

UNDERSTANDING

SEXUAL ASSAULT & GETTING HELP



SEXUAL ASSAULT IS:

AN ACT OF POWER AND CONTROL of a sexual nature in which a person is threatened, coerced, or forced to engage against their will, or any sexual touching or solicitation of a person who has not consented.

This includes:

- date and acquaintance rape or assault by a stranger
- marital or domestic partner sexual assault
- child sexual abuse
- sexual harassment

Facts About Sexual Assault

- it is **never** the fault of the victim and always the responsibility of the offender
- sexual assault is how offenders control, vent anger and humiliate their victims
- it doesn't have to have happened in the recent past for victims to seek help
- 93% of victims know the person who attacked them
- 33% of victims are 12-17 years old
- it occurs in all racial and ethnic groups, religions, socioeconomic classes, sexual orientations, genders and ages
- victims have the right to be accompanied by an advocate during medical, police, prosecutor, court proceedings & interviews.
- if you are a victim of a violent crime, you have the right to apply for compensation.

If a child discloses sexual abuse, immediately call 911 or Child Protective Services: 888.437.6167.

Beware of a Potential Dating Partner Who:

- ignores your wishes, becomes hostile or angry when you say no
- pressures you to use drugs or alcohol
- is excessively jealous or possessive
- doesn't listen to what you say
- is quick to show anger or aggression

What To Do If You Are Raped

- to make a police report, **CALL 911**
- don't bathe or change your appearance
- save clothing and items involved
- write as much as you can remember
- seek medical attention



- medical advocacy
- crime victims advocacy
- legal advocacy
- advocacy based counseling
- housing assistance
- therapy
- support groups
- information & referrals
- school based prevention groups

1045 10th Street Port
Townsend, WA 98368

360.385.5292 office

360.379.5395 fax

360.385.5291 crisis 24/7

www.DoveHouseJC.org



Find us on Facebook

*All of our services are **free and confidential**. We do not discriminate based on race, color, religion, disability, pregnancy, national origin, age, gender, ethnicity, income, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other bias prohibited by law.*

A 501(c)(3) private nonprofit corporation



Dove House Advocacy Services empowers victims of crime and abuse in Jefferson County through education, advocacy and crisis intervention.