

Purple Folder

The Purple Folder is your guide to responding when someone shares an experience of Sexualized Violence. The Purple Folder outlines appropriate and supportive responses when someone shares an experience of sexualized violence, a full list of supports and resources on campus and in the community, reporting options, and more. Visit dal.ca/purplefolder

Support/Resources on Campus and in the Community

Experiencing Sexualized Violence can be confusing and traumatic but there are resources on campus and in the community available to support your healing process. Support can also be found in family, friends, counsellors, family doctors, Residence Assistants, coaches, and other individuals and organizations. If you have questions about navigating these resources, please contact the Sexualized Violence Advisor: hres@dal.ca

SUPPORTS WITHIN THE DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY:

Dalhousie Employee & Family Assistance Program (for employees)
1-800-387-4765 or www.workhealthlife.com

Dalhousie Student Advocacy Service
www.dsu.ca/dsas

Dalhousie Student Health & Wellness Centre (for students) dal.ca/livewell

Dalhousie Student Union Survivor Support Centre www.dsu.ca/survivorsupport

Human Rights & Equity Services
www.dal.ca/dept/hres.html

Ombudsperson (independent and impartial support)
www.dal.ca/ombudsperson

Security Services
www.dal.ca/security

South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre www.southhousehalifax.ca

Union or employee group (for employees)
Employees maybe be eligible to apply for leave, paid or unpaid, in accordance with our collective agreements and handbooks. Unions representatives can assist you in exploring possible options.
www.dal.ca/dept/hr/EmployeeResources/Employee-Groups.html

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES IN THE BROADER COMMUNITY:

Avalon Sexual Assault Centre
www.avaloncentre.ca

Avalon SANE response line: 902.425.0122

Colchester Sexual Assault Centre
www.colchestersac.ca/

Nova Scotia Legal Advice for Sexual Assault Survivors Program
211 or bit.ly/2L6tgI9

Sexual Violence Prevention and Supports – Nova Scotia Department of Community Service
www.breakthesilencens.ca/

Healing Narratives (Free counselling for men who have experienced sexual assault)
www.newstartcounselling.ca/other-programs

Town of Truro Police
902.895.5351

Halifax Regional Police
902.490.5020

Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Colchester County detachment
902.893.6820

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE

An introduction to available supports & reporting options



CREATED BY
HUMAN RIGHTS &
EQUITY SERVICES

Definitions*

Sexual Assault is any form of unwanted, forced or coerced sexual activity, including kissing, fondling, touching, and any kind of intercourse, that is done without their Consent; or any attempts or threats to force sexual activity.

Sexual Harassment is vexatious sexual conduct or comment that is known or ought reasonably to be known as unwelcome; It includes sexual solicitations or advances by an individual in a position to confer a benefit on, or deny a benefit to whom the solicitation or advance is made. It also includes a reprisal or threat of reprisal for rejecting a sexual solicitation or advance.

Sexualized Violence is an umbrella term that refers to an act of violence, whether the act is physical or psychological in nature, that is characterized by an attempt to threaten, intimidate, coerce or engage in any unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature

Consent refers to the voluntary agreement of an individual. It is positive, active, ongoing, at every step of intimacy, and can be withdrawn at any time. Consent cannot be obtained where a person is incapable of consenting – as may be the case when intoxicated. Consent cannot be given where a person is induced to engage in the activity by someone abusing a position of trust, power or authority.

**Please note that definitions listed in this document are adapted from Dalhousie's Sexualized Violence Policy. Please refer to the policy for complete definitions at: dal.ca/policy*

Disclosure vs. Report

Disclosing refers to the sharing of information by a Member of the University Community or Visitor with the Sexualized Violence Advisor about an experience of Sexualized Violence that individual has had. (see section F2.14, F2.15, and F2.16 of the Sexualized Violence Policy.) When disclosing, you can share as little or as much as you are comfortable with. Disclosing an experience of sexualized violence does not necessarily start any other process.

You may want to disclose because you would like to know what supports and accommodations are available to you, to better understand what your reporting options are, or just to tell someone what happened.

Reporting refers to a written statement of allegations submitted to the Sexualized Violence Advisor, or other Member of University Community designated under section F2.14, F2.15, and F2.16 of this Policy by a Complainant about an experience of Sexualized Violence that individual has had. When reporting, you will need to provide the names of everyone involved, a detailed description of the behavior that forms the basis of the report, and what you would like to see from this process. Reporting an experience of sexualized violence can start a university process through an Investigative or Non-Investigative stream. Reporting to Police is also an option.

You may want to report because you would like to have an official record of your experience, you would like to launch an investigation, and/or you are seeking remedial, educational, and/or restorative outcomes.

Disclosures and Reports of Sexualized Violence will be kept confidential to the greatest extent possible, within the limitations described in the Sexualized Violence Policy.

What to Expect from an Advisor

The Sexualized Violence Advisor in Human Rights & Equity Services is trained to help individuals who have experienced sexualized violence. The Sexualized Violence Advisor offers confidential support, crisis intervention, liaises with medical/legal/police services as needed, coordinates safety plans with Security Services, refer Complainants to counselling and ongoing support, advises Complainants on possible accommodations and processes outlined in the Sexualized Violence Policy, and provides other consultation and case management services (including incident logging).

Reporting Options

If you would like to report your experience of sexualized violence to Human Rights & Equity Services, you may do so by contacting the Sexualized Violence Advisor at hres@dal.ca or 902-494-6672. The universities Sexualized Violence Policy, and Executive Summary can be found online at dal.ca/hres.

You can also consider reporting your experience of sexualized violence to the Regional Police Department or RCMP to initiate a report through the Criminal Code. To initiate a report through the Criminal Code, you can contact the Regional Police Department at 902.490.5020 (Halifax) or 902.895.5351 (Truro) or 911 for emergency response.

Reporting to the Police & University or Human Rights Commission are not mutually exclusive. Individual can choose to report only to the university or only to the Police, neither or both options.