



# Reporting Sexual Assault

Experiences of sexual assault often go unreported.

**68% of assaults are not reported to police**

Source: Justice Department, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2008-2012.

Sexual assaults are **vastly under-reported**.

Meaning survivors **don't come forward**.

Because.. they fear they **won't be heard**

Or .. **believed**

Or .. that **reporting** their experiences **won't make a difference**

Reporting **does matter** and it is **important**.

- Survivors need the ability to come forward, to be heard and to be supported. This alone can help the healing.
- And those that engage in sexual misconduct must be held accountable.
- So that the cycle can be broken.
- So that it doesn't happened again. And again.

**As a victim of sexual assault or the friend of a victim, you have several choices to get support and explore options.**



### ◆ Confidential Reporting means:

- ◆ You will be **heard and supported**
- ◆ **Campus support resources**, including physical care and mental health care, will be shared
- ◆ **No one will share the incident details with anyone else**
- ◆ **Not your name. Not what happened. Not when. Not where.**

◆ There are places **ON CAMPUS** where you can get **confidential help** for yourself or another:

- ⇒ **SMU Counseling Services**
- ⇒ **The Chaplain's Office**

◆ There are places **OFF CAMPUS** where you can get **confidential medical and mental health support** for yourself or a friend

- ⇒ **Presbyterian Hospital** has a nurse examination program (SANE) that can **collect evidence** of a sexual assault and help **reduce the potential for pregnancy or STI's**.

- ⇒ **Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center (DARCC)** is a **survivor advocacy organization** that assists survivors with every step of recovery and surviving a sexual assault.

### ■ Private Support means:

- You will be **heard and supported**
- **Campus support resources**, including physical care and mental health care, will be shared
- Your **privacy** will be a **high priority**. Your experience will not be shared openly or indiscreetly.
- You'll receive **specific guidance about university responses**, accommodations, judicial and grievance processes involving SMU, and information about civil and criminal authorities.
- Your experience will be documented for university reporting purposes; so statistical data can be published in the Annual Clergy Report.
- A Title IX Notification is required
- There are Offices **ON CAMPUS** that provide **ongoing support** but **DO** have an **obligation to notify** the university about sexual misconduct under Federal Title IX law.
  - ⇒ **Office of the Dean of Student Life**
  - ⇒ **Violence Prevention & Support Services**
  - ⇒ **Women & LGBT Center**
- The **choices** will be still be yours regarding how to proceed.
  - \*unless you are 17 or younger -or- there is a pattern of criminal behavior.

### ● Criminal Reporting of sexual assault can be made to the:

- ⇒ **SMU Police Department**
- ⇒ **Local Law Enforcement** (based on city where you reside)

**Get help. For yourself. For a friend. IN CASE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**CALL 911**

SMU Police — 911 or 214-768-3333 from a cell phone

If **NOT** listed as a **Confidential Reporting option -**

**Anyone** that you talk to on-campus who is **employed** by SMU has a **legal obligation** to share your name with the **Title IX Coordinator** in the Office of Institutional Access and Equity. This is to ensure you have information about your rights, options & resources.

**Support is Within Reach. You are Not Alone.**

**TITLE IX:** When the **Office of Institutional Access and Equity** (Title IX Coordinator) reaches out (or sends you a letter) you can respond as follows:

- Meet to understand the options, the complaint process & support resources, but choose not to disclose any of the incident.
- Meet and share what happened, access accommodations, but choose not to file a report. This allows the office to help you, but limits the ability to conduct an investigation or pursue student conduct actions.
- File a report for the purpose of investigation and student conduct response.
- Choose not to meet—but at least respond to the outreach contact to let us know you do not want to meet.

**Get help. For yourself. For a friend.**

### Confidential help:

SMU Counseling Services, 214-768-2277  
SMU Chaplain's Office, 214-768-4502  
Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center, 972-641-7273

### Know your rights under Title IX:

SMU Title IX Coordinator, 214-768-3601

### Other Support at SMU:

Office of the Dean of Student Life, 214-768-4564  
Violence Prevention & Support Services, 214-768-4512  
Women & LGBT Center, 214-768-4792

**Learn more at [smu.edu/LiveResponsibly](http://smu.edu/LiveResponsibly)**



**SMU** STUDENT AFFAIRS

Office of the Dean of Student Life