SEXUAL ASSAULT FAQS

I didn’t resist physically – does that mean it isn’t rape?
People respond to an assault in different ways. Just because you didn’t resist physically doesn’t mean it wasn’t rape. Many victims make the good judgment that physical resistance would cause the attacker to become more violent.

I was drunk or they were drunk – does that mean it isn’t rape?
Alcohol and drugs are not an excuse – or an alibi. Regardless of whether you were drunk or sober, if the sex is non-consensual, it is rape.

I used to date the person who assaulted me – does that mean it isn’t rape?
Rape can occur when the offender and the victim have a pre-existing relationship (sometimes called “date rape” or “acquaintance rape”). If it is non-consensual this time, it is rape.

I thought “no”, but didn’t say it. Is it still rape?
It depends on the circumstances. If you didn’t say no because you were legitimately scared for your life or safety, then it may be rape.

*www.rainn.org

WHO CAN I TALK TO?

Dean of Students
(415) 422.5330

Gender & Sexuality Center
(415) 422.4431

Office of Student Conduct, Rights, and Responsibilities
(415) 422.5330

USF Counseling & Psychological Services (24 hour)
Confidential and Anonymous Reporting
(415) 422.6352

USF Public Safety
(415) 422.2911 emergency
(415) 422.4201 non-emergency

SF Psychiatric Emergency Services
(415) 206.8125

San Francisco Police Department
Call 911 to file a report

SF General Hospital
24-hour Rape Treatment Center
(415) 206.8000

Women Against Rape (SFWAR)
24-hour Confidential Hotline
(415) 647.7273
Dear Survivor,

It is important to remember that all emotional responses are normal. You may feel upset, very calm or anything in between. Each survivor copes with the trauma of assault differently. Resist the urge to blame yourself or think you should have done something differently. The important thing is that you survived. Now, it is important to reach out to a friend you trust and utilize all of these resources when you feel ready.
You are not alone.
We are here to help!

~Office of the Vice Provost

IN CASE OF ASSAULT

FIND A SAFE ENVIRONMENT
Ask a trusted individual to stay with you for support. Know that the incident was not your fault.

CONTACT PUBLIC SAFETY/UNIVERSITY STAFF
Call (415) 422-2911, your RA or university staff 24/7 or call San Francisco Women Against Rape’s 24-hour Confidential Support Hotline at (415) 447-7273.

SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION
Take care of any possible injuries—visible or unseen. Preserve evidence: Don’t shower or brush your teeth. Keep your clothes in a paper bag. Go to SF General Hospital (the only hospital in SF prepared to conduct a rape kit and provide rape crisis support).

FILE A REPORT
Write down all the details you can recall. To file a report through the police, call 911 or ask the hospital to call for you. If the person who assaulted you is a USF student, we encourage you to file charges with the Office of Student Conduct (415) 422-5330. USF staff are here to support you through the process.

Staff are here to support you and the choices you make on an ongoing basis.
www.usfca.edu/redfolder

WHAT IS CONSENT?

Consent is clear, knowing and voluntary. Consent is active, not passive. Silence, in and of itself, cannot be interpreted as consent. Consent can be given by words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable clear permission regarding willingness to engage in (and the conditions of) sexuality.

MY PERSONAL BILL OF RIGHTS

I have the right to say “no” without feeling guilty or having to explain myself.
I have the right to change my mind.
I have the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
I have the right to change and grow.
I have the right to ask for help and support.
I have the right not to be judged.
I have the right to be in an equal relationship.
I have the right not to be dominated.
I have the right to be quiet or spirited without being misunderstood.
I have the right to say “no” to anything when I feel that I am not ready, it is not safe, or it violates my values.