

# SEXUAL ASSAULT is a CRIME!!!!



## Tell us, We CAN help you!



Every day you make many choices about things you are going to do, but when someone else's choice is forced on you, it can be a frightening experience and you

might not be sure what you should do. One example of this is sexual assault. Sexual assaults on colleges and university campuses occur at an alarming rate. The majority of these are date/acquaintance rapes. Some of the factors in these assaults include alcohol and drugs as well as gender communication issues. The one thing to remember is: it is NEVER the victims/survivors fault that the assault occurred. Perpetrators are 100% responsible for their actions.

## Will you tell my parents about what happened?

If you are an adult we do not notify parents; however if you would like your parents contacted for you, we can facilitate that.



## What should I do if I am sexually assaulted?

Make sure you are in a safe location. Call the police immediately. The decision to file charges can be made at another time.) Tell US, we can help.

Evidence is short lived. You may want to, but please don't bathroom or shower. Do not drink or eat anything. Do not change your clothes. Do not discard or wash clothing. This could destroy evidence.



Write down the details about the assailant: height, weight, hair color, physical oddities, and clothing, the name of the suspect if known, the circumstances and the location of the assault as soon as possible.

## How do I report the assault?

Call **911** or **256-372-5555** to report what happened to the University Police Department. All of our officers are trained in investigating sensitive crimes. We can inform you of many community resources. Reporting the assault does not commit you to prosecuting the assailant, but it keeps your options open.



## Why should I report the assault?

We want you to feel safe in your university community and assist you with receiving counseling. We want to preserve the evidence first and then prosecute the offender, if you wish to follow through.

You wouldn't want this to happen to anyone else.

Reporting this is the first step in stopping the perpetrator from repeating this crime against someone else.



## What if I don't want to talk to an officer of the opposite sex?

We will always make every effort to honor the request for an officer of a specific gender. ALL of our officers are specially trained to assist victims/survivors of sensitive crimes.

## Do I have to go to court if I report this to the police?

It is your choice; you don't have to make the decision immediately. There are legal advocates available to you through University Counseling & Health Services on Campus or the Crisis Services Center of North Alabama. You can also file a complaint with the AAMU Title IX Coordinator or Judicial Affairs Officer.



**What if I am under the age of 21 and have been consuming alcohol prior to the assault?**



Your safety is our main concern; not underage drinking by a victim of sexual assault.

**What should I do if I think I have been drugged?**



Time is of the essence! Date rape drugs (GHB, Rohypnol, and Ketamine) are only in your system for a few

hours. We need you to have a urine test taken to determine if one of these types of drugs are in your system.

**What if I have consented to sex with this person in the past, but did not consent this time?**



No means No! Regardless, if you have said yes in the past, you have the right to say no!

**Should I go to the hospital right away?**

Yes! If you would like we can transport you to a local hospital. You can bring a family member or friend with you too. Your safety is our concern. Local hospitals have SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) nurses, who are specifically trained for sensitive crime medical exams. **IF** you want to make a police report the medical staff will contact the appropriate police department, if it has not been notified already.



**Get help for yourself:**

No matter how long ago or under what circumstances you were assaulted, immediate and ongoing help is available.

- AAMU COUNSELING & HEALTH SERVICES  
256-375-5601
- AAMU JUDICIAL AFFAIRS OFFICER  
256-372-5616
- AAMU TITLE IX COORDINATOR  
256-372-5836
- AAMU POLICE DEPARTMENT  
256-372-5555
- NORTH ALABAMA CRISIS SERVICES  
256-716-1000 ♦ 800-691-8426
- HUNTERS HOTLINE  
256-297-1707
- HUNTSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
256-722-7100

SEXUAL  
ASSAULT IS  
NOT  
YOUR FAULT

