

What is Rape?

Rape is any kind of sexual intercourse (vaginal, oral, or anal) that is committed against a person's will or is committed with physical force or with a threat to hurt the victim or another person. It is also considered rape if the victim is intoxicated or unconscious and unable to give consent. Rape and sexual assault are not about sexual desire--they are about power and control.

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault is the legal term for rape, but it also encompasses other behaviors beyond forced sexual intercourse. Sexual assault is any unwanted sexual contact. It can be committed by the use of threats or force or when someone takes advantage of circumstances that render a person incapable of giving consent, such as intoxication. Sexual assault can include unwanted touching, fondling, or groping of sexual body parts.

What is Statutory Rape?

The age when effective consent can be given by a woman is commonly set between 16 and 18 years. Sexual intercourse with a female who is below consenting age is termed statutory rape, and consent is no longer relevant. The term statutory rape specifically refers to a man's having sexual intercourse with a child or any other person presumed to lack comprehension of the physical and other consequences of that act.

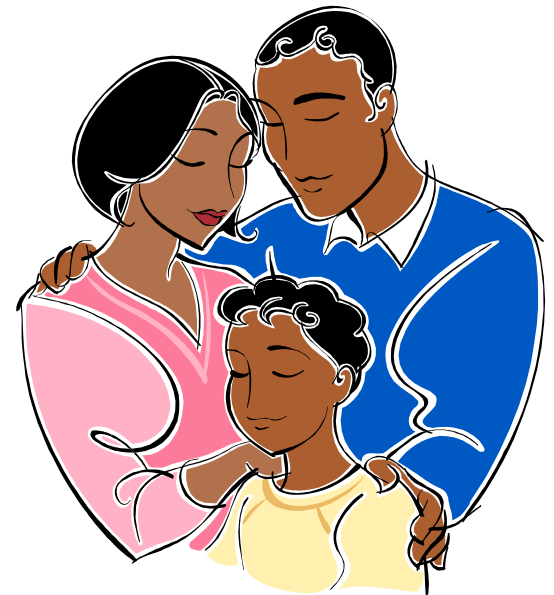


If you are, or anyone you know is, being abused, please call the Crisis Centre on 328-0922.

We offer free counseling for anyone who is experiencing any form of family violence or abuse.



**The
Crisis Centre
What Issues Do We
Address?**



**The Crisis Centre
P.O.Box EE-17910
Nassau Bahamas**

**24-Hour Hotline: 328-0922
Family Violence Unit: 322-4999
Fax: 328-7824
email: bahamascrisiscentre@yahoo.com
www.bahamascrisiscentre.org**

Mission Statement

The Crisis Centre is a non-profit, ideologically independent organization primarily pledged to respond to the needs of all victims of sexual, physical and psychological abuse.

The Centre also advocates for legislative and societal protection of survivors and raises public consciousness through education and information.

What Services Do We Offer?

- Initial intake
- Crisis counselling
- Individual therapy
- Marital therapy
- Family therapy
- Group therapy
- 24-hour Hotline
- Rape survivor advocacy
- Court Advocacy

What Issues Do We Address?

- ◆ Domestic violence (physical and emotional abuse)
- ◆ Child sexual abuse
- ◆ Child physical abuse
- ◆ Child emotional abuse
- ◆ Incest
- ◆ Rape
- ◆ Relationship problems
- ◆ Behavioural problems

What is Child Abuse?

- **Physical abuse** - Any non-accidental injury to a child. This includes hitting, kicking, slapping, shaking, burning, pinching, hair pulling, biting, choking, throwing, shoving and beating.
- **Sexual abuse** - Any sexual act between an adult and child. This includes fondling, penetration, intercourse, exploitation, pornography, exhibitionism, child prostitution, group sex, oral sex, or forced observation of sexual acts. Any sexual act perpetrated against a child by someone related or close to the family is called incest.
- **Neglect** - Failure to provide for a child's physical needs. This includes lack of supervision, inappropriate housing or shelter, inadequate provision of food, inappropriate clothing for season or weather, abandonment, denial of medical care, and inadequate hygiene.
- **Emotional abuse** - Any attitude or behavior which interferes with a child's mental health or social development. This includes yelling, screaming, name-calling, shaming, negative comparisons to others, telling them they are "bad, no good, worthless" or "a mistake". It also includes the failure to provide the affection and support necessary for the development of a child's emotional, social, physical and intellectual well-being. This includes ignoring, lack of appropriate physical affection (hugs), not saying "I love you", withdrawal of attention, lack of praise, and lack of positive reinforcement.

What is Partner Abuse?

- **Physical Abuse**
Hitting, slapping, pushing, biting, black eye, cuts, bruises, broken bones, missing teeth.
- **Psychological Abuse, Emotional Abuse, Verbal Abuse**
Criticizing, isolation, name calling, manipulation, insults, being possessive, threatening property, pets or family.
- **Economic Abuse**
With-holding money, being kept from getting a job.
- **Sexual Abuse**
Being made to do sexual acts against one's will, having private parts physically assaulted, being treated like a sex object

What is Sexual Harassment?

- unwanted sexual attention from a person who knows or ought reasonably to know that such attention is unwanted.
- implied or expressed promise of reward for complying with a sexually-oriented request.
- implied or expressed threat of reprisal or actual reprisal for refusal to comply with a sexually oriented request.
- a sexual relationship which constitutes an abuse of power in a relationship of trust
- sexually oriented remarks or behaviour which may reasonably be perceived to create a negative psychological and emotional environment for work and study.