

DID YOU KNOW?

Rape and sexual assault happens to females and males of all ages, from infancy to the senior years.

98% of males who have raped boys reported they are heterosexual. Most males who assault men or women are married or report having girlfriends.

Sexual assault has nothing to do with the victim's present or future sexual orientation. Victims may be either heterosexual or homosexual.

A survivor is not at fault for the rape, even if she/he was in a secluded area, or had previous consensual sex with the attacker.

The fact a male victim of sexual assault ejaculated or became sexually aroused does not mean they were not raped or that they gave consent. These are normal, involuntary physiological reactions.

It is common for survivors of sexual assault to have feelings of embarrassment, anger, guilt, panic, depression, and fear even several months or years after the attack. Other common reactions include loss of appetite, nausea or stomachaches, headaches, loss of memory and/or trouble concentrating and changes in sleep patterns.

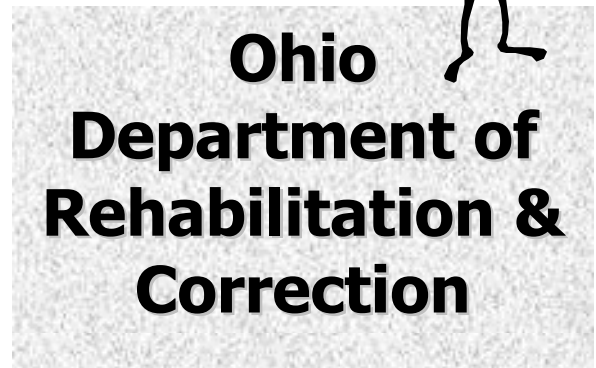
FACTS FOR THE INMATE THAT SEXUALLY ASSAULTS OTHER INMATES:

You will be issued a conduct report. If found guilty, sanctions will be harsh. In addition, your supervision level will be reviewed and likely increased, which could mean a transfer to a higher security prison or unit with significantly less freedom of movement and limited privileges. If you have family, how will this affect them and/or how will it affect their ability to visit you?

All cases of sexual assault are also referred to the Ohio State Highway Patrol for criminal investigation. You may be prosecuted and if found guilty of a felony, any additional prison time will be added to your current sentence, per the Ohio Revised Code.

Consider that regardless of how you choose to characterize it, sex with a member of the same sex is a homosexual act. And these acts significantly increase your risk of HIV infection, along with exposing you to other sexually transmitted diseases.

If you have trouble controlling your actions seek help from mental health staff and/or consider participating in programs designed to control anger or reduce stress. To reduce immediate feelings of anger or aggression try talking to or writing a friend, meditate or do breathing exercises to relax, work on a hobby, or engage in some type of exercise.



SEXUAL ASSAULT



Sexual assault as defined by DRC Policy 79-ISA-01 is "Any contact between the sex organ of one person and the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, or any intrusion of any part of the body of one person, or of any object into the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, by the use of force or threat of force." The offender uses sex as a weapon to assault the body, the mind, psyche and spirit.

Sexual assault affects everyone, either directly or through the experiences of those we care about. It is not only a women's issue as it can affect persons of any gender, age, race, ethnic group, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or disability.

The statistics are proof of this problem: According to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), in 2002 there were 247,730 victims of rape (This number does not include victims 12 or younger), seven out of every eight rape victims were female, and one in every eight rape victims was male. A 1998 study indicates that about 2.78 million American men have experienced an attempted or completed rape and one out of every six American women have experienced an attempted or completed rape.

RAPE AVOIDANCE



The only way rape can be prevented is when a potential rapist chooses NOT to rape. However, you may avoid an attack by keeping the following safety guidelines in mind:

Be aware of situations that make you feel uncomfortable. Trust your instincts. If it feels wrong, LEAVE.

Don't let your manners get in the way of keeping yourself safe. Don't be afraid to say "NO" or "STOP IT NOW."

Walk and stand with confidence. Many rapists choose victims who look like they won't fight back or are emotionally weak.

Avoid talking about sex, and casual nudity. These things may be considered a come on, or make another inmate believe that you have an interest in a sexual relationship.

Do not accept commissary items or other gifts from other inmates. Placing yourself in debt to another inmate can lead to the expectation of repaying the debt with sexual favors.

Avoid secluded areas. Position yourself in plain view of staff members. If you are being pressured for sex, report it to a supervisor immediately.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED



If the attack has just happened...

Get to a safe place. **REPORT THE ATTACK TO A STAFF MEMBER IMMEDIATELY.** The longer you wait to report the attack the more difficult it is to obtain the evidence necessary for a criminal and/or administrative investigation.

Request immediate medical attention. You may have serious injuries that you are not aware of, and any sexual contact can expose you to sexually transmitted diseases.

Do not shower, brush your teeth, use the restroom, or change your clothes. You may destroy important evidence.

If you have been attacked or witness an attack, but you are unwilling to report it to institutional staff, then you may call (614) 995-3584 from an inmate telephone to leave a message for central office staff. This line will be checked daily for messages.

Later on...

Seek the support of a trusted friend, family member or staff member, such as the chaplain or the victim services coordinator. The days ahead can be traumatic and it helps to have people who care about you supporting you.

Seek professional help. Mental Health staff is available for crisis care 365 days a year, to listen and offer support.