

Facts for Victims

- The victim is not to blame for an assault or rape; only the attacker can chose not to assault.
- It is common for survivors of sexual assault to feel embarrassed, angry, guilty, depressed and/or fearful.
- The effects of assault can be felt for years after an attack and the RIDOC is committed to helping victims at any stage in the healing process.
- If you have been forced to submit to a sexual relationship, this is sexual assault. You can get help through the RIDOC.

Facts for Inmates

Who May Assault

- If you commit prison sexual assault or rape, you will be punished to the highest degree, including criminal charges, extending your incarceration and requiring you to register as a sex offender upon your release.
- Your actions have an impact on your family and friends. Consider how your parents, children, spouse and friends will feel if you are placed in disciplinary confinement for a long period of time, or if you are charged with a sex offense.
- If you feel your stress level increasing, seek help or request counseling.

REPORTING AN ASSAULT

Here are the ways to report a sexual assault:

- Tell any RIDOC staff member.
- Use any RIDOC payphone to make a call to one of these emergency numbers. You must push the star (*) button first:
 - Special Investigations Unit:
 - * 9022
 - Inspector's Office:
 - * 9024
 - Rhode Island State Police:
 - * 9023
 - The Helpline:
 - * 9021
 - ICE:
 - * 9025
- Write a letter and send it to any Facility and/or Department Administrator
- Submit an inmate request form.
- No matter how much time has passed since the assault, the RIDOC will do a thorough investigation and insure that you get the help you need.

When an assault is reported the following things happen:

- *The alleged victim and alleged perpetrator are separated*
- *The person who has allegedly been assaulted is taken to the RIDOC Health Services Unit or another medical facility*
- *Investigators respond to all reports and conduct complete investigations.*



SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS

RIDOC has **ZERO TOLERANCE** for Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment.

STOP Sexual Assault Before It Begins

START With Knowledge

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact, when a person engages in sexual intercourse, or oral sexual contact with any person without their consent.

Sexual Contact Includes:

- Sexual fondling of a person
- Sexual assault with an object
- Oral sex
- Contact between any sexual parts

Consent is Not Present If:

- Sexual contact is forced or against the person's will
- There is fear or threat of physical violence or bodily injury
- The victim is, by law, too young or mentally or physically incapable of consenting

All sexual contact between inmates and between staff and inmates is forbidden and unlawful.



Tips for Avoiding Sexual Assault

A Victim is never responsible for being attacked, but these tips will help you decrease your chances of being assaulted:

When possible...

- **Avoid isolated areas such as stairwells and unoccupied restrooms**
- **Stay within eyesight of correctional staff**

Be aware of...

- **Your body language. Do not walk with your head down and eyes lowered.**
- **Inmates who say they will protect you.**

Always try to...

- **Stay out of debt. Do not accept food or gifts from other inmates**
- **Be careful who you tell about your family, friends and money.**

Have You Been Sexually Assaulted?

If you are a survivor of prison rape or sexual assault you should report your experiences to any staff member, no matter how long ago the assault happened.

You may also contact Day One, an independent agency providing information, support, and advocacy to victims of sexual assault. Day One advocates may be present during a victim's hospital visit or when s/he is making a statement to the police/investigators. Day One's trained advocates will answer any questions you may have and advise you of your rights as a victim of sexual assault.

All Allegations Will be Thoroughly Investigated

If an assault has happened in the past few days: Do not shower, change your clothes, brush your teeth or do anything else that may destroy important evidence. You need to be seen by medical providers to be screened for STD's and injuries you may not be aware of. It is also recommended that you speak to a mental health counselor.