



# SEXUAL CONSENT WORKSHOP

Undergraduate Participant



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Oxford SU VP for Women

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## STATISTICS

Q1 is from Focus on Violent Crime and Sexual Offences (Office for National Statistics, 2016). Q2-Q4 are from An Overview of Sexual Offending in England and Wales (Office for National Statistics, 2010). Q5 is from Mankind UK. Q6-Q8 are from Hidden Marks (NUS, 2013).

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## LEGAL DEFINITIONS

The Sexual Offences Act 2003 defines many sexual offences. It includes but is not limited to:

1. **Rape:** non-consensual penetration of mouth, anus or vagina with a penis.
2. **Sexual assault by penetration:** non-consensual penetration of anus or vagina with an object or body part other than a penis.
3. **Sexual assault:** intentional, non-consensual, sexual touching.
4. **Causing a person to engage in sexual activity without consent:** This can include masturbation or viewing sexual images. This also covers forcing someone to perform sexual penetration.

Other offences are detailed in the Sexual Offences Act 2003 have to do with children and the effect of age on consent and/or the legal severity of an offence.

**Section 74 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 defines consent.** Someone consents only if they **agree by choice** to an activity and have the **freedom** and **capacity** to make that choice. Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, e.g. to vaginal but not anal sex; it can also be subject to conditions, such as wearing a condom.

Consent can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs.

It is important to note that while these definitions are important, they may not be how a survivor chooses to think of their experiences. There is a difference between legal definition and emotional impact.

Many people also criticise the specific inclusion of penises in the definition of rape as:

cisnormative (failing to include or consider trans people), and  
heteronormative (failure to include all aspects of LGBTQ+ sex)

The act is available to read here: [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/contents)

**Q1** Roughly \_\_\_ of women in the UK and of \_\_\_ men have experienced sexual assault (including attempts) since they were 16...

- a. 15% / 3%      b. 2% / 0.8%      c. 19% / 4%

**Q2** Around \_\_\_ women are sexually assaulted and \_\_\_ women are raped each year in the UK...

- a. 100,000 / 7,000      b. 400,000 / 80,000      c. 75,000 / 18,000

**Q3** \_\_\_ percent of rapes are perpetrated by someone the survivor already knows...

- a. 70%      b. 90%      c. 50%

**Q4** \_\_\_ of survivors of rape and sexual assault identify their partner as the perpetrator...

- a. 30%      b. 57%      c. 45%

**Q5** 3 in \_\_\_ of the UK male population have been affected at some point in their lives by sexual violence...

- a. 10      b. 20      c. 30

**Q6** 1 in \_\_\_ university-age women experience serious sexual or physical assault during their time as a student...

- a. 7      b. 16      c. 24

**Q7** \_\_\_ of university-age women experience stalking...

- a. 5%      b. 10%      c. 12%

**Q8** \_\_\_ of women attending university have experienced harassment in and around their institution...

- a. 28%      b. 52%      c. 68%

**Q9** Marital rape was ruled to be against English law in \_\_\_ ...

- a. 1963      b. 1899      c. 1991

## SCENARIO 1

I've been with my partner for about two years. We met in a bar that was popular with the LGBTQ community in our uni town. We've shared a lot: They were my first in a lot of respects. First gay relationship. First sexual experience.

About a year after we started dating, they asked me out on a date, like when we first started dating and planned a whole date night for us. They had put a lot of work into it. It was really romantic.

Around 11pm we headed back to my room. We had had sex before at this point, just oral sex and hand jobs. We had talked about it, agreed to it – all that stuff. But as our kissing and touching progressed to undressing and more touching, they asked about anal sex. I kissed their forehead, squirmed away, and began getting ready for bed. A few minutes later, they began kissing me again. I gave them that “not tonight” look, but they continued. I sighed, and thought that they wouldn't stop unless we did have sex.

It was weird afterwards though. I really didn't want to have sex, but I didn't say anything either. When we talked it over, I explained that. They understood, and it hasn't happened again. But it was weird, to feel pressured like that. We're still together now, I shouldn't still feel like this.

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## SCENARIO 2

I was on a night out, we had a been on a bar crawl beforehand so everyone was pretty drunk, including myself. Me and my friends were on the cheese floor in Parkend and we were dancing with the rowers we had met up with.

One guy was really hot, we kept making eye contact, he asked me if he could dance with me and I said yes. We danced really close and he kept checking that I was ok with everything. I asked him if we could sit down to chat, we went upstairs near the bar and we chatted for a while. We kept getting a bit closer to each other and I could tell from his body language he wanted to kiss me, so I did, it was really nice and afterwards I checked he was ok and asked if he wanted to kiss again.

We left Parkend together and we headed back to my accommodation, things went a bit fuzzy after that and I don't remember much else. I woke up the next morning still in my clothes with my shoes by my bed and a note on them. It was from the guy and he had written that he put me to bed because I seemed really drunk and that if I wanted to meet with him again I could add him on Facebook.

## SCENARIO 3

One night in Fresher's week we had a crew date organised by the 2nd year boys, people kept saying it was a 'sharking' crew date. Everyone was getting pretty drunk, sponcing each other and so on, it felt nice to be a part of the older years banter.

As the meal drew on someone declared a game of 'ABC', which was when one person (A) would tell another person (B) to do something to another person (C). Two of the loudest boys immediately claimed to be A and C and they pointed at my friend and said she would be B. Everyone was laughing and joking, I didn't think anything serious would happen. Then the guy who had claimed the role of A told my friend that as B she had to put her hand down C's pants. Everyone cheered and the guy (A) pushed my friend on to the guy [C].

My friend was trying to laugh along and said that it must be joke etc but the 2nd year boys laughed even harder and said of course it wasn't and that was why they had chosen this group of girls to go out with. My friend looked really uncomfortable as she preceded to do what she had been told. The rest of the night she just looked at her phone and left early. Since then she hasn't really come out on nights out with any of us.

**Crew Date** – a social event where (typically) a group of boys with go out with a group of girls for a boozy meal

**Sharking** – the act of older years actively seeking out freshers to be sexual with

**Sponcing** – the Oxford version of 'never have I ever' where a person will 'sponce' another with something funny and the person 'sponced' will stand up and drink e.g. 'I sponce anyone who threw up in a tutorial'

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## SCENARIO 4

I love going out and partying, drinking and getting with people, it's my kinda fun! One night a group of people from my college were at a friend's house. They were living out as a second year. I think we had plans to go out, but we began drinking and kept drinking at my friend's. There was someone there that I knew sort of well, we were talking and flirting. We decided to move to a quieter part of the house and they asked if they could kiss me, I was so excited, I had liked them for a while, they were so kind and funny!

We started kissed and mutually exploring each others bodies a bit, it felt really good, I was really enjoying myself. We sat for a while just drinking afterwards and I remember being quite tired, but I can't really remember much after that. I do remember waking up hours later to a dark, quiet house without my skirt or underwear on. I was alone, but I was in a bed. We had sex, I'm sure of it, but it wasn't something I agreed to. Or did I?

My mum said it is what I deserve for the life I lead, and the police said it was sex regret. I'm not sure what to think. My work has suffered, and my supervisor has commented on it, though he doesn't know what's wrong. Maybe I should pull myself together, but I can't stop thinking about it.

# CONSENT GENERALLY:

Where do you think consent applies?

Examples:

## CONSENT DEFINITIONS:

**Consent is defined by section 74 Sexual Offences Act 2003.**

*Someone consents only if they **agree by choice** to an activity and has the freedom and **capacity** to make that choice. Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, e.g. to vaginal but not anal sex or penetration with conditions, such as wearing a condom. Consent can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs.*

*More information from the Sexual Offences Act 2003 is available on the sheet of legal definitions included in your workshop pack.*

**How would you describe consent?**

**How can you check consent?**

## Evaluation

Please take some time to reflect on the sexual consent workshop by completing our online feedback survey. This survey is available via the Oxford SU website, and you should also receive an email from your common room asking you to complete the survey.

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The act is available to read here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42/content>

# RESOURCES

## **Oxford University Student Union Student Advice Service**

01865 288466  
advice@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk

## **Oxford University Student Union It Happens Here Campaign**

vpwomen@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk

## **Equality and Diversity Unit Harassment Advisor Network**

01865 270760  
harassment.line@admin.ox.ac.uk

## **Oxford University Counselling Service**

01865 270300  
www.ox.ac.uk/students/shw/counselling/

## **Sexual Violence: Response & Prevention at Oxford University**

www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/sexual-violence

## **Oxford Sexual Abuse & Rape Crisis Centre For self-identifying women**

01865 726 295 / 0800 783 6294  
Sun: 6.00pm-9.00pm  
Mon & Thurs: 6.30pm – 9.00pm  
Fri: 11.30am – 2.00pm  
www.oxfordrapecrisis.net/

## **Bletchley Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)**

Police House, Queens Ave,  
Bicester, OX26 2NR  
0300 130 3036  
www.solacesarc.org.uk

## **SurvivorsUK**

For male survivors of sexual abuse  
0845 122 1201  
Mon & Tues: 7.00pm – 9.30pm  
Thurs: 12.00pm – 2.30pm  
www.survivorsuk.org

## **Survivors' Network**

For self-identifying women  
01273 720110  
Wednesday  
7pm – 9pm  
help@survivorsnetwork.org.uk

## **Survivors' Network**

For trans and non-binary people  
01273 204050  
Sunday  
1pm – 5pm

## **Galop**

For LGBTQ+ people  
020 7704 2040  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday  
10am - 4pm  
referrals@galop.org.uk

## **Respect**

Support for perpetrators and abusers  
0845 122 8609  
Mon – Fri: 9.00am – 5.00pm  
www.respect.uk.net

## **OTHER WORKSHOPS & TRAINING SESSIONS**

If you would like to know more about sexual consent and sexual violence, you might be interested in the following link:  
<http://www.consentiseverything.com/>

Or in attending these other workshops and training sessions:

## **Queer Consent Workshops**

## **Bystander Intervention Training**

All of these are running at different points in the year. For more information, or to suggest new training you think would be helpful, get in touch with Oxford SU VP for Women at [vpwomen@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk](mailto:vpwomen@oxfordsu.ox.ac.uk).







# SEXUAL CONSENT WORKSHOP



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