

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

Tell a Friend Tell a Staff Tell Someone You Trust

PREA Hotline 1-866-END-RAPE 1-866-363-7273



Females:

The shame and humiliation of being sexually abused often prevents a victim from coming forward.

Female victims tend to worry about their family – “What will happen if I tell?”

Remember, as a victim, you are not responsible for the behavior or the consequences that the abuser may face.

Many females feel sexual abuse is normal within relationships because they were raised in an environment of domestic violence.

It is a fact that victims of sexual abuse become sexually excited. This does not mean they are not abused or that they gave approval. These are normal, involuntary reactions.

Males:

The shame and humiliation of sexual abuse often prevents a victim from coming forward to report.

Some males will treat sexual abuse as just another physical assault and fail to seek further emotional support or psychological assistance once the initial physical injuries heal.

Research shows that victims fear having their sexual identity questioned. This fear often prevents male victims from coming forward to report their experience to others.

Many males find it difficult to identify their experience as sexual abuse because they have been taught to believe that males cannot be victims of sexual abuse.

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Treatment and Counseling



Treatment and Counseling:

In the event of a sexual assault or rape, do not change your clothes, brush your teeth, shower, or use the bathroom. By doing so, you may destroy important evidence.

It is important to be assessed and treated for transmitted diseases. Seek medical help immediately.

A mental health professional will provide counseling.

Seeking Relief for Retaliation

If you are being retaliated against by a youth or Shuman staff, contract worker, volunteer, or

intern for reporting an incident of sexual abuse, you should report the situation immediately to a supervisory person you trust.

Disciplinary Actions for Making False Allegations

Making false allegations to report incidents other than sexual abuse will result in disciplinary actions and may result in charges being filed by Allegheny County Police.