

Consent, Risk Reduction, and Response

Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

Consent

- Consent is knowing and voluntary, and it provides clear permission by word or actions to engage in sexual activity.
- Consent can be withdrawn once given.
- Consent to some sexual contact cannot be presumed to be consent for other sexual activity.
- Sexual activity that is forced through physical violence, threats, intimidation, incapacitation, and/or coercion that is intended to overcome physical resistance is by definition non-consensual.

Risk Reduction

- Trust your instincts. If it feels unsafe or uncomfortable, leave.
- Don't worry about offending someone - just get out of there.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Walk with others, avoid isolated spaces, and look out for your friends.
- Make sure your cell phone is charged.
- Take responsibility for your alcohol and other drug intake. Acknowledge these substances can lower your inhibitions making you more vulnerable. Guard your drink to avoid being drugged.
- Lock your doors and windows in your car and living spaces.
- Ask for help in situations you do not feel safe.

Response

If you have experienced sexual misconduct or are helping someone who has, remember to follow these general recommendations to stay safe and to empower options for however you or the person you are supporting chooses to proceed.

- Get to a safe location.
- Seek help from law enforcement - call 911.
- Seek medical attention and do not shower - evidence can be collected within 120 hours of a sexual assault.
- Monument Health Rapid City has a dedicated Sexual Assault Response Team to assist with the exam and with steps moving forward.
- Preserve evidence in a paper bag.

Seek Assistance from WDTTC



KELLY OEHLERKING

VP for Institutional Effectiveness and Student Success/Title IX Coordinator
Kelly.Oehlerking@wdt.edu
605-718-2931
Office D206