violence Prevention (PVP)

3611 Locust Walk, 215.746.2642

Penn Violence Prevention engages the Penn community in the prevention of sexual violence, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual harassment on campus through educational workshops and presentations. PVP also offers options counseling, advocacy, and support services to survivors.

REPORTING OPTIONS

A student who would like to report an incident of sexual violence, relationship violence or stalking has the right to pursue criminal charges through local law enforcement and/or to make an internal complaint through the University of Pennsylvania. Students may choose to pursue both these options, one of them, or neither.

IT'S HELPFUL TO KNOW THAT

An internal University investigation and a criminal investigation are separate processes.

Potential consequences for a person found guilty in the criminal system include prison and placement on the sex offender registry.

Potential consequences for a Penn student found responsible through an internal disciplinary process include probation, suspension, and expulsion from the University.

FOR ASSISTANCE WITH CRIMINAL REPORTS OR PROTECTION FROM ABUSE ORDERS



**SPECIAL SERVICES,
DIVISION OF
PUBLIC SAFETY**

TO MAKE INTERNAL REPORTS AGAINST STUDENTS, FACULTY, OR STAFF



**AVP/TITLE IX
OFFICER**

CONTACT THE AVP/TITLE IX OFFICER:
Email: titleixofficer@upenn.edu Website: titleixoffice.upenn.edu

RESOURCES IN THE PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY

WOAR Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence

215.985.3333

Provides crisis counseling, court and hospital accompaniments, as well as long term counseling and support groups for victims/survivors of sexual assault.

www.woar.org

Women Against Abuse Legal Center

215.686.7082

Provides legal assistance and representation for victims/survivors of domestic violence.

www.womenagainstabuse.org

Philadelphia Sexual Assault Response Center (PSARC)

215.685.3251

Provides forensic medical exams and treatment for sexual assault. You are not required to make an official report but the police will still need to escort you to the center for the exam.

Philadelphia Domestic Violence Hotline

866.723.3041

Provides 24-hour crisis response. Is a collaboration between Philadelphia's Domestic violence agencies and can connect callers with shelter access, counseling services, etc.

Mazzoni Center

215.985.3300

Provides medical care, counseling, and case management services for the LGBT community.

www.mazzonicenter.org

Courdea (formerly Menenergy)

215.242.2235

Counseling and re-education program for people who are physically or emotionally abusive to their partners.

www.menergy.org

Penn Violence Prevention (PVP) engages the Penn community in the prevention of sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking on campus. We foster collaborative relationships across campus to ensure a survivor-centered, multi-faceted approach to support services and primary prevention.

GET EDUCATED

Attend trainings from PVP, such as **Being an Active Bystander** or **Supporting Survivors**. Request a presentation for your group or organization on the PVP website. Follow **@penn_pvp** or the **University Life** calendar for upcoming engagements and events.

GET INVOLVED

Join a student group like **ASAP** or apply to be a **PAVE Educator** to engage your peers. Consult with PVP staff about how to engage your organization.

Penn Violence Prevention:

- Website: <https://pvp.vpul.upenn.edu>
- Email: pvp@vpul.upenn.edu
- Address: 3611 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104



Penn Violence Prevention

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