CONSENT

Understanding consent is critical in eliminating sexual assault on college campuses. Consent is often simplified as "no means no" or even "yes means yes," but in reality it is much more than that.

SILENCE ≠ CONSENT

MYTH

If a husband has sex with his wife without her consent, it is not considered rape.

FACT

Regardless of the marital or social relationship between the assailant and victim, if an individual does not consent to sexual activity, he or she is being sexually assaulted.

WHAT IS CONSENT?

Consent should be part of every intimate activity, from holding hands with a date to engaging in sexual activity with your spouse. According to BYU’s Sexual Misconduct Policy, "Consent is a voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity and is determined by all the relevant facts and circumstances."

BYU’s policy further explains that consent cannot be given by someone who is incapacitated.

Consent is invalid if it is given as a result of coercion or threats, and it is never okay to force someone to give consent. Additionally, consent cannot be implied by silence, the absence of resistance, or past consent with the same or another person. It’s important to remember that even if a person has given his or her consent before, consent to engage in further activity can be withdrawn at any time.

YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND

You can withdraw consent at any point if you feel uncomfortable. It’s important to clearly communicate to your partner that you are no longer comfortable with this activity and wish to stop. The best way to ensure both parties are comfortable with any sexual activity is to talk about it.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

rainn.org
nomore.org
raperecoverycenter.org

1085 Wilkinson Student Center
titleix@byu.edu
(801) 422-8692
TITLEIX.BYU.EDU