



Frequently asked Questions and Answers about Sex and Rape

If my partner forces me to practice oral sex, is it still rape?

Yes! In the state of California, rape is not limited to vaginal penial penetration. Oral and anal sex are also considered rape as someone is forcing, coercing or manipulating another into participating against their will.

If someone forced me to have sex while I was drunk, will I get in trouble for underage drinking?

California state law says that one cannot consent to sex while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This does not mean that anyone who is drunk and has sex is violating the law, but what it does mean is that you have personal rights that must be respected even if you are drinking. Most law enforcement officials consider rape a more serious offense than underage drinking and although your parents might not be happy you were drinking, it does not change the fact that you were violated and should consider reporting.

If I report a sexual assault to the police, will my parents find out?

Probably. You can undergo a (SART) exam without your parent's consent, however, medical providers are required to report crimes to law enforcement. If your parents are there during the police report, you can ask to complete the full interview in private. This way your parents won't know the full details of the incident. During this time, the advocate from the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center in Monterey (831) 373-3955 or in Salinas (831) 771-0411 can speak with your parents and explain the procedures.

Remember: Anything you tell the sexual assault advocate will be kept confidential unless you give the advocate permission to speak with your parents.

How can I tell if I've been given a date rape drug?

Many times when people are unknowingly drugged, they will experience similar effects as those felt after drinking alcohol, but the effects will often occur more rapidly. For example, if you can

normally drink 5 beers without feeling any effects, you may feel "drunk" after 1 or 2. Often, people will black out and forget many of the events of the previous night. For more information on date rape drugs, click [here](#).

If I think I have been raped, how long do I have to report?

In general, the rule for evidence collection and prevention prophylaxis (i.e. prevention from STDs, pregnancy, HIV/AIDS) is 72 hours. This does NOT mean you cannot report if more than 72 hours have passed. Law enforcement officials will conduct an investigation and transfer the file to the District Attorney's Office who will decide whether there is sufficient evidence to prosecute.

What is the normal reaction to sexual assault?

There is no "normal reaction" after a rape. We are not trained on what to feel and how to react during and after a sexual assault. Some responses include: anger, frustration, self-doubt, self-blame, confusion, sadness, feelings of loneliness, etc. Know that you are not alone and there are people here to help you. For more information on steps to take after a sexual assault, click [here](#).

For additional information on what to do if you or someone you know has been a victims of sexual assault, click www.mtryrapecrisi.org/gethelp.htm .

Ask for help if you have questions. You can always call the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center.

24 Hour Telephone Hotlines:

**Call 375-HELP in the Monterey area
(831-375-4357)**

**Call 424-HELP in the Salinas areas
(831-424-4357)**

(Your calls are completely confidential.)