



Dating and Relationship Violence

Relationship violence is a pattern of behavior in an intimate relationship that is used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation. The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, conducted in 2010 by the CDC found more than 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the U.S. are survivors of relationship violence in their lifetime.

There are supportive resources to help if you feel you are in an abusive relationship:

- If you are in immediate danger call USTPD if on campus, 911 if you are off campus or seek help at a shelter.
- National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE(4673), the [National Sexual Assault Online Hotline](#),
- National Domestic Violence Hotline 1.800.799.SAFE(7233)

Know what a healthy relationship looks like:

- **Creating boundaries-** by setting boundaries together, you can both have a deeper understanding of the type of relationship that you and your partner want.
- **Build-** Build a foundation of appreciation and respect. Your partner's wishes and feelings have value, and so do yours. Mutual respect is essential in maintaining healthy relationships.
- **Give and Take (Compromise)** - Disagreements are a natural part of a healthy relationship, but it's important that you find a way to compromise if you disagree on something.
- **Trust and Respect-** You trust your partner will support you through good times and bad. A healthy relationship is about building each other up, not putting each other down.
- **Respect each other's privacy-** Just because you're in a relationship, doesn't mean you have to share everything and constantly be together.

Rights of Crime Victims:

As defined in Article 56, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, a victim of a violent crime is someone who: (1) is the victim of the offense of sexual assault, kidnapping, aggravated robbery, trafficking of persons, or injury to a child, elderly individual, or disabled individual or (2) who has suffered personal injury or death as a result of the criminal conduct of another or (3) is the close relative (spouse, parent, brother, sister, or adult child) of a victim; or (4) is the guardian of a victim. As a victim of violent crime, you have the following rights.

1. The right to receive from law enforcement agencies adequate protection from harm and threats of harm arising from cooperation with prosecution efforts
2. The right to have the safety of the victim or her/his family into consideration as an element in fixing the amount of bail for the accused;
3. The right, if requested, to be informed of relevant court proceedings, including appellate proceedings, and to be informed if those proceedings have been canceled or rescheduled prior to the event; and decisions of the court, after the decisions are entered but before the decisions are made public;
4. The right to be informed, when requested, by a peace officer concerning the defendant's right to bail and the procedures in criminal investigations and by the district attorney's office concerning the general procedures in the criminal justice system, including general procedures in guilty plea negotiations and arrangements, restitution, and the appeals and parole process;
5. The right to provide pertinent information to a probation department conducting a presentencing investigation concerning the impact of the offense on the victim and his

family by testimony, written statement, or any other manner prior to any sentencing of the offender;

6. The right to receive information regarding compensation to victims of crime including information related to the costs that may be compensated and the amount of compensation, eligibility for compensation, and procedures for application for compensation, the payment for a medical examination for a victim of a sexual assault, and when requested, referral to available social service agencies that may offer additional assistance;
7. The right to be informed, upon request, of parole proceedings, the right to participate in the parole process, and the right to provide to the Board of Pardons and Paroles information to be considered by the board prior to the parole of the defendant, and upon request to be notified of the defendants release;
8. The right to be provided with a waiting area, separate or secure from other witnesses, including the offender and relatives of the offender, before testifying in any proceeding concerning the offender;
9. The right to prompt return of any property of the victim that is held by a law enforcement agency or the attorney for the state as evidence when the property is no longer required for that purpose;
10. The right to have the attorney for the state notify the employer of the victim, if requested, of the necessity of the victims cooperation and testimony in a proceeding that may necessitate the absence of the victim from work for good cause;
11. The right to counseling, on request, regarding acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and testing for acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, antibodies to HIV, or infection with any other probable causative agent of AIDS, if the offense is a sexual;
12. The right to request victim-offender mediation coordinated by the victim services division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;
13. The right to be informed of the uses of a victim impact statement and the statements purpose in the criminal justice system, to complete the victim impact statement, and to have the victim impact statement considered by the attorney representing the state, the judge before sentencing or before a plea bargain agreement is accepted and by the Board of Pardons and Paroles before an inmate is released on parole;
14. The right for a victim of a sexual assault to receive a forensic medical examination if, within 120 hours of the sexual assault, the assault is reported to a law enforcement agency or a forensic medical examination is otherwise conducted at a health care facility; and
15. The right for a victim of an assault or sexual assault who is younger than 17 years of age or whose case involves family violence to have the court consider the impact on the victim of a continuance requested by the defendant.

Remember:

USTPD working with the UST community to make a safer campus.



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