

What to do if you are sexually abused?

If you have just been abused, **get to a safe place.**

Although you may have been threatened and you may be scared, you must report any sexual abuse/harassment **immediately.**

The Department of Corrections provides multiple ways to report sexual abuse or sexual harassment.

- Written report to any staff member
- Verbal report to any staff member
- Call the confidential PREA hotline from any offender phone (instructions are listed in phone areas)

If you have been the victim of sexual abuse,

DO NOT: Shower, brush your teeth, use the restroom, change your clothes, eat, drink or smoke

Doing any of the above prior to reporting the abuse may destroy important evidence.

How offenders can protect themselves from becoming victims

Stay away from isolated areas such as closets, stairwells and isolated/unoccupied restrooms.

Stay within the eyesight of a correctional staff member whenever possible.

Be aware of your body language: avoid conversations involving sexual topics, family relationships, sexual experiences, financial status.

Don't get in debt. You may be expected to repay a debt with sex.

Avoid purchasing large amounts of canteen or giving the impression you have money available to you. You may be strong-armed or approached to pay for protection, etc.

Know that victims are selected by stronger offenders seeking out those that appear weaker (both physically or mentally) and are frequently similar to domestic violence situations.

Know that, as a victim, you are **not** at fault.

Understanding the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) for Offenders



Kentucky Department of Corrections

The Kentucky Department of Corrections mandates zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

What is PREA?



The Prison Rape Elimination Act of September 4, 2003 (Public Law 108-79) was enacted by Congress to address the problem of sexual assault in all US penal facilities.

PREA supports the elimination, reduction and prevention of sexual assault/rape within our prisons, community corrections centers and local jails. PREA applies to Offender-on-Offender and Staff-on-Offender sexual misconduct.

What is offender sexual abuse?

Sexual abuse is defined as any type of unwanted sexual contact.

This includes contact or penetration of the anus or vagina with the penis, finger or other object. Sexual abuse includes unwanted sexual touching of the genitals, breasts, inner thigh or buttocks, either directly or through clothing.

When sexual contact is accomplished through fear, threat of bodily harm or implied threat, it is considered sexual abuse.

Sexual abuse includes sexual abuse of an offender by another offender, or by a staff member, contractor or volunteer.

What is staff sexual misconduct?

It is against Kentucky state law for a department staff member, contractor or volunteer to engage in any type of behavior or act of a sexual nature with an offender.

This includes sexual touching and attempted, threatened or requested sexual acts and voyeurism. Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor or volunteer means an invasion of an offender's privacy by staff for reasons unrelated to official duties.

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is defined as repeated verbal statements or comments of a sexual nature to an offender by an offender, staff member, volunteer, contractor, official visitor or agency representative such as demeaning reference to gender or derogatory comments about body or clothing; profane or obscene language or gestures.