

BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Sexual Assault Response System

A sexual assault can be reported **ANYTIME!** There is **NO** statute of limitations on reporting. Whether it was five years ago or five minutes ago.

If you or someone you know experiences a sexual assault on campus:

A). You have the right to privacy: All information you share about the incident **must and will be kept confidential.** Bergen Community College officials cannot talk about your experiences without your permission. Public Safety has an obligation, however, under the Clery Act, to report to the state only the date of the incident. **NOT** your name or identifying information.

B). You have the right to make decisions about who can be contacted and if and how any intervention will proceed. You have the option, or not, to notify and seek assistance from law enforcement and campus authorities. You have the option of seeking assistance from any of the services mentioned in the preceding pages.

C). You have the right to institutional implementation of no-contact, restraining and protective orders.

D). You have the right to obtain the following documents located in the Office of Human Resources:

- New Jersey Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights
- Bergen Community College Sexual Assault Protocols and Procedures

Whether the sexual assault occurred on campus or off, the **Violence Intervention Prevention Center (VIP)** can support and assist in finding any services that someone might need.

Located in A 126 C & A 126 D

*For any questions, concerns or services please feel free to visit <http://www.bergen.edu/vip> or contact Shari Franschman sfranschman@bergen.edu and Sonia Wadhvani swadhvani@bergen.edu



BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

What is the Green Dot Violence Prevention Strategy?

The permanent reduction of power-based personal violence- including (but not limited to) sexual assault, dating/domestic violence and stalking.

HOW IS THIS DONE?

- recognize warning signs of violence
- understand personal obstacles for intervention
- identify multiple options for intervention that are realistic and manageable





BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

A **BYSTANDER** is anyone in the community who sees or hears about a behavior that could lead to something that is high risk or harmful. Bystanders face a choice of, “do I get involved, or do I ignore the situation?”

A **GREEN DOT BYSTANDER** is an individual who uses their words or actions to decrease the likelihood that something bad will happen or get worse.

Some simple steps to becoming a Green Dot Bystander

☑ **Believe someone** who discloses a sexual assault, abusive relationship, or experience with stalking.

☑ **Be respectful** of yourself and others. Make sure any sexual act is OK with your partner if you initiate.

☑ **Watch out for your colleagues, students and friends.** If you see someone on or off campus who looks like they are in trouble, ask if they are okay. If you are afraid to interfere with the situation, call that person over for something very general (“Can I speak to you about the homework from the other day?”). If you see a colleague, student, or friend doing something shady, say something or tell someone like a professor.

☑ **Speak up.** If someone says something offensive, derogatory, or abusive, let them know that behavior is wrong and you don’t want to be around it. Don’t laugh at sexist, racist, or homophobic jokes.



BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

The Three D's of Safe Intervention

Direct: This approach means that you are directly interacting with the people involved in the situation and addressing that you are concerned. It may be asking the person “Hey. What are you doing?” Or it may be just checking in with a friend “*Are you OK?*”

Delegate: When you recognize a potential act of violence, you may be uncomfortable saying something yourself or you feel like someone else is better suited to handle it (i.e. a friend, police, professor), then delegate is a solid option. Here, you are asking someone else to help in the situation. This also additionally makes someone else aware of what it going on and that something needs to be done.

Distract: This approach focuses on a diversion. If you see a situation and can think of a way to divert the attention of the people in the situation, distract is the perfect option. Sometimes all a situation needs to diffuse is a little diversion. (i.e. change the conversation, ask for directions).

**If you would like to learn more about Green Dot, please contact:
Deborah Ajagbe, Bystander Intervention Facilitator
Phone: 201-879-8994; Email: dajagbe@bergen.edu; Office: A126D**

Sexual abuse is a form of physical abuse

Any situation in which you are forced to participate in unwanted, unsafe or degrading sexual activity is sexual abuse. Forced sex, even by a spouse or intimate partner with whom you also have consensual sex, is an act of aggression and violence. Furthermore, people whose partners abuse them physically and sexually are at a higher risk of being seriously injured or killed.

While you can never completely protect yourself from sexual assault, there are some things you can do to help reduce your risk of being assaulted.

- *Be aware of your surroundings.*
- *Try to avoid isolated areas.*
- *Walk with purpose. Even if you don't know where you are going, act like you do.*
- *Trust your instincts. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn't the best place to be.*
- *Try not to load yourself down with packages or bags as this can make you appear more vulnerable.*
- *Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you do not trust or someone you don't know.*
- *Avoid putting music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings.*

If someone is pressuring you and you need to get out of an uncomfortable situation:

- Remember that being in this situation is not your fault.
- Don't feel obligated to do anything you do not want to do.
- Have a code word with your friends or family so that you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing.
- Try to think of an escape route. How would you get out of the room?
Where are the doors? Windows?

**NEW JERSEY CAMPUS SEXUAL
ASSAULT VICTIM'S BILL OF RIGHTS
NEW JERSEY CAMPUS SEXUAL
ASSAULT VICTIM'S BILL OF RIGHTS**

A college or university in a free society must be devoted to the pursuit of truth and knowledge through reason and open communication among its members. Academic communities acknowledge the necessity of being intellectually stimulating where the diversity of ideas is valued. Its rules must be conceived for the purpose of furthering and protecting the rights of all members of the college community in achieving these ends.

The boundaries of personal freedom are limited by applicable state and federal laws and institutional rules and regulations governing interpersonal behavior. Respect for the individual and human dignity is of paramount importance in creating a community free from violence, sexual assault and non-consensual sexual contact.

The State of New Jersey recognizes that the impact of violence on its victims and the surrounding community can be severe and long lasting. Thus, it has established this Bill of Rights to articulate requirements for policies, procedures and services designed to insure that the needs of victims are met and that the colleges and universities in New Jersey create and maintain communities that support human dignity.

NEW JERSEY CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM'S BILL OF RIGHTS

<p>BILL OF RIGHTS NJSA18A 61E-1 et.seq.</p>	<p>The following Rights shall be accorded to victims of sexual assault that occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the campus of any public or independent institution of higher education in the State of New Jersey, and • Where the victim or alleged perpetrator is a student at that institution, and/or • When the victim is a student involved in an off-campus sexual assault.
<p>HUMAN DIGNITY RIGHTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be free from any suggestion that victims must report the crimes to be assured of any other right guaranteed under this policy. • To have any allegations of sexual assault treated seriously; the right to be treated with dignity • to be free from any suggestion that victims are responsible for the commission of crimes against them • To be free from any pressure from campus personnel to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • report crimes if the victim does not wish to do so • report crimes as lesser offenses than the victim perceives the crime to be • refrain from reporting crimes • refrain from reporting crimes to avoid unwanted personal publicity
<p>RIGHTS TO RESOURCES ON AND OFF CAMPUS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be notified of existing campus and community based medical, counseling, mental health and student services for victims of sexual assault whether or not the crime is formally reported to campus or civil authorities • To have access to campus counseling under the same terms and conditions as apply to other students in their institution seeking such counseling • To be informed of and assisted in exercising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any rights to confidential or anonymous testing for sexually transmitted diseases, human immunodeficiency virus and/or pregnancy • any rights that may be provided by law to compel and disclose the results of testing of sexual assault suspects for communicable diseases
<p>CAMPUS JUDICIAL RIGHTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be afforded the same access to legal assistance as the accused • To be afforded the same opportunity to have others present during any campus disciplinary proceeding that is allowed the accused • To be notified of the outcome of the sexual assault disciplinary proceeding against the accused

<p>LEGAL RIGHTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have any allegation of sexual assault investigated and adjudicated by the appropriate criminal and civil authorities of the jurisdiction in which the sexual assault is reported • To receive full and prompt cooperation and assistance of campus personnel in notifying the proper authorities • To receive full, prompt and victim-sensitive cooperation of campus personnel with regard to obtaining, securing, and maintaining evidence, including a medical examination when it is necessary to preserve evidence of the assault
<p>CAMPUS INTERVENTION RIGHTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To require campus personnel to take reasonable and necessary actions to prevent further unwanted contact of a victim by the alleged assailant to be notified of the options for and provided assistance in changing academic and living situations if such changes are reasonably available
<p>STATUTORY MANDATES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each campus must guarantee that this Bill of Rights is implemented. It is the obligation of the individual campus governing board to examine resources dedicated to services required and to make appropriate requests to increase or reallocate resources where necessary to ensure implementation • Each campus shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that every student at the institution receives a copy of this document • Nothing in this act or in any "Campus Assault Victim's Bill of Rights" developed in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be construed to preclude or in any way restrict any public or independent institution of higher education in the state from reporting any suspected crime or offense to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

SAFE PLACES FOR REPORTING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT ON BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUS

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE



The Center of Health
Wellness and
Personal Counseling

ADVOCACY



Violence Intervention
Prevention Center

Office of Student
Life Conduct

healingS.P.A.C.E.
Hotline

EMERGENCY SERVICES



Department of Public
Safety

Bergen County Police

SHELTER



Center for Hope and
Safety

<p>Medical Assistance Center for Health, Wellness, and Personal Counseling. The RN staff of Health Services provides free first-aid, emergency medical response, and healthcare maintenance to all members of the campus community. Room HS-100. Phone: (201)447-9257</p>	<p>Advocacy and Support Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Violence Intervention Prevention (VIP) Center provides information, referrals and connects students with an advocate, if requested. Room A-126C and A-126D (Main) Phone: (201)879-8911. • Office of Student Life and Conduct Phone: (201)447-7215 • healingS.P.A.C.E. A Sexual Violence Resource Center. 24 Hour Hotline: (201)487-2227
<p>Emergency Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of Public Safety provides emergency services. Phone (201) 447-9200. Room L-154. • The Bergen County Police is located at Paramus Campus, at room A-114. 	<p>Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center for Hope and Safety provides safe housing, hotline counseling, and life changing support services. If you or someone you know is being abused call our 24 Hour Hotline: (201)944-9600
<p>Hotline Center for Hope and Safety 24 Hour Hotline (201)944-9600 YWCA healingS.P.A.C.E. 24 Hour Hotline (201) 487-2227 TTY: (201) 487-0916 Alternatives to Domestic Violence (ADV) Phone: (201)336-7575 TTY: (201)336-7525</p>	
<p>If a STUDENT would like to report a sexual assault, they can report to: the Title IX Coordinator for Students: Rachel Lerner-Colucci, Dean of Student Conduct and Student Life Phone: (201) 447-7215. Email: rlerner@bergen.edu.</p>	
<p>If STAFF or FACULTY would like to report a sexual assault, they can report to: the Title IX Coordinator for Employees: Patti Bonomolo, Director of Human Resources. Phone: (201) 689-7736. Email: pbonomolo@bergen.edu .</p>	