

Sexual Assault Awareness, Prevention, and Survivor Guide

Dyersburg State Community College is committed to creating an environment free from threat of sexual assault, while actively responding to the needs of those affected by sexual assault. Consistent with this commitment, Dyersburg State Community College has created a Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Information internet web page, which serves as the primary source for awareness, advocacy and referral. The information is also included in this brochure.

Sexual assault is defined as any attempted or actual unwanted sexual behavior. Sexual assault occurs along a continuum of intrusion and violation ranging from unwanted sexual comments to forced sexual intercourse. Sexual intrusions and violations of any degree are serious offenses and compromise the integrity of the College community. All forms of sexual assault are prohibited at Dyersburg State Community College.

Definitions of Sexual Offenses

As per the National Incident-Based Reporting System Edition of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, sex offenses are defined as any sexual act directed against another person, forcible and/or against the person's will; or not forcible or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Sex Offenses - Forcible

A. Forcible Rape - the carnal knowledge of a person, forcible and/or against the person's will; or not forcible or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth).

B. Forcible Sodomy - Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcible and/or against that person's will; or not forcible against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

C. Sexual Assault with an Object - the use of an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or

against that person's will; or, not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

D. Forcible Fondling - the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcible and/or against that person's will; or, not forcible or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sex Offenses - Non-Forcible

Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.

A. Incest - non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

B. Statutory Rape - non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

When the assault has happened to someone you know.

When someone you know or care about has been assaulted, it is normal for you to feel upset and confused. At a time when you may want to help most, you will be dealing with a crisis of your own.

You may find it difficult to listen when he or she needs to talk about his or her feelings. You may hope that by not talking about it at all, the feelings both of you have will go away.

You may be tempted to make the decision for intimacy sooner than the survivor. Others may be over-protective of the survivor. Others may feel repulsed. You may want to hide the assault from others. You may feel disturbed or confused when the survivor continues to be affected for weeks, months, and even years.

Maybe you feel guilty and responsible, believing you could somehow have prevented the assault. You may also feel anger at the survivor or at everyone in general.

All of these feelings are understandable following the sexual assault of someone you love. Please know that if these feelings are hidden or expressed in hurtful

ways, they can interfere with the resolution of your crisis and that of the survivor.

The survivor may need your support and understanding. You, however, also need support. Rape is a violent assault, not a sexually-motivated or gratifying act. The rapist's aim is to dominate, humiliate, control and degrade the victim. Because the same body parts are involved in sexual assault as in making love, many people confuse sex and violence. Some respond to a survivor as if she/he provoked, wanted or enjoyed it.

Many people also believe rape is not traumatic. Not understanding the reality of sexual assault can make the crisis more difficult for both of you. The emotional impact of sexual assault does not disappear, and talking about it can help. Your feelings are normal, and resources are available for you too.

Students affected by sexual assault may also seek assistance in seeking and obtaining academic accommodations.

SURVIVOR GUIDE

Members of the Dyersburg State Community College community who have been sexually assaulted are strongly encouraged to:

1. Talk to a Dyersburg State Community College counselor (ext. 3242) and sexual harassment coordinator (Director of Human Resources, ext. 3316).
2. Report the assault to Dyersburg State Community College Security.
3. Obtain medical assistance.

If you are a victim of sexual assault:

- Get to a safe place.
- Do not shower, bathe, wash your hands, brush your teeth, use the toilet or clean up in any way. You could destroy evidence.
- Do not change or destroy clothing. Your clothes are evidence.
- If it was in your home, do not rearrange and/or clean up anything. You could destroy evidence.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible. (Evidence should be collected when you get to the hospital.)
- Contact a friend or family member you trust or call the local rape crisis center hotline.

- Most of all, know this is not your fault.
- Determine whether to report the crime
- Ask for a police or security officer if you choose to report
- Locate an attorney to represent you (the prosecutor is not your attorney)
- Sue the rapist in civil court for money
- Request that someone accompany you in the examination room
- Be considered a rape victim/survivor regardless of the rapist's relationship to you

Survivors are advised to report any assault to Dyersburg State Community College Security as soon as possible after the incident. Thus, evidence, which might otherwise be lost after time has elapsed, can be collected. All reports of sexual assault are confidential to the extent allowed by law. Reporting sexual assault to Dyersburg State Community College Security in no way compels an individual to pursue a specific course of action. However, reporting does enable an individual to be apprised of the medical, emotional, legal and College options when dealing with the sexual assault. College personnel will assist students who choose to notify local authorities.

Getting back to normal can take a long time and you may be wondering if there is anyone who can help. Many survivors have found it helpful to talk to rape crisis counselors. You can find the telephone numbers of your local center here or listed in your phone book. You may also call the 24-hour National Sexual Assault Hotline, operated by RAINN, at 1-800-656-HOPE. By calling this number, you will be automatically connected to your closest rape crisis center. Rape crisis centers are on call 24-hours a day waiting to help you.

A student who individually, or in concert with others, participates or attempts to participate in a sexual offense is subject to disciplinary actions by the College notwithstanding any actions that may or may not be taken by law enforcement authorities.

- The college disciplinary procedures include the right for the accused and the complainant to be present at any hearing.
- The right to have a support person present during the hearing. This person is not entitled to represent the complainant or to assist in the testimony.

- The right to have evidence of his/her past sexual history with third parties admitted as evidence.
- The right to have a hearing closed to spectators unless both the accused and the complainant consent in writing to have the hearing open to the public.
- The right to know the outcome of the hearing as defined by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
- The discipline for acts of sexual assault may include suspension or dismissal from college.
- If requested by victims of alleged sexual offenses, the college will adjust class schedules or other reasonable actions that will reduce fear or concern.
- Students involved in sexual abuse or violent situations are encouraged to seek assistance from the college counselor at extension 3242, in the Student Center.

Dyersburg State provides college-wide programs that focus on sexual assault and abuse situations. These programs focus on current strategies and available options in the event of assaults or difficult situations.

If you have any questions about Dyersburg State's sexual assault program, please call the Office of the Dean of Student Services at 731-286-3234 .

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

Always be aware of your surroundings

Be aware of your surroundings and think of where you can go, and where you can get help if you need it. People frequently ask, "Where are the dangerous areas?". We tell people to be aware of surroundings wherever they are, not just in "dangerous areas". What is a dangerous area? Instead of naming places, apply these three (3) criteria of a place that has higher risk.

- Isolation, by location, darkness or both.
- Limited escape routes.
- Limited or no means of communication to summon help.

Higher risk areas could be anywhere that meets any one or all of those tests.

At DSCC, Security is available to escort you both to and from your classes. Contact them at 731-589-3250 or at campus extension 910 to avail you of this service. At the DSCC centers, ask for assistance at the front desk.

Carry a whistle or personal self-defense alarm

These can be helpful to summon help for yourself or someone else in the event of an emergency. If you keep the whistle on your keychain, it can be used as a mental reminder for you to be aware of your surroundings and your safety each time you use your keys.

SAFE NIGHTTIME SERVICES

As noted, Dyersburg State Community College Security is available to escort you both to and from your classes. Contact them at 731-589-3250 or at campus extension 910 to avail yourself of this service.

ROHYPHNOL: the "Date Rape Drug"

Rohyphnol is known as the "date rape drug"; its street name is "roofies". In recent years, there has been information in the media informing people of the dangers of this drug. It was first developed as an anesthetic. Although manufactured in the US, it is not legal for use and is exported to Mexico. People are urged to take precautions against this and any other drug that can be added to a beverage. Originally Rohyphnol was odorless and tasteless, and could be added to a drink and ingested without the victim being aware of it. Changes have been made to make the drug visible in a drink so it can be tasted or detected when you can't see the color of the drink. Effects are similar to those of alcohol as it can reduce inhibitions, impair judgment and cause the victim to become unconscious. When combined with alcohol, the effects can be magnified. Additionally, Rohyphnol can produce amnesia and the victim may not remember what happened while under the influence of the drug.

Use the following tips to help reduce the risk of exposure to this or any other drug:

- Do not accept an open container from anyone, and ask that you open any containers yourself.
- Maintain positive control of your drink at all times. If you cannot say that it would have been impossible for anyone to place anything in your drink, then throw it away.
- If you leave your drink unattended for any length of time, get a new drink.
- Do not leave your drink out for anyone else to drink.

Symptoms:

If you are not drinking alcohol and feel intoxicated, or if you are drinking alcohol and feel that you are more intoxicated than you should be given how much you've consumed, have a trusted friend take you to a medical facility immediately. There are tests to detect the presence of Rohyphnol, but they must be taken within 48 to 72 hours of ingestion of the drug. The potential for illegal use of Rohyphnol exists, and we need to protect ourselves from it. However, evidence shows that the date rape drug of choice on most campuses is alcohol. Approximately 80% of the acquaintance assaults reported by students are related to alcohol on the part of the victim, the offender or both.



1510 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024

731-286-3200 www.dscc.edu

Dyersburg State Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The Director of Human Resources/Affirmative Action Officer has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies and can be reached at Eller Administration Building, Room 231; 1510 Lake Road, Dyersburg, TN 38024; 731-286-3316; equity@dscc.edu. A Tennessee Board of Regents Institution.
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Dyersburg State Community College

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Emergency Telephone Numbers

Emergency (All Locations)

911

You must inform the 911 operator of your location, i.e. building and room number.

Other Emergency Numbers:

Dyersburg Campus

- Campus phone - dial 910
- Call Campus Security
731-589-3250

DSCC Gibson County Center

- Center phone - dial 7800
- Day or Evening Classes call
731-222-5141

*DSCC Jimmy Naifeh Center at
Tipton County*

- Center phone - dial 1397
- Call Campus Security
901-201-1344