

# WHAT SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS NEED TO KNOW

The majority of sexual assault are committed by people known to the victim (I.E. friend, romantic partner, neighbor, relative, co-worker, etc.)

What to do if you are sexually assaulted:

- Get to a safe place
- Once you are physically safe, contact someone you trust who can provide emotional safety.
- If you have injuries, consider seeking medical treatment. You do not have to disclose your assault to medical staff if you do not want to, and you do not have to speak to law enforcement. If you choose to disclose your assault, you can receive a medical legal exam which will collect evidence if you do decide to file a police report, and receive additional medical care such as pregnancy prevention and treatment for potential sexually transmitted infections.
- If you do not wish to seek medical treatment or file a police report, consider taking photos of any injuries in case you change your mind at a later date.
- You have up to 72 hours to request a medical legal exam

- Process what has happened so you can begin to address the mental and emotional trauma. Preferably do this with someone you trust present so can provide you support.
- REMEMBER, you are NOT at fault!

If you are unsure if you want to report the assault and get a medical legal exam, place your clothing in a paper bag to preserve evidence. Also, remember, taking a shower or a bath will destroy evidence that can be used in a criminal case.

## Tennessee Statute of Limitations:

- Aggravated rape: 15 years
- Rape and aggravated sexual battery: 8 years
- Sexual battery by an authority figure: 4 years
- Sexual Battery: 2 year

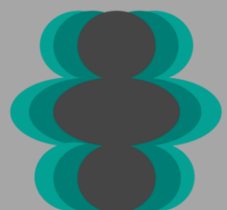
\*This does not include statute of limitations for child victims of sexual assault.

## HAVE QUESTIONS:

You can call the National Sexual Assault Hotline for answers and for important emotional support.

**800-856-4573**

[www.silentnolongertn.org](http://www.silentnolongertn.org)  
[contact@silentnolongertn.org](mailto:contact@silentnolongertn.org)



SILENT NO LONGER TN