Resources

National Sexual Violence Resource Center
www.nsvrc.org
1-877-739-3892
- National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE
- RAINN National Sexual Assault Online Hotline: ohl.rainn.org/online

NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault
svfreenyc.org/about.html

The mission of the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault is to prevent sexual violence and reduce the harm it causes through education, research and advocacy.

Safe Horizons handles abuse, human trafficking, rape and sexual assault, as well as homeless youth and families of homicide victims, with a wide range of comprehensive support.
safehorizon.org/page/about-us-1.html

Take Action
Learning more about Consent:

Consent is to agree to do something or give permission. In the context of sex, a person is giving full consent/is consenting when they freely and actively agree to do something sexual with someone else; however, the person still has the right to change their mind at any point. A person is NOT consenting if they do not actively agree, have been forced or pressured in some way or are in a state where they are incapable of full consent (such as when asleep, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or below the age of consent).

Read more about how to ask for consent and know if you have consent at: Scarleteen, Sex Ed for the real world
scarleteen.com/how_can_men-know_if_someone_is_giving_consent_or_not_0

The Educational Video Center is a non-profit youth media organization dedicated to teaching documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy, and career skills of young people, while nurturing their idealism and commitment to social change.

www.evc.org

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Viewer Guide
It’s Not About Sex

2007 Run Time: 23:00

It’s Not About Sex takes a fresh look at the prevalence of sexual assault in our contemporary society. Shocked by the statistic that more than half of all rapes happen to people under 18, student producers search for the roots of the violence. On their journey to understand this complex issue, they talk to people from all walks of life, from sex crimes prosecutors and anti-rape activists, to people in the sex industry.
Statistics

According to RAIIIN

44% of surveyors of sexual assault are under age 18; 80% are under age 30

Every 107 seconds, another sexual assault occurs

There is an average of 293,000 instances (survivors age 12 or older) of sexual assault each year

68% of sexual assaults are not reported to the police

98% of rapists will never spend a day in jail

Approximately 4 our of 5 assaults are committed by someone known to the survivor

47% of rapists are a friend or acquaintance

Context

This movie takes on the complicated topic of sexual assault in our society and examines some of the root causes of sexual violence. The film tackles issues in media and policy that contribute to a culture in which sexual assault is so prevalent.

The terms "sexual assault" can mean anything from unwanted touching to rape- forcible sex. Sexual assault doesn’t always happen through physical force. Sometimes a perpetrator uses threats or intimidation intimidate and coerce another person. Any time a person does not or can not offer consent for sexual acts it is sexual assault.

Some people use the term “rape culture” to define a culture in which rape is pervasive and normalized due to societal attitudes about gender and sexuality. Conversations about sexuality and consent are some of the best ways to help prevent sexual assault. Being aware of messages about rape culture in the media and thinking about how to make consensual, respectful, and informed choices is one way that youth can combat a culture in which pressure, violence and control are prevalent in the way we talk and think about sex.

Values and attitudes surrounding sexuality and gender are always changing. Films like this one and discussion about this topic help us to face and change rape culture and stop sexual violence.

Discussion

What does the term consent mean? How do you ask for consent? How do you know if you have consent?

How does the media portray sex and/or consent? What are some examples you can think of that show or do not show consent?

What messages do U.S. media send about sexuality? What do young people learn from mainstream, commercial media about sex and its relationship to identity? What influence do these messages have on attitudes toward rape?

How do cultural attitudes about rape shape how we deal with the aftermath of sexual assault?

Even if you have not experienced sexual assault yourself, what can you do to prevent sexual assault and sexual violence?

What should you do if you know someone who is a survivor of sexual violence?