



## Preventing Date Rape and Sexual Assault

First, remember that date and acquaintance rape does occur! Most students who are raped or sexually assaulted don't report it. They fear publicity, blame, disbelief or reprisals – especially if they know their attacker(s). Dates and acquaintances commit most college sexual assaults.

### Protect yourself:

- Know whom you are dating before the date. If this person is somewhat of a stranger, stay in well-populated areas.
- Avoid those people who ignore you, pretend not to hear you, talk over you or are hostile in disagreement.
- Avoid those people who stare at the sexual parts of your body and invade your personal space by unwanted touching or making you feel uncomfortable.
- Let a friend or family member know where you will be on the date and what time you plan to return.
- Don't use drugs or alcohol on dates.
- Clearly communicate your sexual limits to your partner. Say "no" forcefully if pressured for unwanted sex.
- If "no" doesn't work, try to get away by running and screaming for help.
- If you don't feel safe walking to your vehicle, contact Public Safety or walk with classmates.

### Know what to do if you are sexually assaulted:

- Report the crime to Campus Police or a law enforcement agency.
- Get medical attention. The physician should collect specimens and make detailed notes about the physical evidence, such as bruises, cuts, torn clothing and traces of semen. You should be tested later for pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV.
- Don't wash or change clothes – you could destroy evidence.
- Contact a rape crisis or counseling center.
- Forsyth Tech prohibits sexual violence or any other criminal offenses against its campus community to include students, employees and visitors. Victims of any crimes are encouraged to report it to Campus Police or local law enforcement in their jurisdiction.
- Crimes reported to Campus Police will be fully investigated with additional internal or external assistance, if needed.

### Definitions:

- Domestic violence – asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim's current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.
- Dating violence – violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Whether there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of interaction.
- Stalking – a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for her, his or others' safety, or to suffer substantial emotional distress.
- Rape – The new definition of rape is: "The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with anybody part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim."