UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL VIOLENCE

WHAT IS RAPE?

Rape is sexual intercourse without the consent of the other person, or sexual intercourse with someone who cannot legally give consent

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Large percentages of rapes leave no physical marks or injuries and involve no weapon
- Perpetrators rely on intimidation, fear, inexperience, and sometimes intoxication
- Rape is an act of violence and not sex
- Rape is having control over someone, not sexual intimacy
- It is never okay to force or coerce someone to have sex
- NO means NO
- No person deserves to be raped
- Rape is violence
- A rape victim is never at fault, regardless of what they were wearing, or how they are behaving
- The perpetrator is responsible for their own behavior



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24-hour hotline: 417-864-SAFE(7233) / 819 N. Boonville, Springfield, MO 65802 / www.thevictimcenter.org