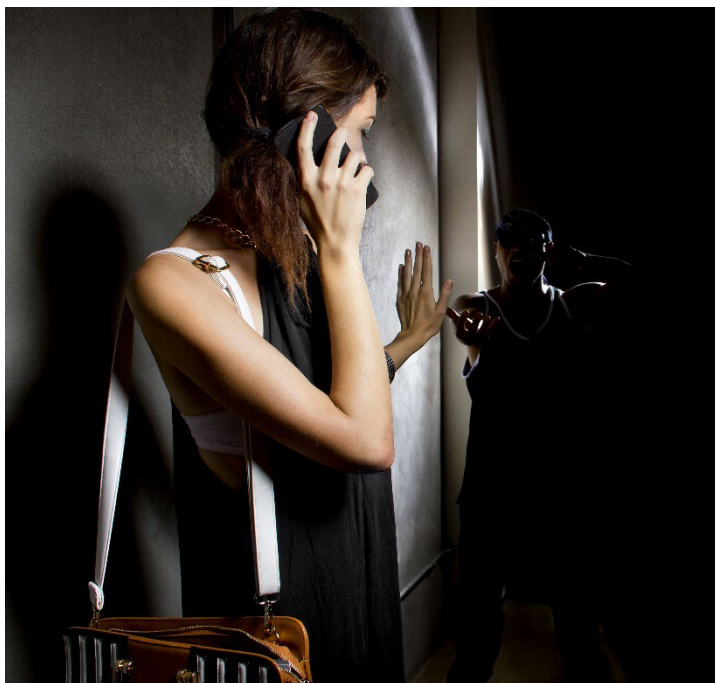


Steps to reporting sexual violence



Sexual violence is when someone forces or manipulates you into unwanted sexual activity without your consent. It can happen to anyone and those who abuse can be people close to you – family members, trusted people or strangers. Sexual violence can be rape or sexual assault; child sexual assault or incest; intimidate partner sexual assault; unwanted sexual contact or touching; sexual harassment; sexual exploitation; showing one's genitals or naked body to others without consent; masturbating in public; or watching someone in a private act without their knowledge or permission.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual violence, reach out to trusted friends, family members, or support services for help, and:

1. **Get medical attention:** If you have been physically injured, seek medical attention as soon as possible.
2. **Report the crime:** Contact your local law enforcement agency and make a report of the crime.
3. **Preserve evidence:** Do not wash, clean, or alter anything that may contain physical evidence of the crime.
4. **Seek counselling:** Consider seeking counseling or therapy to help you cope with the trauma of sexual violence.
5. **Know your rights:** Familiarise yourself with your rights as a survivor of sexual violence, including the right to privacy, protection from retaliation, and access to resources and support services.
6. **Keep a record:** Keep a record of any relevant information, including the date, time, and details of the incident, and any medical or legal reports.

Remember, reporting sexual violence is a personal decision, and it's important to prioritise your safety and well-being.

If you are in immediate danger, call 000 for non-emergency reporting phone Policelink on 131 444 or for support phone DVConnect's Sexual Assault Hotline on 1800 010 120 (24 hours).