

CURRENT TEEN ISSUES

Dating Violence means using sexual, physical, and/or emotional abuse to frighten, hurt, humiliate and/or exert power over a partner in a dating relationship. Even within a dating relationship both partners always have the right to say no to any sexual contact.

Rape Drugs are often slipped into someone's drink making the victim more passive and unable to say no or stop an assault. After ingesting a rape drug, the person will feel, and appear, very drunk, even if they have only had one or two drinks. They may stumble, not be able to focus, and begin slipping in and out of consciousness. While the victim is in this condition, the offender may take on the role of the so-called 'helper', telling their friends they will take the 'drunk' person home or care for them until they sober up. The sexual assault usually occurs when the victim is passed out or in a state of incapacitation.

Internet Safety — The Internet can be a valuable resource. However, it is important to be aware of the potential risks and dangers.

Some risks:

- exposure to pornography;
- vulnerability to predators; and
- harassment through e-mail or chatting.

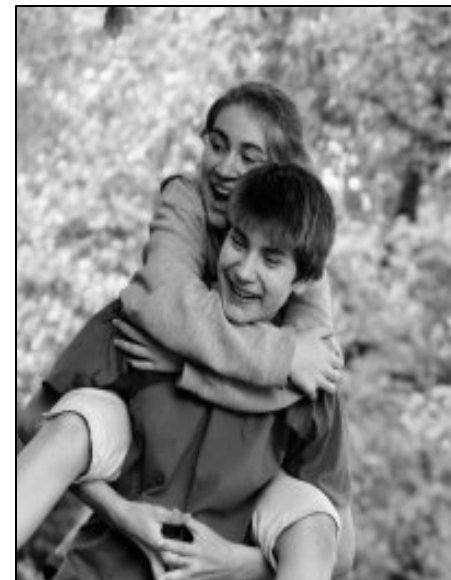
Keeping safe:

- chat rooms are the most dangerous area as you never know who you're talking to;
- do not give out personal information; and
- do not arrange in-person meetings.

Contrary to popular belief, sexual abuse of teens is not a rare occurrence, nor is it confined to any one social class, ethnic group, gender or religious background. It can happen to any family and occurs more than we would like to think. In fact, studies suggest one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused in their lifetime, with the majority of that abuse occurring before the age of 18.

Fortunately, teens can recover from the abuse. With the support of their family, friends and community teens are able to deal with the sexual abuse and improve their outlook on themselves and on life.

Teen Counselling Program



**SPEAK UP!
SOMEONE WILL LISTEN!**

Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton
205, 14964 - 121A Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5V 1A3

Business Line (780)423-4102
24 Hour Crisis Line (780)423-4121
Website www.sace.ab.ca
E-mail info@sace.ab.ca



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SOLICITOR GENERAL



The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (SACE) offers individual counselling for children between the ages of 3 and 17 years. In order for teens to be seen for counselling, the sexual abuse or assault has to have been reported to Alberta Child and Family Services (1-800-387-5437) and/or the police (423-4567).

SETTING UP AN APPOINTMENT

After reporting the abuse/assault to Alberta Child and Family Services and/or the police, the parent or guardian of the teen can call the program and ask to speak to one of the Child and Adolescent Psychologists. The psychologist will complete the intake process with the parent or guardian covering the background information regarding the history of abuse/assault. Once the intake is completed, an appointment is scheduled. The waiting list varies but typically is no more than two weeks, with emergency appointments being made available when necessary.



INDIVIDUAL COUNSELLING

Counselling is provided for teenagers. As the teen develops a trusting relationship with the psychologist, they are able to explore and resolve issues relating to their past abuse or assault histories.



GROUP COUNSELLING

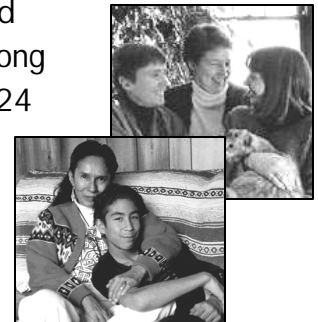
Group therapy is also available for children, teens, and their parents throughout the year. However, the schedule for group counselling varies depending on the psychologist's availability and number of interested clients. If you are interested in group counselling, please inquire with the Child and Adolescent psychologists at SACE.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT



Sexual abuse impacts not only the teen but also their family and friends. After a disclosure, the family may find themselves in crisis. Supports are available for those who are impacted by this abuse to assist them with the emotions and questions that may arise.

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton offers individual and group counselling along with access to the 24 Hour Crisis Line for those impacted by this abuse.



PSYCHOLOGISTS

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton currently has two psychologists in the Child and Adolescent Program. Both psychologists have extensive and diverse experience working with children who have been victims of sexual abuse.

