

GRASAC and sexual violence awareness

T: 01452 305421



**Gloucestershire Rape
and Sexual Abuse Centre**
here for you

GRASAC Services

- ISVA Service
- 1:1 Emotional Support
- Helpline
- Email Support
- Organising campaigns
- Awareness Raising
- Prevention work / teaching about consent



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ISVA service

- All genders and ages, must live in Gloucestershire
- Works with people who would like to discuss reporting options and people who have reported and are engaged in Criminal Justice System
- ISVA's don't know the details of the investigation (only what's on the referral form)
- Case closes when the Investigation/court proceedings end, ISVA will explore onwards referral with clients.

Emotional Support

- Support for all genders, aged 13+ (self referral for adults)
- Exploring trauma and its impact
- Uses a Person Centred approach (empowerment model)
- Client led
- Only for those with no ongoing criminal proceedings
- Regular sessions (20 session on offer)

Consent & The Sexual Offences Act

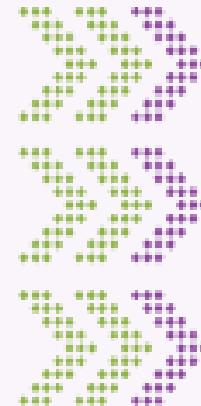
- The Sexual Offences Act 2003 states that a person has consented 'if she or he agrees by choice, and has the freedom and capacity to make that choice'.
- According to the Sexual Offences Act 2003, any voluntary agreement to sexual activity by someone under 16 cannot be defined as consent in law.

Consent & FRIES

What is consent?



**Freely Given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific**



Types of Sexual Violence

CRIMINAL OFFENCES

- Rape
- Sexual assault
- Childhood Sexual Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation
- Forced prostitution
- Revenge porn
- Up skirting
- Causing a person to engage in sexual activity without consent

Types of Sexual Violence

NON-CRIMINAL OFFENCES

- “Catcalling” and other unwanted intrusive comments
- Obscene or suggestive gestures
- Discussing or commenting on someone’s physical appearance, sexual behaviour or sexuality
- Unsolicited sexual images (aka ‘dick pic’)
- Display of sexualised materials in a context where they wouldn’t be expected.
- Sexual harassment

Signs of Sexual Abuse

No definitive signs, however, noticing the following could suggest someone has experienced or is experiencing sexual abuse;

- ‘Unexplained’ changes in behaviour or mood including anxiety, depression, appearing very confident
- Avoiding certain places or people
- Self-harming/ suicidal thoughts
- Changes in eating habits
- Frequent medical issues, potentially avoiding medical settings
- Seeming numb/ detached, lack of eye contact, avoidance
- Changes in physical appearance including way they dress

Sexual violence: statistics

1 in 4
women

4 in 5 men
don't
report to
Police

1 in 6
children

5/6 women
don't
report to
Police

1 in 18
men

Being Trauma Informed

Imagine...

You need to tell somebody something really personal; what would you need from them to feel safe and believed?

Core values of a trauma informed approach

Safety: Eye contact; consistency; explanations; procedure to report abuse etc

Trustworthiness: Following through; model trust; maintaining appropriate boundaries; and making tasks clear

Choice: Emphasizing individual choice and control; informed consent

Collaboration: Solicit input; acknowledge insights about self; explain options

Empowerment: Teaching skills; provide tasks where person can succeed

“Everybody is a Genius. But If You Judge a Fish by Its Ability to Climb a Tree, It Will Live Its Whole Life Believing that It is Stupid”

SARC- Hope House

- For any sexual assault that has happened within the last 2 weeks, call SARC. 0300 421 8400
- 24 hour/ 7 days week
- Age 16+ but if the person is younger call and they will support with onward support
- Do not have to report but they can provide emergency medical care as well as forensic examination and evidence storage for up to 2 years
- <https://www.hopehouse.nhs.uk/sarc/#victim>

Any questions?



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