

Safety tips & Advice

SEXUAL ASSAULT INFORMATION

Sexual assault describes a range of sexual crimes committed against a person. It is any unwanted or forced sexual act or behaviour without consent, including intercourse and indecent assault. Sexual assault is a crime of violence. It can be a frightening experience that may have long term effects. These effects occur regardless of a person's age, gender, status, culture, ability or sexuality. Although women are primarily the victims of sexual assault, men can also be victims.

What is Consent?

Consent is freely and voluntarily given by a person with the cognitive capacity to do so. Consent is not freely and voluntarily given if you:

- Are under force;
- Are unconscious or asleep;
- Are incapable of giving consent, for example if you are comatose or intoxicated;
- Are under threat or intimidation;
- Are in fear of bodily harm; or
- Have a mistaken belief that the offender was your sexual partner.

Protecting Yourself

- Always lock your doors and windows;
- If going out, have a plan to get home safely;
- Stay with trusted friends at all times;
- Watch for warning signs a friend is becoming intoxicated: slurred speech, lack of motor skills, vomiting, passing out;
- "Drinking games" and binge drinking can be very dangerous to your health, and could make you the perfect target for a sexual assault;
- Never leave an intoxicated friend unattended.

How to report a sexual assault

You can report sexual assault to your local police by phoning 131 444 or calling Sex Assault Squad on 9428 1600.

It is never too late to report a sexual assault. Some victims choose to report a sexual assault immediately; others may report days, months and even years later.

Further information on sexual assault is available at:-

SARC – Sex Assault Resource Centre

www.kemh.health.wa.gov.au/services/sarc/index.htm

National Sexual Assault, Domestic Family Violence Counselling Service

www.1800respect.org.au/



**IN AN EMERGENCY
CALL 000**

**POLICE ASSISTANCE
LINE**

Police 131 444

Save 000 for emergencies

For reporting of crime which does not require immediate police presence. 24 hour service.

WEB SITE

Police.wa.gov.au

TWITTER

[Twitter.com/WA_Police](https://twitter.com/WA_Police)

FACEBOOK

[Facebook.com/WA.Police](https://facebook.com/WA.Police)

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Sex Crime Division