

Survivor FAQs

10 Frequently Asked Questions About Resources & Red Flags

Q: Do I have to file a report with the College or police if I've experienced sexual or interpersonal violence?

A: No, you are not obligated to file a report with the College if you experienced sexual or interpersonal violence. You are also not obligated to file a report with the police.

Q: What happens if I report to Title IX or a responsible employee?

A: Once a report is filed, you will receive an email inviting you to discuss options. If you decide you would like to pursue the disciplinary process for the offending party, a formal complaint will be filed with the Title IX Coordinator. If you choose not to pursue the process at the time of outreach, there are numerous options for support, including class scheduling and housing-related changes. This is a survivor-led process. For more details, please visit lclark.edu/healthy-relationships/response.

Q: How can Confidential Advocates help me?

A: Confidential Advocates (formerly known as SARAs) are trained to respond to and support survivors of sexual and interpersonal violence. CAs are not here to tell you what to do, instead they offer non-judgmental support and help you understand your options. They will offer you overall assistance, support, information and follow-up regarding any form of sexual and interpersonal violence. Visit go.lclark.edu/CA for more information.

Q: I'm not comfortable talking to anyone on campus. Where can I reach out for support in the community?

A: It is completely alright and encouraged to seek out resources you are most comfortable with. Call to Safety (503-235-5333), the Sexual Assault Resource Center (503-640-5311), and UNICA (503-232-4448) all offer 24/7 lines for support. Each of these organizations work with and support survivors of sexual assault and other forms of interpersonal violence.

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Q: What is sexual assault?

A: Any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient.

- This can look like: exploiting what makes someone vulnerable, accessible, or lacking credibility (identity and societal perceptions/oppressions of those identities); coercion; pushing boundaries of individual at risk of harm and others in the community; sexual contact itself (see definition).

Q: What is stalking?

A: A persistent pattern of harassment, threats, sending unwanted items, following, and other behaviors that would lead someone to fear for their safety.

- This can look like: Monitoring location via technology; monitoring phone calls, texts, social media activity; receiving unwanted items (e.g. flowers, candy, jewelry, other gifts); receiving unwanted communications (e.g. texts, emails, calls, social media messages).

Q: What is dating and relationship violence?

A: A pattern of behavior one partner uses to maintain power and control over another person.

- This can look like: socially isolating the victim-survivor; taking or retaining control over money/finances; preventing one from making their own decisions; destroying or withholding property (e.g. not giving the victim-survivor textbooks, cell phone, etc.); pressure to have sex.

Q: Who are responsible employees and what does that mean?

A: Most faculty and staff are considered responsible employees. This means that they are legally required to report any disclosures of sexual misconduct to Title IX. The only exception to this are those staff and faculty serving in confidential roles. For more information on responsible employees, please [click here](#).

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Q: What is a SANE or SAFE exam?

A: "Everybody seeking care after an assault deserves support and choice about what happens next. A medical-forensic exam is conducted by a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and medical providers, usually at a medical facility. This exam is focused on ensuring that you are safe, given necessary medical attention, follow-up services, and that your questions and concerns are heard and addressed. Everything that happens during an exam is your choice, and you can stop the exam at any time. Your examiner will support you in whatever choice you make. You may choose to have a support person such as a family member, friend, or local advocate with you for parts or all of the exam." -[SANE Exam FAQs, Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force \(SATF\)](#)

Q: I am a member of the LGBTQIA2S+ community. Are there specific interpersonal violence resources available for me as a member of the community on campus and off campus?

A: All Confidential Advocates (CAs) are trained to work with students of all gender identities and sexual orientation on-campus.

Off-campus, several local organizations have LGBTQIA2S+ specific resources.

Call to Safety has specific support in place for queer survivors.

Bradley Angle (local domestic violence support center and shelter) hosts a [program tailored to LGBTQ+ needs](#), which includes individual advocacy, safety planning, basic needs, support skills, and Healthy Relationships Skills classes.

While not specific to victim-survivors of sexual assault and interpersonal violence, the Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Resource Center ([SMYRC](#)) provides culturally specific support to LGBTQIA2S+ youth (ages 13-23), including mental health counseling, support groups, and referral to other resources and support.

You are not alone.
We believe you.