

Sexual Assault

Presentation

by Constable Stephanie Lemieux



GrowSmartGirls
Sexual Assault, Consent & Coercion Session
Feb.21, 2018



Sexual Assault is Never the Fault of the Victim

- Often, incidents are not reported as victims feel embarrassed, guilt, perceived responsibility
- Lack of recall due to being drugged or under the influence





Be Aware

- **Be aware of your surroundings and avoid isolated and poorly lit areas**
- **Plan your travel routes ahead of time and consider travelling with friends when appropriate**
- **Stay with your friends, keep an eye on each other**
- **Plan ahead for a safe way home**
- **Trust your instincts – when you don't feel safe, get away, and get help**



Be Aware con'd

- If you feel your personal safety is in immediate danger, make noise, be loud – draw attention to yourself and call 911
- Report suspicious incidents or persons to police

THINK

**BE AWARE OF YOUR
SURROUNDINGS**



Reporting a Sexual Assault

- Who do I tell? friend, teacher, parent, SRO
- First responding officers will take brief details in order to complete a report
- SACA investigator will follow up
- Sexual assault evidence kit
- Clothing will be kept as evidence
- VCU will contact you to identify needs and ensure supports and resources are in place



Investigation

- SACA officers have specific training
- Investigators will keep you informed of the status of your case

Do Police Always Lay Charges?

- Not in every case. There needs to be enough evidence to support a charge of sexual assault



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What Happens after the Arrest?

- When a person is arrested and charged for a criminal offence, they become “the accused”
- Depending on circumstances, the accused can be held in custody for a bail hearing or they can be released from the police station with conditions
- The court process can take anywhere from a couple of months to a couple of years.



Make the Right Call



Ottawa Police Service

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL

ONLINE + BY PHONE



ONLINE REPORTING

Don't wait on the phone, save time and use our online reporting service for non-emergency reports such as:

- Theft (excluding theft of passports)
- Theft from Vehicle
- Traffic Complaints
- Mischief/Damage to Property
- Drug Complaints
- Fraud Complaints



REACH US BY PHONE

Some incidents require an officer in person, while other reports can be taken over the phone by a Call Centre agent.

9-1-1 for emergency

613-236-1222 for non-emergency reports

TTY 613-760-8100

service for the Deaf, Deafened and Hard of Hearing

For anonymous tips, contact Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) crimestoppers.ca