



A girl always has the right to accept or refuse a sexual advance. When a girl does refuse, the guy has choices about how to handle her refusal. He can accept her decision and change his own behavior or he can ignore her decision and try to force himself on her. He is guilty of assault if he threatens her or physically forces her.



Guys can play a major role in preventing sexualized violence. Here are some ways:

**BE AWARE OF LANGUAGE**

Words are powerful. Words are often used to put girls down and make guys feel they are more powerful. Calling a girl a bitch, whore, slut, or dog is not okay. This language sends a message that females are not to be respected. This makes it easier to ignore their rights and well-being.

**TALK WITH YOUR PARTNER**

Sexualized violence often goes with poor communication. It's important to learn how to talk about sex with your partner. This means being clear about what you want, listening to what your partner wants, and asking questions if you don't understand. Good sexual communication can make sex safer and more enjoyable for both guys and girls.

LEARN HOW TO TALK ABOUT SEX WITH YOUR PARTNER.

**GET EDUCATED!**

Until everyone knows how common it is, sexual assault will not be taken seriously. In the Yukon, rates of sexual assault are three times higher than in other parts of the country.



**Some facts:**

- Guys do get sexually assaulted; however most sexual assaults are committed by guys against girls.
- Guys commit 90-95% of all sexual assaults.
- Usually where guys are sexually assaulted, other guys have been the offenders.
- Sexualized violence against anyone is wrong.

CONFUSED? HAVE QUESTIONS?  
[www.stopviolenceinyukon.ca](http://www.stopviolenceinyukon.ca)  
VictimLINK 1-800-563-0808



**Yukon**  
Government

**C.O.R.E.** Circles of Respect and Equality

A Yukon interagency group dedicated to stopping violence against women and children

TRUST, RESPECT  
& SUPPORT  
EACH OTHER



**A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP IS...**

- trusting your partner to spend time with others.
- respecting each other's values, opinions and boundaries.
- being honest with each other.
- supporting each other through happy and sad times.
- communicating your needs and wants to each other.
- accepting that disagreement is natural and that it's ok to talk about your differences in a respectful way.

You may never see a sexual assault in progress, but you will see and hear attitudes and behaviors that put women down and promote sexualized violence.

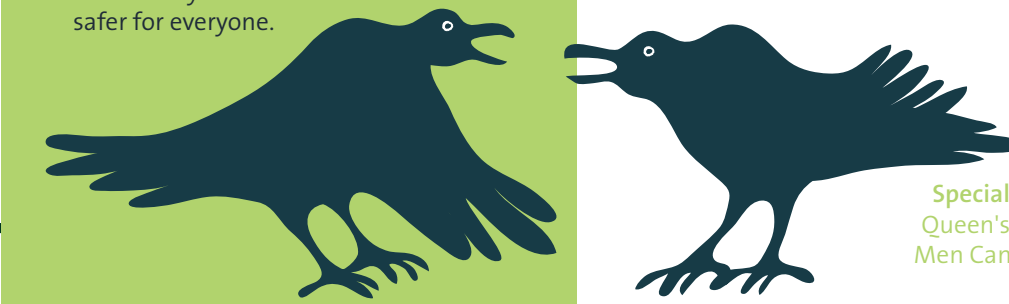
**SPEAK UP.**

- When your friend tells a joke about abusing a girl, **say you don't find it funny.**
- When you read an article that blames a woman for being sexually assaulted, **write a letter to the editor challenging this myth.**
- When laws are proposed that limit girls' rights, **let politicians know that you won't support them.**
- **Do anything except remain silent.**



**TALK WITH OTHER GUYS.**

Sexualized violence is a choice guys make to use sex as a weapon to gain power and control. For it to stop, guys who are violent must be empowered to make different choices. All guys can play a huge role in stopping violence. Every time a guy's voice speaks out against sexualized assault, the community becomes safer for everyone.



**WORK TO END OTHER OPPRESSIONS.**

Sexualized violence feeds off many other forms of prejudice. Racism, homophobia, and religious discrimination can all play a part. Speak out when you hear or see something that makes one group of people seem superior to another. By doing this, you support everyone's equality and make your community stronger.

Special thanks to:  
Queen's University  
Men Can Stop Rape