

Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Centre



Sexual Violence Prevention and Support Centre
416-978-2266
thesvpcentre@utoronto.ca

Sexual Violence & Sexual Harassment Policy

- Policy applies to **all members of the U of T community** and makes available the same services to everyone – **students, faculty and staff**
- **All incidents between members of the community**, whether they take place on or off campus or online
- Clients (student, staff, faculty) can access our services **regardless of who was involved** and **when or where** the sexual violence took place

What is included in the Policy's definition of 'Sexual Violence'?



What services are provided by the Centre?

- Identifying clients' needs and exploring options
- Accessing campus or community counselling, advocacy and medical services
- Arranging for academic, living, work and any other campus accommodations
- Understanding *The Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment* and reporting options (criminal and non-criminal)
- Exploring self-care strategies and safety planning

- *Clients **do not have to make a report or take legal action** in order to access our services.*

- *Clients have the right **to decide what information they share.***

The SVSH Policy creates an important Distinction...

Disclosure

The **sharing of information** about an incident.

vs

Report

The sharing of information with the **intention of initiating a process** (criminal or non-criminal).

What to do if someone tells you they have experienced sexual violence

- Direct them to the Centre
- Inform them of the *Policy*
- Talk to the Centre for further support
- Provide support that is within the scope of your role

Supportive Responses

- Transparency around confidentiality
- Strengths focused
- Use the skills of reflection, reframing, paraphrasing
- Empathetic
- Communicate belief
- Non-judgmental
- Culturally sensitive
- Avoid detailed questions
- Follow their lead
- Connect to resources

What to do if someone comes to you wishing to make a Report

- **Connect** the person to the Sexual Violence Prevention & Support Centre.
- **A staff member at the Centre will support individuals by explaining the process in detail** so that individuals can make an informed decision about whether or not they wish to Report.
- Even if someone comes into the Centre and discusses the Reporting process, this does **not** mean that they have to make a Report.

Training and education

The Centre provides training and education on campus related to:

- Responding to disclosures
- Understanding the SV & SH Policy
- Consent and Bystander education
- ... (and more based on request and needs)

We have also developed an online module that we encourage the University community to access. It can be located by:

- Visiting portal.utoronto.ca
- Clicking the “community” tab
- Searching “sexual violence”
- Will find faculty module and can self-enroll

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Phone: 416-978-2266

E-mail: thesvpcentre@utoronto.ca

UTSC Location

RM 141, Environmental Science & Chemistry Building

UTM Location

RM 3094G, Davis Building

St. George Location

Inside Gerstein Science Information Centre, 9 King's College
Circle