



League of Women Voters of New Jersey
Campus Sexual Assault Study and Consensus
CONSENSUS QUESTIONS

SEXUAL ASSAULTS IN THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

I. Policy

1. Which of the following elements should college and university policies include in preventing, reporting, and combating sexual assault? Note we are not asking if they should all be addressed the same way, just whether they are important to include. Some are rather obvious, but the question is meant to be inclusive.

a. Aggravated sexual assault where unwanted penetration occurs, and the aggravating conditions as described in the background section are met such as use of a weapon, injury to the victim by one or more persons or the victim was incapable of giving consent:

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

b. Sexual assault -- with penetration but without aggravating conditions as noted in the previous item:

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

c. Unwanted sexual contact without penetration, such as forced touching of a sexual nature (forced kissing, touching of private parts, grabbing, groping, fondling, rubbing up against a person in a sexual way, even if it is over clothing)

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

d. Forced or pressured penetration (such as a female perpetrator obtaining sex by threat or force from an unwilling male).

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

e. Conduct which includes;

i. Sexual discrimination (both gender and lifestyle)

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

ii. Sexual harassment

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

iii. Sexual intimidation

Include: _____ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

iv. Lewdness

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

v. Catcalling (comments of a sexual nature)

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

vi. Exposure of genitals (without consent by the viewer)

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

vii. Stalking (with sexual components)

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

viii. Unwelcome/unwanted sexting

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

ix. Use of social media to advance or demonstrate any sexual misconduct

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

x. Persistent and unwanted sexual advances

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

xi. Unwelcome sexual contact/touching

Include: ___ Don't include: _____ No consensus: _____ No opinion: _____

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this.

2. Should schools be taking steps to combat the societal attitude known as "Rape Culture"?

Yes: ___ No: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

a. If yes, at what level should age-appropriate efforts in the schools be made? Otherwise skip this question.

Pre High School: Yes: ___ No: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

High School: Yes: ___ No: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___
College on entry: Yes: ___ No: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___
Through college: Yes: ___ No: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

b. School efforts against rape culture should include (please skip this section if you answered "No" to question 2):

i. Education on the behaviors commonly associated with rape culture and how they may lead to sexual violence.

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

ii. Enlisting men in programs on healthy masculinity.

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

.Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this.

3 a. What would the League consider as the most appropriate approach to consent?

Please circle selected answer.

i. The existing "no" means "no" policy, properly taught and enforced.

ii. The newer "yes" means "yes" (affirmative consent) policy, properly taught and enforced.

iii. Either.

iv. Other (please explain)

v. No consensus

vi. No opinion

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this.

3 b. In disciplinary cases, where consent is in doubt, which of the following should be the focus of the discussion?

Please circle selected answer

- i. Did one partner clearly say "No" or the equivalent?
- ii. Did both partners clearly indicate interest in sex, giving an unambiguous "yes" either in words or behavior?
- iii. Other (specify)
- iv. No consensus
- v. No opinion

3.c. Do you agree or disagree with this statement: "A condition of intoxication or drug influence wherein the individual is substantially impaired or incapacitated will generally render that individual incapable of giving valid consent to sexual activity"?

Agree ___

Disagree ___

No consensus ___

No opinion ___

4. Which of the following should be required by legislation and/or regulations as methods to reduce barriers to reporting of sexual assault?

a. Improved, victim-friendly procedures on how to report the incident.

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

b. Counseling

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

c. Legal protection against hostile treatment by authorities

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

- d. Legal Aid to victims and families in determining proof that an assault happened

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

- e. Legal Aid as to a victim's legal rights

Include: ___ Don't include: ___ No consensus: ___ No opinion: ___

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this

II. Federal Legislation

Title IX, the Jeanne Clery Act, the Violence Against Women Act, and the new Government initiative "IT IS ON US" are all designed to prevent sexual assaults on college campuses through intricate reporting mechanisms.

5. Should the League of Women Voters of New Jersey encourage more visibility and effectiveness in the enforcement of these Federal laws and initiatives through:

- a. Mandated student climate surveys

Agree ___ Disagree ___ No Consensus ___ No Opinion ___

- b. Consistent Policies/Investigative/Disciplinary Procedures for sexual misconduct

Agree ___ Disagree ___ No Consensus ___ No Opinion ___

- c. Partnership Building/Cooperation with Law Enforcement & Rape Crisis Centers

Agree ___ Disagree ___ No Consensus ___ No Opinion ___

- d. Reporting of crime data to the appropriate authority for better public knowledge of campus conditions

Agree ___ Disagree ___ No Consensus ___ No Opinion ___

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this

III. Prevention

6. Should the League of Women Voters of New Jersey encourage the Sexual Assault Prevention strategies recommended in this study including but not limited to:

a. Multiple communication mediums such as flyers, pamphlets, emails, student newspapers, websites.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion_____

b. Information must be accurate, kept up to date and accessible at all times, especially on line communication.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion_____

c. Prevention strategies and messages for students need to be presented as soon as possible after enrollment.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion _____

d. Accurate definitions of sexual misconduct which could lead to sexual assault and rape, the extent and nature of sexual assault among college students and the risk factors associated with certain behaviors must be made available at all times to all students.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion_____

e. Combine sexual assault prevention education with alcohol and drug education programming beginning in high school in our New Jersey Family Life Curriculum.

Agree_____ Disagree _____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion _____

f. Teach effective sexual assault resistance strategies to reduce physical harm.

Agree _____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion _____

g. Educate students about increasing their assertiveness and self-sufficiency.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion_____

h. Convey knowledge on how to report an assault to the campus security, rape crisis center, administration, and local police.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion_____

- i. Stress the importance of reporting incidents of attempted and completed sexual assault to mental and / or physical health service providers and security / law enforcement personnel, and the importance of seeking services.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

7. Provide all students with accurate information on:

- a. Legal definitions of sexual assault

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

- b. Campus ramifications for sexual assault (forced class changes, forced residence changes, restrictions on movement, suspension, expulsion) and

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

- c. Where law enforcement becomes involved, legal penalties for sexual assault (incarceration, trial, prison terms, a lifetime record, sex offender registration requirement)

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

8. Inform all students that they are ultimately responsible for determining (1) whether or not a woman/man has consented to sexual contact, and (2) whether or not a woman/man is capable of providing consent.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

9. Educate all students that an intoxicated person cannot legally consent to sexual contact and that having any sexual contact with an intoxicated or incapacitated person is unacceptable and ultimately illegal.

Agree _____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this.

IV. Roles of Campus Administration

10. Should the League of Women Voters of New Jersey encourage the New Jersey State Board of Higher Education to seek other measures (other than the preventive measures outlined above) to thwart the illegal sexual misconduct behaviors and sexual assaults on our New Jersey Campuses by:

a. Requiring anonymous student climate surveys

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No consensus_____ No Opinion _____

b. Requiring independent experienced investigators

Agree_____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

c. Requiring a rape-crisis counselor to be present at all interviews from the onset

Agree_____ Disagree _____ No Consensus _____ No Opinion _____

d. Requiring that the victim have their own legal representative present or provide one if the student is not able to

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion _____

e. Joining in a partnership/ cooperating contract with the local police department

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion _____

f. Provide a safe, well-equipped medical facility with highly trained personnel to administer a rape kit to the victim for possible use in criminal proceedings. This would require police personnel to be on hand to insure the proper chain of evidence procedures.

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No Opinion _____

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this

V. Roles of the Local Police

“To date there have been no standardized or legislated positions or policies on who must handle campus assault cases”

11. Should the League of Women Voters of New Jersey advocate for:

- a. Local police departments playing a more active role in the prevention of sexual assaults on campuses in New Jersey much the same way we encourage police interaction with students regarding drug and alcohol use at high schools?

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No opinion _____

- b. A uniform policy and procedural manual throughout the state that all law enforcement personnel would be required to carry with them at all times in case of the need to respond to sexual assault?

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No opinion _____

- c. Active partnerships/cooperative contracts between local police departments and college administrations and local rape crisis centers to strengthen sexual assault prevention and response programs?

Agree_____ Disagree_____ No Consensus_____ No opinion _____

Please use the comment section below to voice your opinion regarding this