



Fact Sheet

End The Silence...

What is Sexual Violence?

Sexual Violence can include both sexual abuse and sexual harassment by another inmate/offender, staff member, contractor or volunteer.

Sexual Harassment

- Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances , requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures or actions of a derogatory or an offensive sexual nature by one inmate directed towards another.
- Repeated comments or gestures of a sexual nature towards an inmate by a staff member, contractor or volunteer.

Sexual Abuse

- Forced sexual intercourse, including psychological intimidation or bullying and physical force.
- Sexual Abuse is achieved through use of fear or threat of physical violence.
- Can also include incidents where penetration is from a foreign object.
- Definition includes male or female victims and both hetero- or homosexual individual.

Three Types of Sexual Abuse

Inmate/offender on inmate/offender

One or more inmates/offenders engaging in or attempting to engage in a sexual act.

Staff on inmate/offender

Staff engaging in or attempting to engage in a sexual act with an inmate/offender.

Staff on inmate/offender misconduct

Sexual behavior between staff and an offender which can include indecent, profane, or abusive language or gestures or inappropriate surveillance of inmates.

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Tips for Avoiding Sexual Abuse

A victim is never to blame for being attacked. These tips may help you lower your risk of being abused.

1. Carry yourself in a confident manner at all times.
2. Pay attention to your surroundings.
3. Do not permit your emotions (fear/anxiety) to be obvious to others.
4. Do not accept gifts or favors from others. They usually come with strings attached.
5. Do not accept an offer from another inmate/offender to be your protector or "friend."
6. Find a staff member with whom you feel comfortable discussing your fears and concerns. Confide in them if you feel threatened.
7. **Be Alert!** Do not use contraband such as drugs or alcohol as they will weaken your ability to stay alert and make good judgments.
8. Be direct and firm when others ask you to do things that you don't want to do.
9. Stay in well-lit areas.
10. Choose your associates wisely.

What To Do If You Have Been Sexually Abused?

1. Report the incident as soon as possible to your parole agent or local law enforcement.
2. Seek medical attention **BEFORE** you shower, eat, drink, change clothing, brush your teeth or use the bathroom.
3. Give as much information as possible to the questions you are asked.

How Can You Report Sexual Abuse or Sexual Harassment?

1. Tell any PA Board of Probation and Parole staff member that you trust.
2. Make a written request to any staff member.
3. Call the PBPP hotline number at **1.844.532.1995** to make a report. Your call can be anonymous. Please leave a RECORDED message.

• *You can find this number posted in the lobby of the parole office and other locations within the facility.*

4. Write to request more information at:

PCAR
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
P.O. Box 400
Enola, PA 17025

Any form of sexual abuse will not be tolerated by the PA Board of Probation and Parole. The goal of the PA Board of Probation and Parole is the safety of the offenders under the supervision of the Board. The Board will hold accountable any persons found to have committed any form of sexual abuse against another person.
