Campus Rape and Sexual Assault Explored: An Educational Summary of the Problem

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Abstract

We all too often hear in the media of a sexual assault or rape that occurred on the campus of a high school, college or university, or occurring during a sanctioned or unsanctioned event such as a gathering or party. All too often nothing comes from the criminal complaint. Some campuses refuse to acknowledge and take serious claims of sexual assault or rape until the media turns up the heat. The role of alcohol in a sexual assault or rape is often misunderstood. An intoxicated sex offender is aware of what he/she is doing and makes a conscious decision to rape, whether sober or intoxicated. Additionally, blackouts are relatively rare, with almost all sex offenders able to recall their offense behavior when in treatment, of course after criminal conviction. Blackouts conveniently occur when confronted about a wrong doing. The motivations for sexual assault and rape are discussed, with the primary motivations being power, control, anger, and revenge. Lastly, I re-coin the term violent personality because sex offenders tend to have a history of violent behavior aside from their sex offender behavior. Also, the factors that sex offenders share as a group are the same as those of other violent criminals.

Definitions

Sexual Abuse
This involves any sexual contact with a minor. This is sexual exploitation of a minor.

Sexual Assault
Involves unwanted sexual touching of another person, or having the other person sexually touch another person against their will, without penetration (oral, anal, vaginal). This includes being forced to masturbate without penetration. This also includes the use of psychological force or physical force. This does not include any type of oral, anal, or vaginal penetration, which is rape.

Rape
Rape has been defined as “The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim”. (U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2012). This also includes being forced to masturbate involving penetration.

Sexual Harassment
Involves any inference that your status, employment, grade, acceptance or other activity is in any way contingent on engaging in sexual behavior. This also includes unwanted sexual attention, advances, comments

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or touches (even unwanted hugs or kisses). This also includes comments made of a sexually derogatory theme.

**Force**

Force includes any type of power assertion including physical, emotional, and/or psychological pressure. It is not uncommon that when one type of sexually inappropriate behavior occurs, that other type of sexually inappropriate behavior occurs as well.

**There are two types of pressure/force, physical and psychological**

Force and pressure will be used interchangeably because they mean the same thing.

**Physically pressuring/forcing sexual contact is sexual assault and/or rape:** If there is any type of forced penetration that is rape. Any forced sexual touching is sexual assault. Both are felonies, and both are illegal. This includes forcing someone to be touched on their genitals, making them touch another’s genitals, and any type of forced penetration (oral, anal, vaginal). Anytime someone ignores another person when they say “stop”. “Wait”, “Don’t”, or put them in a position where they cannot safely say stop or no, or they are impaired by drugs or alcohol, or unconscious, then physical pressure/force is being used. Also included here is the use of any object or weapon against someone to force sex, engaging in degrading or painful sexual acts, having pictures taken, having others watch during sex, etc.

**Psychological pressure & psychological force:** Refers to using threats, pressure, or coercion to get someone to comply with demands, or to give in to having sex when he/she does not want to. At that point this person is now a victim. This includes making it awkward for them to refuse demands being made against them. Psychological pressure/force is the use of tricks, coercion, or threats to make someone do something that he/she does not want to do, or something they normally would not do if not mentioned. The seven types of psychological pressure/force are described below [1,2].

**Intimidation**

Is the act of causing someone to experience fear for their personal safety, or to doubt whether they are "normal" or sane.

**Threats**

Are similar to intimidation and refer to blatantly warning that they will or may be harmed if they refuse to comply with demands.

**Emotional blackmail**

Refers to using emotions and personal information to pressure or force the victim into compliance. The goal of emotional blackmail is to equate feelings of care and love with compliance and dominance. For pressuring sexual contact, this involves pairing sex with love, again attempting to trap the victim into being sexual.

**Game playing**

Refers to the games played to get what you want from your victim. Another name for this is manipulation.

**Begging & pressuring**

Refers to the use of badgering, nagging, and whining to talk someone into compliance.

**Boundary violations**

Refer to the breaking of someone's personal boundaries. Examples include engaging in any behavior that someone has not given permission to do, or that they were not ready to do or pushing boundaries by repeatedly attempting to kiss or touch after being told not to. Pushing boundaries can occur verbally and non-verbally. It also includes following someone around; stalking; calling too frequently; having others watch him/her; going through their things; and entering their areas or space without permission.

**Lying**

Refers to statements that are used to deceive someone. Other examples include failing to keep any type of promise made, only telling partial truths, and lies of omission. When pressure is used against someone for sex, it is a conscious choice to sexually assault or rape.

**Consent**

Consent refers to giving permission and agreeing on what will happen. Any type of force negates consent.

**For consent to be given**

a. The other person must have the right, opportunity, and capability to safely say "yes" or "no" without being forced, threatened, incapacitated, tricked, or pressured. This means that the person is not being threatened or pressured in any way.

b. The person must fully understand what he/she is agreeing to do. It is important that both people speak the same language at least somewhat fluently and are both able to communicate their understanding of what is being agreed upon. Definitions of “making-out” and
characteristics of violent personality do not make an individual engage in violent behavior but rather predisposes the individual to be more likely to do so.

**Characteristic of the Violent Personality**

Since the 1960's, researchers have identified the background of what I am referring to as the violent personality. The diagnostic criteria for Antisocial Personality Disorder, Conduct Disorder, and Psychopathy clearly describe the violent personality characteristics and I will not repeat them here. It takes a rapist to rape, and an abuser to abuse, a murder to murder, yet all share similar personality characteristics and similar backgrounds. These will be discussed in the following section under motivations.

**Motivation for Rape**

Rape is not about sex. Sex is used as a weapon to harm the victim. The term rape will be used throughout to include sexual assault (any forced sexual contact that does not involve penetration) as well as any physically forced sexual contact. The underlying needs of the sexual offender can be complex and many. Anyone can find a sexual partner for consensual sex. In fact, many sex offenders have plenty of sexual partners and even have relationships that involve ongoing sexual activity, are involved in a committed dating relationship or even married. The sexual offender may or may not abuse or rape their partner, treating their partner with respect, which is one of the reasons when a sexual offender is identified in the media some people may not believe the allegations. Make no mistake, to take sex, force sex, or use any type of psychological or physical force to obtain sexual contact, is sexual assault and/or rape. Factors and situations related to the perpetration of sexual assault and rape include (but not limited to) childhood victimization, attachment deficits, reduced capacity for empathy, witnessing parental violence, personality characteristics, narcissism, antisocial traits, disregard for social norms, tendency for aggression, early sexual experiences, promiscuity, hostility towards women, traditional views about gender roles, impulsivity, and beliefs supporting abuse and rape (3-16).

**Support from others to rape is also a factor**

Perpetrators often have family and friends who condone violence towards others, women or children, and support for rape (2,17). Recall Brock Turner, the Stanford swimmer rapist, whose father commented that 20 minutes of “action” should not ruin his son’s life. Interesting that father holds rape supporting beliefs, condoning and relabeling rape as “action”.

“fooling-around” are fluid definitions that are often confusing.

c. The person must be in a clear state of mind, that is, not impaired in any way. Impairment would include being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, actively experiencing mental illness or a mental disorder, asleep, injured, or in any way incapacitated.

d. Both people should be equally participating. If one person is remaining still (freezing) or not actively participating, then consent is not likely given. Sex involves two consenting age-appropriate people.

e. “Yes” means “yes” & “no” means “no”. “Not sure”, “maybe”, “I don’t know”, and no response indicates “no”. Any response other than “yes” is a “no”.

f. Anyone can at any time change their mind and cease sexual activity.

g. When in doubt, STOP! (Johnson, 2005, 2013) Now that we have clear definitions of the topic at hand we can now turn to understanding the background of sex offenders.

**Background**

The scientific, psychological, and criminology fields have long studied and understood violence, including sex related offenses. The literature is extensive in identifying the background of violent offenders, whether general assaulters, batterers, child abusers, and sex offenders. The more appropriate term would be the violent offender, those that present with characteristics of violent personality, and those that present with certain characteristics that may predispose an individual to engage in any type of violent behavior, whether verbal, physical or sexual in nature. In fact, many violent offenders engage in violent behavior in several realms, ranging from frequent arguments, domestic abuse, child abuse, pet abuse, road rage, sexual offenses, arson, robbery, auto theft, and homicide. In order to engage in violent behavior, an individual must first decide that

i. It is appropriate to do so, that is, that they have a right to engage in the violent behavior;

ii. That the costs of such behavior is worth the risk; and

iii. That they have a low risk of getting caught, or if they are caught, a low risk for receiving any serious consequence.

Violent behavior, like nonviolent behavior, is a choice. A conscious choice, regardless of whether sober or intoxicated, the individual must make a deliberate choice to engage in the violent behavior. No different than the individual making a conscious, deliberate choice to engage in respectful and nonviolent behavior. Having the characteristics of violent personality do not make an
**Children’s exposure to domestic abuse**

Is also correlated with negative outcomes, including psychosocial impact, which increases the chance for the children to engage in intimate partner violence later in life [18]. Domestic abusers frequently rape their partners, again, along the continuum of violent personality, if you abuse your partner physically, you are far more likely to abuse your partner sexually. Engaging in pet abuse is also a risk factor for engaging in violence towards humans. In one study, 65% of those arrested form animal cruelty engaged in assault against another person [19]. This is consistent with other researchers [9,20-23]. Those who engage in animal cruelty were 3 times more likely to commit other crimes, including Murder, rape, robbery, assault, harassment, threats, and drug/substance abuse [24]. In addition, of all 7 school shootings that occurred in the U.S. between 1997 and 2001, all of the boys had a history of engaging in animal abuse [25]. For more of a review on the connections between pet abuse and violence towards people, see Johnson, (in press).

**The Role of Alcohol in Sexual Assault and Rape**

For a thorough literature review of the role of alcohol in sexual assault and rape see Johnson (2014; 2017b). A causal relationship between alcohol consumption and sexual assault/rape is not demonstrated given that only approximately half of the perpetrators were drinking alcohol at the time of the crime. The above factors may lead to the use and abuse of alcohol, which brings alcohol now into the mix as a contributing factor for sexual assault and rape, though alcohol use does not cause rape to occur. Alcohol intoxication in and of itself is not the cause of sexual assault or rape. It is unclear whether when drinking the perpetrator decides to commit the sexual assault or rape or if the perpetrator drank prior to the offense to allow an excuse or justification for the crime [26]. Knowing that alcohol plays a role for the perpetrator in justifying and committing the rape does not lessen in any way the perpetrator’s responsibility for the rape behavior. In addition, it is impossible to know the amount of alcohol an offender consumed prior to or during the sex offense because only very few sex offenders are arrested immediately after a rape. Remember that the primary person stating how much alcohol was consumed is the sex offender themselves and the sex offender is not considered a reliable witness of fact.

**Blackouts Are a Rare Event**

It is interesting that most sex offenders claim that they had a “blackout” and cannot remember the rape situation clearly. It is actually rare to have a blackout. Have you heard of drunks later recalling what they did, who they were with, and where they were despite heavy drinking? The drunkard who brags about their enjoyable time on the beach in Cancun or at the party. Interesting that when discussing events that occurred while intoxicated but not accused of wrongdoing, the now sober individual recalls most of what occurred when they were intoxicated. It is when the individual is confronted about doing something wrong that they amazingly experience a blackout. Yet it is only when confronted about and accused of doing something wrong that they tend to experience a blackout. One study found that intoxicated non rapists were able to recognize inappropriate cues faster in an audio taped scenario than rapists and non rapists who had not consumed alcohol [27]. Although alcohol appears to increase an individual’s acceptance or interest in more deviant and violent sexual situations in the laboratory, the non rapist group demonstrated increased vigilance and were able to more quickly identify and respond to the inappropriate cues being given by the partner/victim and not respond with further sexual arousal.

This suggests that even when intoxicated, men, or at least non rapists, have the ability to attend to inappropriate cues and cease sexual contact. It has been demonstrated that in eyewitness research, intoxicated women gave less complete, but just as accurate details compared to sober women. There were no differences found in accuracy or completeness between intoxicated or sober men-intoxicated men retaining both complete and accurate details [28]. It is important to note demonstrated differences between how men and women are impacted in regards to memory. Women demonstrate memory deficits with lower amounts of alcohol than men [28-30]. It was found that intoxicated individuals paid almost as much to peripheral and central details as sober individuals when tested a day later [31]. Numerous researchers have demonstrated that intoxicated individuals were likely to attend to and recall central information versus peripheral information. Sexual assault and rape arguably are a much stronger emotional event for both the victim (a negative experience) and for the perpetrator (a positive emotional event). Positive events should be stored stronger in memory, and again, violence, abuse, sexual assault, rape, are all memories that the perpetrators should have access to regardless of level of intoxication.

Thus, even rapists recall what they did during the rape. They have nothing to gain to admit to any memory recall until after criminal proceedings have been dismissed or completed. During forensic and criminal interviews and interrogation, it is common for suspects of sexual assault and rape to recall enough information to prove they recall the event; however they may slant the facts to present...
themselves in a more favorable light and portray the victim in a more negative light. For example, the perpetrator portrays himself as being kind; tolerant of the victim’s hesitation and level of intoxication, and that he was gentle with the victim. It is common to blame the victim for initiating sexual contact prior to becoming unconscious or significantly impaired, and that she wanted him to have sex. When interviewing witnesses it is important to understand the impact of alcohol intoxication. At high levels (0.07-0.1%) impairment in completeness in witness statements under free recall situations was demonstrated [28,32,33]. Other studies found high accuracy rates in intoxicated witnesses under similar alcohol impairment, but only under free recall situations versus structured interview formats [34]. Immediate interview of eyewitnesses provided the most accurate completeness though again the quantity of information is reduced due to the impact of the alcohol intoxication on memory [32].

Immediate interviewing of witnesses is important. In fact, immediate interviewing resulted in more correct details than when interviewing a witness only at a later time. This was true for both intoxicated and sober witnesses. They also found that interviewing on two occasions resulted in more correct details than only interviewing a witness once, regardless of whether intoxicated or sober. As indicated in the previous section, intoxicated witnesses recalled fewer details than sober witnesses in free recall, but provided the same amount of information as sober witnesses in cued recall.

Several studies found that low to moderate intoxication (e.g., up to 0.08%) did not interfere with the quantity of details the witness provided [28,32,35,36]. Campo et al. [34] at higher doses, alcohol intoxication appeared to impair both the quantity and quality of witness statements, though to a small degree [33]. Evidence supports that immediately interviewing a witness who is moderately intoxicated (up to approximately .10%) is better than only an on week delayed interview. In addition, both sober and intoxicated witnesses provided 20-30% more details during a second interview than had they only been interviewed once. Approximately 80% of reminiscent details (later recalls) provided by sober or intoxicated witnesses were correct [35].

This is furthered strengthened when no misleading questions were asked by interviewers. The authors also found that alcohol reduced the number of recalled details in free recall but not in cued recall. They also found that both sober and intoxicated witnesses were more accurate in free recall versus cued recall. It is important to begin with free recall and allows the witness to finish telling what they recall before moving into direct questioning.

The reason for this is that direct questioning can have a contaminating effect on witness memory [37]. In sum: if low to moderate intoxication, witnesses recalled significant details then it stands to reason that the perpetrator would also recall their offense behavior.

Again, with the caveat that most sex offenders are not caught within a couple of hours following the offense and therefore there is no way to know how intoxicated the perpetrator was at the time of their offense. Self-report is biased and the perpetrator has more to gain to claim that they were too intoxicated to know what they were doing (which is never the case). It is also difficult to know if the perpetrator used alcohol before or during the sexual assault or rape [38]. In addition, when in sex offender treatment, the perpetrator has to recall their offense step-by-step, in detail. They do this wonderfully! Following conviction, sex offenders tell the details to prove that they were fully aware of the decisions they made during the offense as well as able to recall the details with great clarity. Amazing the memory of a sexual assault or rape in the mind of the rapist. It was a good, powerful, controlling and adrenalin filled moment forever etched in the rapist’s memory. In addition, accuse the perpetrator of engaging in behavior they did not engage in during the offense, and amazing how quickly they can deny what we know did not happen. If the perpetrator can recall what they did not do, they certainly can recall what they did in fact do.

The primary motivation for committing sexual assault and rape involve themes of power, control, anger, and revenge [39] and not primarily for sexual needs [40]. Not all sex offenders present with all four of the above underlying motives, but all will present with at least one of these factors. Even when unable to identify whether the perpetrator possessed any of the previously mentioned risk factors, they still made a deliberate and conscious decision to sexually assault or rape. Sometimes it is difficult to determine whether the perpetrator had any of the risk factors because they may not have yet been involved in the criminal justice system. Regardless, at the time of the offense, they demonstrated some of the risk factors as well as at least one of the primary motivations for rape, that is, anger, power, control, or revenge. The offender may well have committed their first sexual assault or rape and been caught, however unlikely that is. It is more likely that this is the first time they have been caught or accused. Imagine how many times you speed but only are ticketed a handful of times. Sex offenders tend to have rich offending histories. However, given that many school, college and universities minimize and/or cover-up sexual assaults and rapes, there may be additional information that the schools have about prior allegations. At the very least, other students may tell of
prior allegations or prior sexual assaults/rapes that were previously unreported.

Use of excessive force (force beyond that which is necessary to gain victim compliance) does not always provide increased sexual arousal for the rapist [41] also as discussed in. All sexual assaults and rapes appear to be perpetrated in order to meet the rapist’s need for power [4] but not necessarily for the damage or injury of the victim. Groth [39] proffers that all sexual assaults and rapes involve power, anger, and sexuality (p. 12, 60-61), all of which make sense because rape is an aggressive act. It is through the rape that the rapist experiences a relief from a variety of negative emotional states such as feelings of anger, frustration, resentment, rage, inadequacy, and loneliness. More importantly, rape and sexual assault are never simply about sex. The reason I choose to include research from years ago is to show that for nearly fifty years we have understood that the underlying reasons why rapist’s rape is for nonsexual reasons. Sex offenders present with characteristics of violent personality and share similar backgrounds. The one thing that is clear is that sex offenses are not primarily about obtaining sex but rather exercising power, control, anger, and revenge.

**Investigators of Crimes Involving Sexual Assault and Rape**

For investigators, it is important to listen to what the victim reports the offender said, did, how the perpetrator obtained and maintained control of the victim, what was said (e.g., names the victim was called, things the offender told the victim to do, if the perpetrator belittled or degraded the victim). The perpetrator provides a picture as well. What the perpetrator tells as their alibi, language used, concern for the victim’s well-being or lack thereof, and especially the perpetrator’s blaming alcohol or drug use for their behavior. And then there is the crime scene. How careful did the perpetrator appear to plan where the crime occurred and who may protect them by keeping others away? The perpetrator often reveals that they were aware of the victim’s incapacitated state when drugs or alcohol were involved. If anger or revenge based, the perpetrator’s need to get even or punish the victim, apparent through the perpetrator’s offense behavior and statements. Of course, there is the background of the perpetrator. What, if any, of the aforementioned predisposition factors does the perpetrator present with? What are their histories with other women, with friends? If the perpetrator claims to have been under the influence of drugs or alcohol, what is their history of substance use? Do they regularly use substances, especially in social settings, and how frequent do they become intoxicated (regardless of intoxication level)? And to what degree does the perpetrator appear concerned about the allegations, about the interview situation, and about their own actions? Too little concern may suggest a more callous-unemotional personality trait which relates to psychopathy and significant anxiety may relate to naivety or criminal unsophistication.

To what degree does the perpetrator minimize the offense situation or the victim’s version? It is common for sex offenders to portray the offense situation as mutual and consensual, even when physical force or bondage was involved. This is even truer when the perpetrator takes advantage of the victim’s level of intoxication. Even when they themselves are intoxicated, they still deliberately decide to continue with sexual behavior despite the victim’s resistance, and resistance involves passing-out. The unconscious victim can in no way consent to any sexual behavior, regardless of what the victim may or may not have agreed to prior to becoming unconscious. Many sex offenders brag about their sexual conquest of the unconscious victim, claiming it as a trophy they somehow earned, and that the victim either deserved it or was compliant despite being unconscious. This speaks volumes about the rape supportive beliefs the perpetrator holds.

The perpetrator who rapes an unconscious victim has to work harder for the sexual contact. They may have to remove the victim’s clothing, position the victim’s body for penetration, and maintain the victim’s body in a position to allow sexual contact. Much more work involved than with a conscious consenting partner. This is a significantly selfish act, meant to degrade the victim, exert power and control over the victim, and if physically assaulting to the victim as well, vengeful and anger based. Image being the victim of a rape, but you were unconscious during part or most of the offense. You awaken to the sense that something is wrong, parts of your body ache or are damaged, your clothing may be missing or put back on wrong, and an even more damaging blow, seeing or hearing that you were raped via social media or others. Imagine awakening to find yourself at the hospital undergoing a sexual assault exam, unclear of what happened. The impact to an unconscious victim can be devastating. Regardless of the perpetrator’s primary motive or intention, engaging in any sexual contact, including rape of someone semiconscious or unconscious is a violent act.

**Recommendations for the Victim and the Family and Friends of the Victim**

a. Always believe anyone claiming that they were the victim of any type of assault, whether verbal, harassment, physical, sexual assault, or rape.
b. Always report the sexual assault or rape to local authorities. Campus security or campus police may or may not do enough to protect the integrity of the case or may not be able to fully investigate or cooperate with local authorities due to campus policy. Some campus police departments are thorough and professional, but the concern is that they are still bound to some degree to campus politics.

c. Always report the sexual assault or rape to the school safety and security or police.

d. Make sure the campus security or campus police reported the crime to the outside law enforcement agency that is the county sheriff or city police department.

e. Make sure that local and campus police work together to share information and cooperate in the investigation. This is especially important when the alleged perpetrator is a student or faculty of the institution or when the sexual assault or rape occurred on campus property or at a official or unofficial activity (e.g. occurred at a party at a frat house or dorm).

f. Obtain a sexual assault exam as soon as possible. This should occur as soon as the victim realizes what has occurred, even if days later. It is important for the victim not to change clothes or shower or brush their teeth, as valuable evidence may be lost.

g. Talk about what happened and do not stop talking until people hear and believe you.

h. Obtain support from a rape victim advocate or other support group if possible. These are people who understand sexual assault and rape, who are aware of community and legal resources for the victim, and who can provide ongoing emotional support to the victim.

i. Immediately report any contact from the perpetrator or from anyone contacting the victim on the perpetrator's behalf. This should be reported both to the campus police/safety/security office as well as to local law enforcement.

**Recommendations for the School, College, or University**

I will use the term school, college, and university to include any educational institution regardless of educational level. Campus will refer to any grounds on or part of the institution, including sporks venues, dormitory, or school sanctioned events. I often hear that victims of bullying, harassment, assault or sexual assault/rape can freely change schools with the support of the school. That is nice and should always be an option for the victim of any type of violence. However, the perpetrator, whether alleged or proven, should immediately be removed from the campus until a full police investigation occurs. Here are my recommendations.

a. Provide an environment of support, one in which victims feel safe to report crimes. Believe a victim until the evidence proves otherwise, which takes time and should be left to law enforcement professionals, not faculty or staff.

b. Provide the victim with immediate medical care. Arrange for or provide a means of transport for the victim if necessary to the emergency room.

c. Secure any room or other evidence and possible witnesses for law enforcement to investigate. Regardless of any inconvenience, this is necessary and demonstrates the institution's support for a nonviolent campus.

d. Remove the alleged perpetrator from the institutions campus. This includes prohibiting the alleged perpetrator of any type of violence, sexual assault or rape from engaging in any school sanctioned activities. If the suspect needs to be on campus, then they should be escorted on and off the campus without any opportunity to interact with other students. Interaction could allow for witness tampering and collusion against the victim. Institution ethics and guidelines allow for the removal of any staff or student who may or does pose a risk for harm to the campus or to students.

e. Any interview of the victim, suspect, or witnesses should only occur with the permission of the investigating police department. Institutions that conduct their own investigation are likely to bias the investigation in favor of discrediting the victim. This occurs time and time again.

f. The institutions public information officer or ranking administrative personnel should always provide a briefing to the students as well as to the local community about the situation. Covering it up by not talking about it is wrong. In addition, covering it up and failing to in every way protect the entire campus from an alleged perpetrator is collusion. People deserve to know the truth. Any educational institution that reports no rapes or assaults in a given year is simply not being honest. In any setting with hundreds of people, crime occurs.

g. Any student found guilty, regardless of whether legally convicted or for violating the institutions behavior conduct clause should be removed from the campus and barred from all campus activities.

h. Regardless of whether the victim cooperates with prosecution, still investigate as in any other case. This is important for several reasons.

i. First, the victim may change his/her mind as time passes or as the investigation proceeds and the victim appears to be believed. Statements and investigation information is more accurate when gathered in a timely fashion.
ii. Second, even if the case is not prosecuted, a full investigation, including interviewing the suspect and witnesses, allow for information to be gathered for use in future similar cases.

iii. Third, the suspect may face disciplinary action or expulsion from the campus for violating the student behavioral contract. The suspect's alleged behavior involved sexual violence and therefore may pose a risk to other students.

iv. Fourth, sex offenders rarely commit one sex offense, especially when not held accountable. It is more likely that the suspect will again rape or has raped in the past.

v. Fifth, the suspect may attempt further contact with the victim, may harass, threaten or intimidate the victim. The suspect needs to be informed that under no circumstances are they or their friends to have contact with the victim. I want to be clear that law enforcement take sexual assault and rape very seriously and they do the best they can to solve every case. Campus police do the same, but may have pressure from the institution to not.

References


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