



Kamloops Sexual Assault
Counselling Centre

What is Sexual Consent?

Legally, consent means that both parties positively communicated – by actions or words – agreement to engage in sexual activity.

- The absence of a 'no' doesn't mean a 'yes'.
- A person who is intoxicated cannot give consent.
- Consent is not truly consent if it is obtained through pressuring, threatening, intimidating or guilt tripping.
- Consent is ongoing and can be withdrawn at any time.

Contact us:

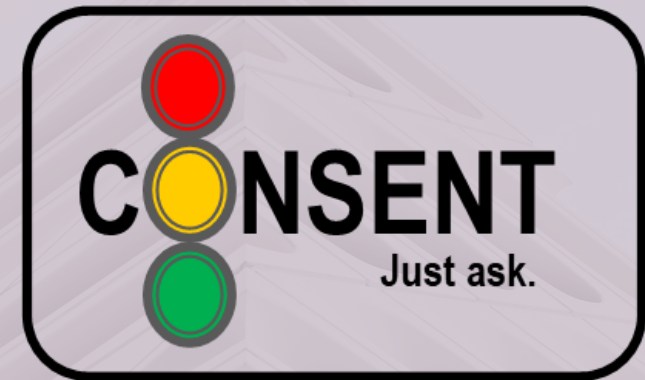
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Keep in touch:

 /kamloopsassaultcentre

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SEXUAL CONSENT

Important things to know

References:

Canadian Women's Foundation
www.canadianwomen.org

Did you know?

67%

of all Canadians say they personally know at least one woman who has been sexually or physically assaulted



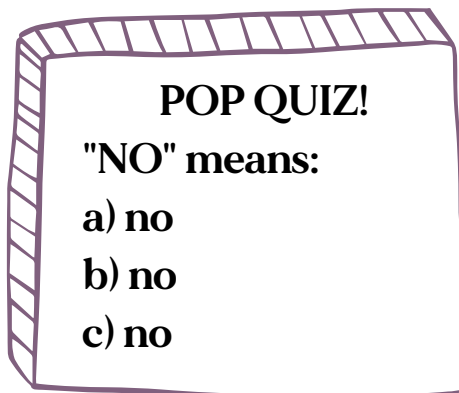
10%

of Canadians incorrectly believe that consent is not required between spouses or long-term partners



21%

of people between 18 and 35 incorrectly believe sending an explicit photo, text or email counts as consent



Age of Consent in Canada

The age of consent in Canada is **16 years old**. This is the age that criminal law recognizes the legal capacity of a young person to consent to sexual activity.

It is important to know that in some situations a person must be 18 years old to consent to sexual activity. Depending on what you are doing and who you are doing it with, sexual activity with a person under 18 years old is illegal.

There are exceptions for young persons under 16 years of age who have consensual sexual activity with someone close in age.

- a 14 or 15 year old can consent to sexual activity with someone less than 5 years older
- a 12 or 13 year old can consent to sexual activity with someone less than 2 years older.

These exceptions only apply if the older person is not in a position of authority or trust. (i.e.; teacher, coach, babysitter, doctor, minister, family member.)

CONSENT isn't that complicated!

1. Ask!

Words are best

2. Really listen!

Anything other than a 'heck yes!' is a 'no'.

3. Make space for a 'no'.

You don't have to be excited to hear 'no'. Using anger, pressure, or bargaining to get a 'yes' is not consent.

4. 'Yes' can change to 'no' at any time.

