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RAPE



Rape is a type of sexual assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms sexual penetration initiated against one or more individuals without the consent of those individuals. The act may be carried out by physical force, coercion, abuse of authority or against a person who is incapable of valid consent, such as one who is unconscious, incapacitated, or below the legal age of consent. The term *rape* is sometimes used interchangeably with the term *sexual assault*.



Rape is the intentional unlawful sexual penetration of a victim, without their consent.

Rape occurs when

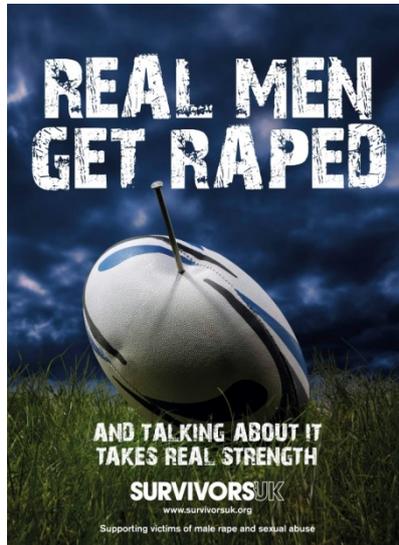
1. Someone inserts their genital organs into the mouth, anus or genital organs of a victim
2. Any part of someone's body, such as a finger, goes into the anus or genital organs of the victim
3. Any object, like a stick or a bottle is put into the anus or genital organs of the victim
4. The genital organs of an animal are put into the mouth of the victim

Any sexual intercourse without consent is unlawful. Both men and women are considered to be victims and perpetrators of rape. The age of consent to have lawful sex for men and women in South Africa is 16 years. Sex acts become crimes when they are performed without the permission (consent) of the person they are performed on. People may not use their marriage as an excuse to rape their partners.



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Date rape

“Date rape” involves rape by an acquaintance who refuses to stop when told to. Date rape often involves ‘date rape drugs’ which is given by the perpetrator unknowingly to the victim.

Compelled rape

Compelled Rape occurs when one person forces another to sexually penetrate each other someone else against their will. An example of compelled rape would be when a gang breaks into a couple’s home and forces them to have sex while members of the gang watch.

Statutory rape

The age of consent to have sex in South Africa is 16. An adult male who has sexual intercourse with a female under the age of 16 is guilty of ‘statutory rape’ – even if the female has consented. A male of 14 years of age or older who has sexual intercourse with a female without her consent is guilty of rape. Our law prohibits the commission of “an act of sexual penetration with a child”, as well as the commission of “an act of sexual violation with a child”. A child is defined as a person 12 years or older but under the age of 16 years”. Children under the age of 12 are conclusively presumed by the law to be incapable of consenting, so a sexual act with a child under that age constitutes rape or sexual assault. A boy under 14 years of age is no longer presumed to be incapable of rape.

Gang rape

Gang rape occurs when a group of people participate in the rape of a single victim. In South Africa gang rape is also known in the townships as ‘Jack rolling’. Although it is a situation “in which no brutality, no threat even, would be necessary to subdue the victim”, sadistic violence occurs on a large scale. Jack rolling has a few unique features namely:

1. rape is committed by people who are fairly young
2. it is always committed in the open and rapist make no effort to conceal their identity
3. it seems it is a way the rapist try to earn respect from the community
4. rapes are committed by youth who are part of roving armed gangs
5. rapes are usually committed in shebeens. open areas or picnic spots
6. gangs see jack rolling as a sport for tough gangsters, not as a crime



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How to survive a rape

1. Get to safety.
2. Call the SAPS or a Dr, Counsellor immediately

They will immediately send you addresses of the 3 nearest rape support centers to where you are at that moment.

3. Don't wash, go to the toilet or change your clothes. It is important for the collection of DNA samples that you are examined as soon as possible after a rape, just as you are. They will collect a vaginal smear, urine, scrape under your finger nails, and collect any possible DNA from your clothes like hair or semen of the rapist.

4. After the medical evaluation, you may wash and change.

5. It is important to talk about what happened to you. Don't isolate yourself. Remember the rape was not your fault. You also need to get professional counselling.

A victim's right to an abortion

A rape victim who becomes pregnant as a result of the rape is legally entitled to an abortion. The abortion must be done before 20 weeks of pregnancy.

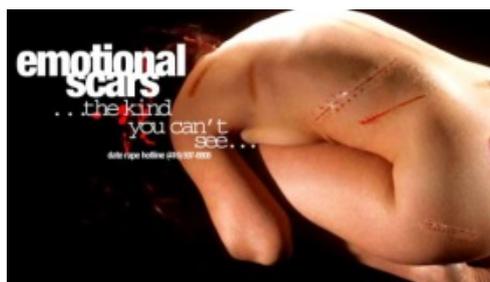


Penalty : The punishment for rape depends on the degree of violence used, the seriousness of injury inflicted, the age of the victim and whether the crime was planned or not. The sentence which is imposed may range from a short period in prison to life imprisonment.



If you need more information on sexual abuse, or have been a victim of rape or sexual abuse, you can also text chat anonymously to me. My service is free.

Add me on **BBM(7C4BB895)** or **whatsapp(825 576 9286)** for professional and anonymous chat.



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