

It's Not Just About Sports.... How Title IX Applies to You



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The beginning...
the Education Amendments of 1972



- “No person in the United States shall, **on the basis of sex**, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination under **any educational program** or activity receiving **federal financial assistance.**”

Overview of Title IX



- It is **not just about sports**; it is a prohibition against sex-based discrimination in education.
- It is **not just for women**; it protects any person from sex-based discrimination



Title IX prohibits all of the following involving members of the University community



Umbrella Term: Sexualized Violence

Rape

Sexual Assault

Sexual Misconduct

Sexual Discrimination

Domestic Violence

Dating Violence

Stalking

Sexual Harassment

Pregnancy

Process for filing a Title IX Complaint



- MSU has an **established procedure** for handling complaints of sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual violence.
- The **Title IX Coordinator** manages these complaints. Now also have a Title IX Investigator.
- Contact information for the Title IX Coordinator is **on the MSU website**.
- When a complaint is filed, there is a prompt **investigation, regardless of whether a police report is also made.**

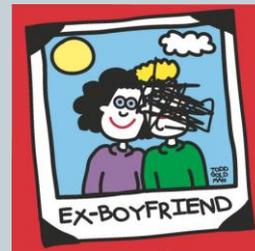
Myths and Realities about Sexual Assault



- **MYTH:** Stranger rape is what we are conditioned to think of from depictions in mainstream media but it is rare.



- **REALITY:** 80-90% of rapes are acquaintance rapes, which means that they are committed among people who are: friends, in a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship, exes, acquaintances, or some other familiar relationship...





Daunting Statistics



- About one in four women in the United States will be victims of rape or attempted rape by the time they are in their mid-twenties
- The great majority of these assaults will occur between people who know each other.

College Women at Highest Risk



- **Women ages 16 to 24** experience rape at rates 4x higher than the assault rate of all women, making the college and high school years the most vulnerable for women.
- **College women** are more at risk for rape and other forms of sexual assault than women the same age but who are not in college.
- It is estimated that almost 25% of college women have been victims of rape or attempted rape **since the age of 14**



College Men



-Nationally, **male victims** range from 1 in 10 to 1 in 20 victims.

-1 in 13 men will experience **stalking**

-Significant **underreporting** among males

LGBTQ+ Community



- A National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence survey reported that **bisexual** men and women were at greatest risk for victimization
- Lifetime prevalence of members of the LGBTQ+ community being raped is much higher than the rate for heterosexual men and women
- Rates of partner violence in **same-sex couples** is about the same as occurs in heterosexual couples

Athletes



- Male student-athletes reported being victim of sexual assault at higher rates than their non-athlete peers
- Female college students victimized during any year of college, at **higher risk** to be sexually assaulted in the same year
- Female student-athletes **MAY** believe they are less vulnerable to victimization because they are **strong and confident**
 - Reinforced by teammates
 - This belief reinforces risk taking behaviors that increases vulnerability

Barriers to Reporting Sexual Assault



- Victims of acquaintance rape often do not consider their assaults to be rape
- They are embarrassed or ashamed
- They believe it would be too emotionally difficult
- They didn't think anything would be done about it

There are many reasons why a victim would not report



- Self-blame
- Reaction of friends and families
- Fear of attacker
- Fear of not being believed
- Threats from attacker
- Relationship with attacker
- Fear and distrust of the investigative process
- Memories of past abuse

What kinds of situations can the Title IX Office help with?



- It can be something that happened while you were at MSU
- It can be something that happened when you were home for the weekend or break
- It can be something that happened while you were out of the state or country
- It can involve people who are both members of the MSU campus community (student, staff, faculty – or not)
- If you have been effected by it, we can help

Everfi study: Who did you tell?



- Roommate: 27%
- Close friend: 55 %
- Parent: 13%
- Police: 5%
- NO ONE: 27%

Role of Alcohol in Sexual Assault



- Nearly 70% of sexual assaults are **alcohol-fueled** by an intoxicated perpetrator
- 43% involve an **intoxicated victim**
- **Drunk sex** between consenting adults is not the issue.
- Who is responsible if a drunk person is targeted because he or she will be easier to take advantage of than a sober person?
- There is **Amnesty** for alcohol violations in Title IX cases.

Sexting



- Between 15-48% of those surveyed said they have sent or received explicit texts or photos.
- This practice is NOT gender neutral
 - Voluntary sexting is the same between the genders
 - Females report being pressured, coerced, blackmailed or threatened at twice the rate of males.
 - Begins as early as middle school
 - May produce anxiety, depression, and trauma, as the pressure can be incessant.
 - Consider **revenge porn** also- the sharing may have been voluntary but the distribution is entirely different.
 - WE CAN HELP.

Some things to consider....



- Decide ahead of time how you will get home and with whom
- Keep track of your drink (whether alcoholic or not)
- Stay with the crowd
- Communicate clearly – verbally and with body language
- Be a GOOD friend and a savvy bystander

Be A Good Friend and Bystander



- Stick with the plan
- Don't leave your friend
- Don't ignore signs of trouble
- Be protective

● BELIEVE

- Get help
- Be **SUPPORTIVE** in the short and long term
 - Counterintuitive behavior of victims is normal



Issues to consider about a sexual encounter



- *Not everyone who wants to flirt or kiss wants to have sex
- *Purposely getting someone drunk so that they can't resist is a crime
- *Being drunk is not a defense to your behavior
- *Asking repeatedly in hopes of getting a different answer is coercive
- *Drunk, drugged or sleeping people **CANNOT** consent



Statistically Significant Risk Factors



- Being female
- Freshman and sophomore years
- Prior abusive relationship
- Frequent attendance at fraternity parties
- Membership in a sorority
- Victimization prior to college
- Having a non-majority gender identification
- Being LGBTQ+
- Number of sexual partners

Resources Available to the Title IX Office



- **Interim Measures**
 - Move one or both to different housing
 - Move one or both to a different class
 - Issue directives about dining halls, rec center, entrance/exit to buildings
- **No contact directives**
- **Campus bans (non-MSU offenders)**
- **Investigation**
- **Counseling referrals**
- **Assistance with police and prosecution contact**
- **Support through the process**

Relationship between Porn and Sexual Aggression



- In 2015, porn sites were among the most popular in cyberspace – 35% of internet traffic
- More available than it has ever been to **EVERYONE**, including kids
- most boys and girls have been exposed to porn before they turn 18
- Why does this matter in a discussion about sexual assault?

Effects of exposure to PORN



- much of it is characterized by violence against women (choking, slapping....)
- the violence contains dominance and control of women
- insults to women (name calling, demeaning remarks, belittling)
- sometimes the women are also physically assaulted during the sex act
- If this is your exposure to sexuality from a young age, will your sexual encounters be influenced by it?

What standard should you apply



- YES means YES, everything else means NO.



What happens if you tell?



- **Responsible Employees**

- someone who has specifically been given the duty to inform the Title IX Office and anyone who “a student would reasonably believe had the authority or duty to take action.”

- **Missouri State University Exceptions:**

- Taylor Health and Wellness Employees

- The Counseling Center Clinicians

Title IX Office –Carrington 205



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