ABUSE ON CAMPUS:
What Are My Rights?

A KNOW YOUR RIGHTS GUIDE
Intimacy, dating, and sex may play a significant role in your college experience. In college, conversations and communication about consent and boundaries are essential. Intimate relationships can take many forms, from casual to serious or long-term. Many relationships may be unhealthy or even abusive. For students experiencing violence in their dating relationships, or those who have experienced sexual violence, this guide offers options and resources.

WHAT IS DATING ABUSE? It is a pattern of controlling, insulting, and sometimes violent behavior in casual or serious dating relationships. It can include mental/emotional, financial, technological, sexual and/or physical abuse, and it affects people regardless of age, race, class, gender, or sexual orientation.

MANY FORMS OF DATING ABUSE ARE PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS.
**IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS HAPPENING...**

**PHYSICAL ABUSE**
Your partner shoves, scratches, bites, punches, slaps, kicks, strangles, pushes, or grabs you. Your partner withholds or breaks your belongings.

**MENTAL/EMOTIONAL ABUSE**
Your partner regularly puts you down, calls you “stupid” or says you’re “only good for one thing.” Your partner says that if you did as you were told they would not have to act that way.

**SEXUAL ABUSE**
At a bar, you flirt with someone who’s been buying you drinks all night. You wake up the next morning in somebody else’s room with no clothes on.

**TECHNOLOGY ABUSE**
Your ex threatens to post or share sexual images/videos of you on the internet or with friends. You did not consent to the distribution of the images/videos. Your ex creates fake profiles and harasses you via messaging app.

**IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE ABOVE SITUATIONS,** you can also reach out to the National Dating Abuse Helpline at 866.331.9474 or at www.loveisrespect.org. If you’re in New York City, call Day One at 800.214.4150 to speak in confidence with a counselor or lawyer.

*YOU CAN ALSO CALL* the National Sexual Assault Helpline at 800.656.HOPE.

**AND YOU FEEL SOMETHING LIKE THIS...**

**YOU FEAR THAT ANYTHING YOU DO** could set your partner off and result in physical violence. You see a lot less of your friends. You even quit your activities or sports because it’s too hard to hide the bruises from your teammates.

**YOU FEEL ANXIOUS AND BAD ABOUT YOURSELF.**
You stop going to class, you have trouble completing assignments, your other relationships suffer, and your grades go down.

**YOU CAN’T REMEMBER HOW YOU GOT THERE OR WHAT HAPPENED.**
You’re disoriented, scared, and terrified about sexually transmitted illnesses and/or pregnancy.

**YOU NO LONGER FEEL SAFE ON YOUR CAMPUS AND FEEL TRAPPED BY YOUR EX.**
You’re embarrassed and have questions about how to document the abuse, take down the images or report what’s happening.

**CONSIDER REACHING OUT TO A TRUSTED PERSON.**
Resources both on and off campus can help you explore options. From learning your rights and finding supportive services, to reporting the abuse, you have options.

**FOR STUDENTS EXPERIENCING DATING OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE,**
many schools offer counseling or special accommodations, like an extension, academic tutoring, or a class transfer. If your school doesn’t take action, consider reaching out to a lawyer to learn about your options and rights.

**CONSIDER GOING TO YOUR CAMPUS HEALTH CENTER** or the nearest hospital to have them administer a sexual assault evidence exam, also known as a rape kit. *Do not shower* until the rape kit is taken.

The exam will not be shared with anyone, even the police, without your permission.*

**CONSIDER SAVING THE MESSAGES YOU’VE SENT, SEEN, OR RECEIVED AS EVIDENCE.** Explore options to report the fake profiles. At school, you may report your experiences to the administration or seek advice on your options.
EVERYONE DESERVES TO BE SAFE FROM DATING ABUSE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

37.4% OF FEMALE RAPE VICTIMS WERE RAPED BETWEEN AGES 18-24.*

19% OF UNDERGRADUATE WOMEN EXPERIENCE SEXUAL ASSAULT OR ATTEMPTED SEXUAL ASSAULT AFTER ENTERING COLLEGE.**

IN 80-90% OF CASES, VICTIM AND ASSAILANT KNOW EACH OTHER; THE MORE INTIMATE THE RELATIONSHIP, THE MORE LIKELY IT IS FOR A RAPE TO BE COMPLETED.***

43% OF COLLEGE WOMEN IN RELATIONSHIPS REPORT EXPERIENCING VIOLENT AND ABUSIVE DATING BEHAVIORS****

AS A COLLEGE STUDENT, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A SAFE ENVIRONMENT THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT...
TO AN EDUCATION FREE FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE.
Under a federal law commonly referred to as Title IX, most schools have a legal obligation to take immediate action to eliminate sexual violence, prevent it, and address its effects.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT...
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELING.
Ask your school for a list of people with whom you can speak confidentially. Be aware that not every university employee is required to keep what you have shared confidential.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT...
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW ABOUT REPORTED INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON YOUR CAMPUS.
JEANNE CLERY ACT requires colleges and universities to document and report statistics on dating violence, sexual assault, and other crimes occurring on their campuses and share that information with students and their families.

YOUR SCHOOL MUST PROVIDE CLEAR POLICIES ABOUT SEXUAL VIOLENCE.
THE CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS’ BILL OF RIGHTS requires schools to provide a policy that includes:
• Procedures for reporting incidents and information about disciplinary proceedings, including the right to know their outcome.
• Information about law enforcement, counseling services, and how to change your class schedule and residence.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT...
TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION.
THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) prohibits schools from releasing names or information about you without your permission. However, schools may release an assailant’s name once they have been found guilty or responsible for a sexually violent act.
IN 2015, NEW YORK STATE PASSED ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, a law requiring colleges to respond to, and address instances of sexual violence on campus. College campuses in New York must enforce affirmative consent in all sexual relationships.

AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT IS:
“The active, ongoing, informed, and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. Consent for one action does not imply consent for subsequent actions. Consent cannot be given by someone who is incapacitated (such as by drugs or alcohol), unconscious, or otherwise unable to voluntarily give consent. Consent can never be obtained through threats, coercion, pressure, or other forms of control or intimidation and may be withdrawn at any time.”

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH ALSO REQUIRES ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE RESOURCES INCLUDING:
• Amnesty for students reporting instances of sexual misconduct who were under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the incident;
• Information about a student’s right to report or not report an incident, to be protected from retaliation, and to receive assistance and resources from the college after making a report.

Day One helps young people recognize the signs of abusive relationships, so they can make healthier choices from day one of dating.

We provide legal and social services, educational workshops and organizing opportunities to teens and young adults aged 24 and under who are experiencing intimate partner abuse. You do not need the permission of a parent or adult for any of the services that we offer. Everything you discuss with Day One will be kept confidential. If you or someone you know needs help, call us toll free at 800.214.4150, check us out online at www.dayoneny.org, text us at 646.535.DAY1 (3291) or email us at info@dayoneny.org.