

MYTH BUSTING

"Men can't be sexually assaulted"

Anybody can be sexually assaulted regardless of size, age, gender, strength, appearance or sexual orientation.

"Most sexual assaults are committed by strangers in dark alley ways at night"

Most sexual assaults occur in private areas, where the perpetrator is often known before the incident.

"If you don't fight back or scream, it probably wasn't sexual assault."

People respond to sexual assault in different ways - every response is valid. They may be unable to fight back or afraid to.

Erection and ejaculation are also physiological responses that may also result from sexual assault. These responses do not imply you wanted or enjoyed the assault at all.

"People give false reports"

False reporting for sexual assaults are not higher than any other kind of crime. In fact, sexual assault is often underreported. Those involved have the right to decide what to do after assault - not reporting is a valid response and the College will support you no matter your decision.

UNDERSTANDING CONSENT

What is Consent?

Consent is a voluntary and clear agreement between the participants to engage in specific sexual activity.

It must be clear and unambiguous: Is your partner enthusiastic? Have they verbally given permission for each sexual activity?

It must be ongoing: Permission must be present for every stage of an encounter and it can be removed at any time.

It must be coherent: Every participant in sexual activity must be capable of granting consent - if someone is incapacitated they cannot consent.

It must be voluntary: Consent must be given freely, voluntarily and by anyone, regardless of their relationship to their sexual partner.

WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT / SEXUAL HARASSMENT?

- Unwanted physical contact
- Unwanted sexual comments
- Catcalling, whistling, howling
- Stalking, flashing or touching yourself around someone
- Revenge porn and non-consensual imagery sent
- 'Stealth' (removing condom before consent)
- Rape
- Pressure to go on date or engage in sexual activity

How to ask for Consent

Consent can be seamlessly interwoven in sexual encounters. Here are some pointers on how to ask for consent:

Be direct by naming or describing the act clearly: "Can I kiss you?"

Ask them what they prefer: "Do you like that?"

Ask open-ended questions as a way of starting an ongoing dialogue about what you each want: "What are you comfortable with?"

Set clear expectations and boundaries prior, and check throughout the encounter everyone is comfortable.



Guidance and support for understanding consent and dealing with sexual assault

St Peter's does not tolerate harassment of ANY kind. We strive to be an inclusive, welcoming and supportive college to all.

If someone has made you feel uncomfortable, your feelings are valid no matter how 'minor' you think it was. We are here to help and support you.

We hope this leaflet provides some information you can refer to if you or anybody you know is struggling.

Pop one in your room or snap a photo for reference just in case!

ADVICE AND HELP

If you want advice...

Oxford University Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service

admin@supportservice.ox.ac.uk

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/supportservice>

Same day appointments can be made.

Students can access it regardless of age or gender, whether you have experienced sexual violence in Oxford or somewhere else, and no matter how long ago this was. It offers a safe space to be heard in that is independent of your college or department.

The service's Independent Sexual Violence Advisor will talk you through your reporting options - whether this is to your college, the university or the police. Trained advisors at the Service can also assess your immediate health needs, discuss therapeutic options and provide practical support.

This support service can also offer advice for those accused of sexual assault.

Oxfordshire Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Centre (OSARCC)

admin@osarcc.org.uk www.osarcc.org.uk 01865 725311

A local charity which supports survivors of sexual abuse, rape, domestic abuse and harassment.

IF YOU WANT TO KEEP THE INCIDENT PRIVATE...

This is a completely valid choice. The College will support you whatever you decide. You can always choose to report after a long time too.

If you know someone who has decided to keep their assault private you must keep their wishes. Not doing so could be harmful and may hinder the survivor's recovery.

If you need medical attention...

Oxfordshire Sexual Health Services.

There are three main clinics in Oxford (Oxford, Banbury, East Oxford) and some other smaller clinics.

Go to <https://www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk/visiting/> for more details.

If you want to report the incident...

This is always your choice. If you decide to report the incident any of the support services listed, including the College, can guide you through each step.

Contact the police on 101 (999 in emergency only) or go in person to St Aldgates Police Station



SARC (SEXUAL ASSAULT REFERRAL CENTRE)

Only very recent incidents can be referred to the SARC. They are able to collect physical evidence and take a statement 0800 9709953

24/7 all year round, located in Bicester

Calling ahead is essential. The SARC team will want as much information as possible in order to advise.

You can attend the SARC without making a report to the Police.

The college Lodge can pay for a taxi and a member of the welfare team can go with you if you wish.

COLLEGE RESOURCES

There are lots of people you can speak to in College and information you disclose is confidential.

Dean for Welfare, Eleanor Tingle

eleanor.tingle@spc.ox.ac.uk, Staircase IV, Room 16

Eleanor can usually offer same or next day appointments. Please email her to arrange a chat

Welfare Officer, Emmanuelle Dankwa

emmanuelle.dankwa@spc.ox.ac.uk, Staircase IV, Room 23.

Please email to arrange a chat. Provides front-line welfare provision in college.

Welfare Officer, Babar Suleman

muhammad.suleman@spc.ox.ac.uk, Staircase IV, Room 17.

Please email to arrange a chat.

Kate Tempest, College Nurse

kate.tempest@spc.ox.ac.uk, Ground Floor, Staircase IV, Room 3, Weeks 0 to 9. Please email to arrange a chat.

Provides health, health-related and sound welfare advice. Liaises regularly with Jericho HC.

JCR / MCR welfare teams- feel free to drop any of us a Facebook message or email if you feel comfortable.

More information on college welfare is available at the SPC website: <https://www.spc.ox.ac.uk/welfare>

Oxford's SU Campaign: It Happens Here

It Happens Here is an anti-sexual violence campaign associated with Oxford SU. Their campaign is dedicated to moving towards a society free from sexual violence and we do this through education, support, advocacy and outreach. They prioritise survivors and place an emphasis on amplifying their voices.

Their website has lots more resources:

<https://www.oxfordsu.org/campaigns/ithappenshere/>