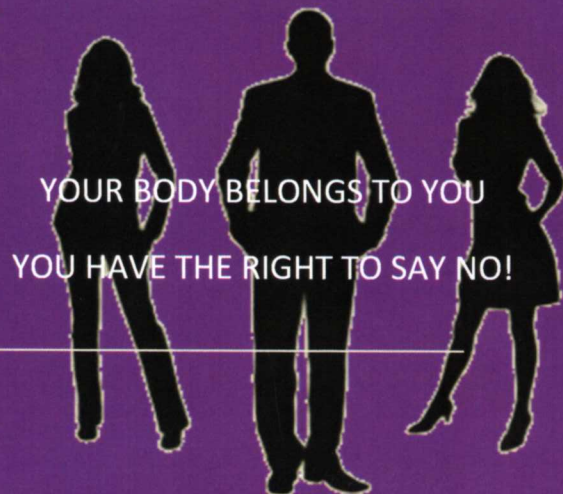


No one has the right to touch you without your consent. Sexual assault is a crime and the person who commits it is the **ONLY** one to blame.

Sexual assault is **ANY** contact that occurs without the consent of those involved. It can include touching, kissing, grabbing, or any other type of sexual contact without a person's consent, including rape. Sexual assault can also happen after a person has been unknowingly drugged or is under the influence of alcohol and cannot give his or her consent.

To give **CONSENT** means agreeing to do something without being pressured, manipulated, coerced or forced. Consent is freely choosing to say **YES**.

Unwanted sexual attention, including harassing comments and gestures, as well as pressuring someone to have sex, is also considered sexual violence.



## UNA DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

We can help.

IF YOU ARE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER,  
ON CAMPUS OR OFF CAMPUS

**CALL 911**

If you would like confidential support, day or night, please call RAPE RESPONSE on their 24-hour **CRISIS HOTLINE** (256.767.1100). Trained advocates are available to listen 24/7.

**RAPE RESPONSE 256.767.1100**

### RESOURCES

#### COMMUNITY SUPPORT & EDUCATION

Rape Response .....256.765.0025  
North Alabama SafePlace .....256.767.6210  
ECM Hospital Emergency Room .....256.768.9191

#### CAMPUS SUPPORT & EDUCATION

UNA Counseling Services.....256.765.5215  
UNA Health Services.....256.765.4328  
UNA Student Affairs .....256.765.4223  
UNA Student Conduct .....256.765.5012  
UNA Police Department .....256.765.4357  
UNA Center for Women's Studies .....256.765.6198

#### YOUR CHOICES

As a student at UNA and a member of the community, you have several options available to you. **YOU ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO TAKE ANY ACTION**, but it is recommended that you report the incident and seek support.

You may choose any one or a combination of the following:

- ✓ UNA Student Conduct Actions
- ✓ Criminal Charges
- ✓ Civil Suit

Visit [www.una.edu/assault](http://www.una.edu/assault) for additional information

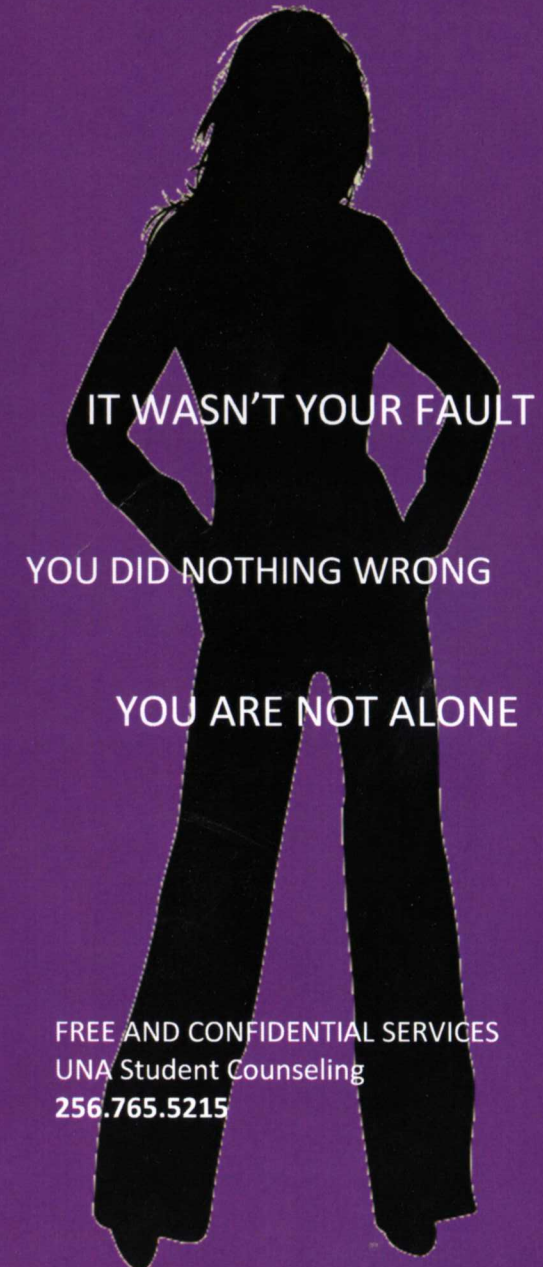
**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA**

Division of Student Affairs

256.765.4223

## What Can I Do...

A Guide to Sexual Violence





## WHAT CAN I DO IF I'VE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED?

It can help to talk about it. You can call someone you know and trust for support. If something happened to you and it didn't feel right, even if you are not sure it was an assault, you can still talk about it. An advocate from the Rape Response Crisis Center can explain your rights, what to expect, and explore your options, call **256.767.1100** for more information.

- ✓ Sexual assault is a traumatic event and you may feel angry, ashamed, hopeless, anxious or scared. There are no right or wrong feelings and reactions.
- ✓ Do not change clothes, bathe, shower, or go to the bathroom. Do not have anything to eat or drink.
- ✓ It is important to seek immediate and follow-up medical attention for sexual assault to determine the presence of physical injury, sexually transmitted diseases, or pregnancy, as well as obtain evidence to assist in criminal prosecution if you choose. Physical evidence should be collected immediately, ideally within the first 24 hours. However, it may be collected up to 72 hours after an assault.
- ✓ The emergency room (ER) is an ideal choice if you are not medically stable, which includes being pregnant. If you are medically stable, the ER staff will send you to the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner). In the ER, a nurse will conduct the majority of the exam, with a doctor conducting the pelvic exam. A SANE-trained nurse from the Crisis Center may be called to conduct the exam along with a Rape Response Advocate to provide emotional support for you.
- ✓ Above all, remember that an assault is NEVER your fault! No one ever has the right to hurt you. Even if you have been drinking, or even if you previously have chosen to have sex with a person, no one has the right to hurt you. You have a choice in every sexual encounter and each time requires your consent.

## NO ONE EVER DESERVES TO BE THE TARGET OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

### You Have Rights

- ✓ The right to be treated with dignity and compassion.
- ✓ The right to information on available sexual assault counseling.
- ✓ The right to know all options available and the steps involved in the criminal justice process and/or the University's student conduct process.
- ✓ The right to have a person of your choice, such as a counselor or victim's advocate, present for emotional support throughout the criminal justice proceedings.
- ✓ The right to have an advisor present during student conduct proceedings subject to the "Definition of Advisor" located on the UNA Student Conduct Website.
- ✓ The right to know the results of any of the proceedings.
- ✓ The right to choose any one or a combination of actions; civil suit, criminal charges and UNA Student Conduct actions.

No one deserves to have sex forced on them under ANY circumstances. Sexual contact of any kind without consent is assault, and is a crime. Eighty-five percent of sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows. Remember, sexual violence can happen to anyone.

## TO REPORT OR NOT TO REPORT?

### Reporting Options

Although YOU ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO TAKE ANY ACTION, we encourage you to file a police report. **Filing a report is different from pressing charges.** A report puts the incident on record. There is no statute of limitation on the crime of rape. You may press charges at a later date if you choose.

It helps if the UNA Police are notified immediately at 256.765.4357 or 911. If you wish to report at a later date, call 256.765.4357. If you have not contacted the police by the time you arrive at the hospital or the SANE facility, you can ask hospital or SANE personnel to contact them for you.

### Reporting to the Police

- ✓ Protects you and others from future victimization.
- ✓ Assists in the investigation to apprehend the violators.
- ✓ Helps you maintain future options regarding criminal prosecution, actions regarding the University Code of Conduct, and/or civil action against the perpetrator.

*The UNA Police Department is available to transport you to the hospital or SANE facility if a friend or relative is not available. To arrange transportation call the UNA Police Dispatcher at 256.765.4357.*

## THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA GUIDE ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE

UNA Student Counseling  
**256.765.5215**  
Rape Response Crisis Hotline  
**256.767.1100**

ONLINE AT:  
[www.una.edu/assault](http://www.una.edu/assault)