

PROJECT SAFETY

Introduction

Fairview College is committed to creating and maintaining an environment that is free from sexual assault and other forms of violence. Unfortunately, dating and domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking are a reality for some students. This provides tips on how to prevent these crimes, outlines penalties for perpetrators, describes actions victims can take to help protect their safety, and identifies resources and rights for victims. Please take the time to read this information with friends, and know that Fairview College cares about your safety, and the safety of all students and staff.

Overview

Sexual assault is the most common violent crime committed on college campuses in the United States and other countries in the world. It is often linked with dating, domestic violence, and stalking. The highest rates of domestic violence are associated with college age women, and the majority of stalking victims are

160 between 18-29 years of age. It is estimated that male students
168 comprise about 10% of collegiate sexual assault victims.
179 Nationally, about 400,000 men are stalked each year, and in 2005
190 almost 80,000 men were abused by a current or former intimate
199 partner. Some students, female and male, are survivors of
203 childhood abuse and rape.

207 **Dating and Domestic Violence**

216 Dating and domestic violence are crimes consisting of controlling
226 and abusive behaviors committed by an intimate partner (e.g., ex-
237 boyfriend or girlfriend, ex-spouse or domestic partner) or family
245 member. The abuse can include public humiliation, threats,
255 refusing to give the victim money, hitting, and sexual assault.
264 Abusers often isolate their victims, emotionally and physically,
273 preventing them from interacting with family and friends. Many
282 perpetrators also stalk their victims. Some kill their victims.
292 Perpetrators will often apologize and appear to show remorse, but
301 over time the violence escalates in frequency and severity.

303 Sexual Assault

317 Sexual assault is a crime that uses sex as a weapon to exert control
327 over, humiliate, and harm another person. It occurs when someone
339 uses force, threats, alcohol or other drugs, or another illegal way to
349 make contact with your genitals. Other examples of illegal sexual
360 activity include: situations in which a person is unable to give
371 consent or is incapable of resisting (e.g., under the influence of
380 alcohol or drugs, unconscious, asleep); having sex with someone
391 younger than the legal age of consent; and non-consensual sex with
393 a spouse.

394 Stalking

403 Stalking is a crime in which someone repeatedly harasses,
413 threatens, and controls another person causing the victims to fear
425 for their safety. Examples include a stalker showing up at a place
437 where the victim is expected to be, even though there is no reason
450 for the stalker to be there; a stalker leaving unwanted items for the
460 victim to find; making unsolicited phone calls, texts or e-mails;
469 following or spying on the victim; vandalizing the victim's

479 property; making threats against the victim or the victim’s family
487 and friends; monitoring the victim’s telephone and computer
499 activity; and tracking the victim using GPS technology built into
507 Smartphones. Stalking can also include perpetrators sending gifts;
517 giving personal information about a victim to others; killing pets;
529 and physical or sexual assaults. In some cases stalkers also kill
531 their victims.

534 **Facts and Myths**

544 A student’s attitudes and beliefs about sexual assault and other
554 forms of violence can influence whether or not that student:
565 commits acts of violence; supports a friend who has been abused;
576 or seeks help for violent acts committed against her or him.

584 Common myths about sexual and other violence include:

593 • Perpetrators are abusive in all of their relationships. *Fact:*
601 perpetrators of violence have “normal” relationships, but they
613 make a decision to single out and harm a particular person. Keep
626 this in mind if a friend who has been abused identifies a perpetrator
632 a person you are familiar with.

646 • If a woman or man is being abused their situation can't be all bad
659 if they stay in the relationship. *Fact:* There are many reasons why
671 a victim may stay in an abusive relationship. She or he may be
682 afraid. They may feel ashamed even though what they are going
693 through is not their fault. While some victims are able to
702 successfully leave their abusers, for others, leaving is extremely
703 dangerous.

714 • Rape is a spontaneous act of passion. *Fact:* Rapes are committed
725 to control, humiliate, or harm another person. Many are planned in
735 advance and most are perpetrated by someone the victim knows.
746 Passion, lust, and arousal may be present, but they are not
748 uncontrollable urges.

762 • Men can't be raped if they don't want to be. *Fact:* Any man can
774 be sexually assaulted. It doesn't matter who he is, how big or
785 strong he is, or his sexual orientation. Some men are sexually
797 assaulted by women. Most are raped by men. The majority of men
806 who rape other men consider themselves heterosexual. They rape
817 men to exert control and cause harm and humiliation. Some men

828 who are raped get aroused while being attacked. This reaction is
837 simply a physiological response to physical contact or extreme
847 stress. Although a perpetrator may try to convince a victim
860 otherwise, aroused during a sexual assault or rape is not a sign of
865 consent, pleasure, or sexual orientation.

879 •Some girls and guys “ask for it” by the way they dress, dance, or
891 drink. *Fact:* No women or man does anything to “ask for” or
893 deserve rape.

907 •Stalking is a nuisance, but if it is ignored it the stalker will quit.
919 *Fact:* Students may be stalked by someone they know or by a
930 complete stranger. In either case, stalking is a serious threat to
938 personal safety and typically escalates without intervention.

945 Stalking episodes can last over two years.

953 **What You Can Do to Stop the Violence**

964 •Acknowledge that no one deserves to be abused and don't do
969 anything that violates another person.

980 •Take responsibility for your actions and get help if you need
986 assistance to stop your abusive behavior.

- 997 • Never use force, threats, alcohol and other drugs, or other illegal
1007 ways to get sex. Don't make assumptions – always get permission.
- 1017 • Remember, an intoxicated person does not have the ability to
1029 give informed consent. Be aware of ways that can be used to
1039 indicate you don't have consent (e.g., pulling away from you).
- 1044 • Don't mistake submission for consent.
- 1049 • Avoid alcohol and other drugs.
- 1059 • Discuss sexual and other violence with friends. Speak out against
1060 violence.
- 1069 • Report incidents of violence to law enforcement and campus
1070 authorities.
- 1079 **Tips for Minimizing Your Chances of Becoming a Victim**
- 1090 • Be aware. Does someone: threaten to commit suicide or to hurt
1104 you or others? Put you down in public? Hit you? Force you to have
1110 sex? Follow you? Send unwanted gifts?
- 1121 • Trust your feelings. If something feels wrong, it probably is. If
1135 safe to do so, get out of the relationship or situation. Get help from
1138 a hot line.

1148 •Be assertive and speak up. Clearly communicate your feelings and
1152 desires to your partner.

1166 •Stay sober and watch out for dates or anyone else who tries to get
1170 you drunk or high.

1181 •Talk with your friends and dates about sexual assault and other
1184 forms of violence.

1189 **If You Are a Victim...**

1210 •Take all threats seriously. Call 911 if you are in immediate
1223 danger. The highest risk of danger is when a perpetrator threatens
1236 to kill himself or others, and when a victim tries to end the
1243 relationship or has recently left the abuser.

1250 •Talk to the police about protective orders.

1263 •Contact a hot line for safety planning. A safety plan isn't a safety
1268 guarantee, but it can help.

1278 •Tell friends, professors, and others you trust about your situation
1292 and develop a plan for when you need help. Tell them not to give
1303 out information about you to anyone. Teach and practice with your

1317 children how to reach safety and call 911. Get to a safe place as
1323 soon as possible after an assault.

- 1335 •Vary your daily schedule as much as you can and change your
1342 travel routes. Avoid being alone when possible.
- 1350 •During an assault, consider negotiating, stalling for time,
1360 screaming, resisting, or what you think is best to survive.

1371 Submission is also a survival option (and not consent for abuse).

- 1382 •Keep proof of every incident and report them to law enforcement
1385 and campus authorities.
- 1395 •Get medical care as soon as possible for injuries, pregnancy
1399 prevention, or STD testing.

1413 Know that you are not at fault. You did not cause the abuse to
1424 occur and you are not responsible for the violent behavior of
1434 someone else, no matter what a perpetrator may tell you.

1436 **Crime Reporting**

1344 Fairview College students, faculty, and staff are strongly
1354 encouraged to report all crimes to local law enforcement, Campus
1360 Police, and the Judicial Affairs Office.

1364 Crime reporting can help:

1368 • Protect the victim's safety.

1377 • Ensure the victim receives proper medical care, support services,
1384 and information regarding their options and rights.

1392 • Prevent future assaults by the perpetrator. Perpetrators Sanctions

1400 Perpetrators of campus-related dating and domestic violence,

1411 sexual assault, stalking, and other forms of violence are subject to

1419 campus disciplinary action, up to and including expulsions.

1430 Perpetrators are subject to arrest by Campus Police or local law

1438 enforcement and criminal prosecution. Perpetrators may also face

1440 civil litigation.

1442 **Victim's Rights**

1451 Victims of campus-related sexual assault and other crimes

1461 occurring on, or off, campus can receive: assistance in notifying

1470 Campus Police or local police agencies (provided by campus

1480 security authorities), upon request and with the consent of the

1489 victim; alteration of the victim's academic and living situations,

1499 upon request and where available; details about the victim's right

1510 to pursue campus disciplinary action as well as criminal and civil
1519 prosecution; and information about existing on-and off-campus
1522 victim support services.

1531 These legally entitled resources and services will be provided
1541 when students report the crimes against them to Campus Police,
1551 the Office of Judicial Affairs, the Vice President for Student
1559 Affairs, the Student Health Center, and Campus Security
1560 Authorities.