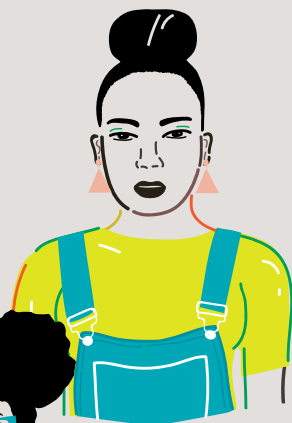




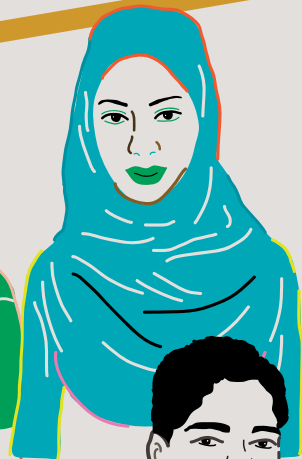
IT'S



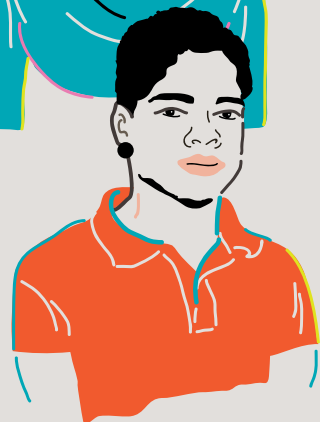
NOT



JUST



PERSO



NAL

Your guide to the rights of survivors of sexual violence and their allies

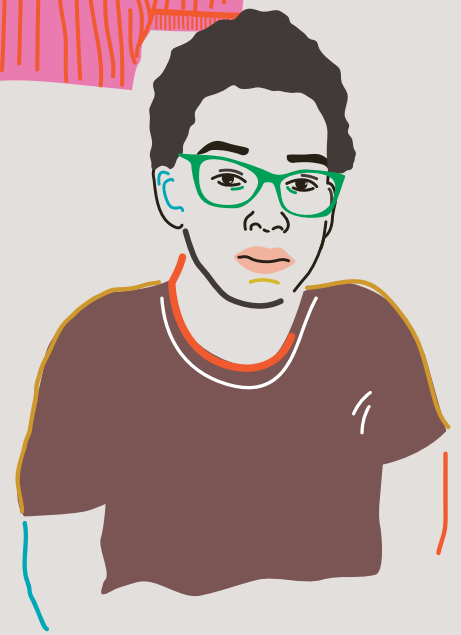
MAKING POLICY PUBLIC

⁺
“Sexual violence” refers to any unwanted sexual activity. It can happen in—but isn’t limited to—domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking situations.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE HARMES OUR COMMUNITIES.



It ripples out to school, work, and families, and down through generations.



On college campuses, two important federal laws require schools to protect students and support survivors.



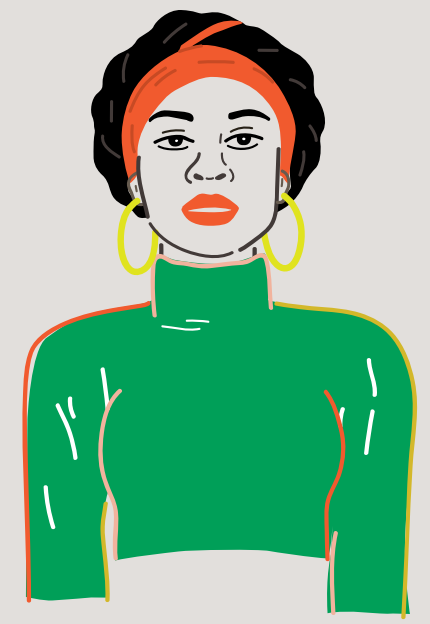
TITLE IX

is a federal law that protects you from gender and sex-based discrimination at school. It applies to people of all genders and sexualities.

Under Title IX, your school has to:

- Act right away** to make sure survivors can continue their education free of ongoing gender or sexual discrimination, harassment, or violence.
- Have procedures in place** to handle complaints of sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence.
- Have a Title IX coordinator**—a staff person designated by your school who handles Title IX complaints.

⁺
“Discrimination” under Title IX means being excluded or prevented from participating in an activity or program. If your school is doing something that’s keeping you from pursuing your education, they’re breaking the law by discriminating against you.



THE JEANNE CLERY ACT

is a federal law that protects your right to information about violence on campus. If you're a survivor, it also gives you the right to support and resources.

Under the Clery Act, your school has to:

- Report sexual violence** and make that information available to all students, faculty, and staff.
- Provide survivors with support and resources**, whether it’s help feeling safe at school, accessing health services or counseling, or holding harm-doers accountable.

⁺
A “harm-doer” doesn’t have to be another student—it could be anyone, including teachers, school staff, or people who don’t attend or work at your school.



1

You have the right to know what your school is doing to address sexual violence.

Start by looking for information on your school's website, at a student resource center, or at your school's counseling center.

All schools are required by law to provide sexual violence awareness and prevention programs for all students, faculty, and staff.

Look for detailed information on how your school is dealing with sexual violence in your school's Annual Security Report (ASR).

The ASR should be somewhere that's easy to access, like your school's website. It should explain how your school handles reports of sexual violence, and the policies they have in place to protect and support survivors.

Your school is required by law to update its ASR and make it available to all students, faculty, and staff by October 1st of each year.

2

You have the right to accurate information about crime on campus.

Your school is required by law to report crimes in a public crime log. It should be somewhere that's easy to access, like your school's website.

Your school has to update the crime log quickly and regularly (usually within two days of when the crime was reported). They also have to keep records of crime statistics from the past three years.



INFORMATION
You have the right to

You have the right to HEALING AND SUPPORT



1

You have the right to be believed.

Your school is required by law to take immediate action to make sure you can continue your education free of ongoing sexual discrimination, harassment, or violence.

2

You have the right to support from your school, whether you choose to report something or not.

Your school is also required to provide you with information on resources that are available to you, like:

- Health care services
- Victim/survivor advocacy
- Legal assistance
- Visa and immigration assistance
- Student financial aid

Some staff and faculty are required by law to report any information you tell them that's related to sexual violence, harassment, or discrimination.

If you want information you share to be confidential, ask anyone you talk to if they can speak with you confidentially first.

It's important to remember that healing is possible, even though it looks different for each survivor. You have a right to heal and to support throughout your healing process.

1

It's your choice whether or not to report what happened to you.

You have the right to make a report to your school, to the police, to both, or to neither.

Your school is required by law to respect your decision.

It's illegal for them to:

- Push you to file charges with the police or school administration if you don't want to. It's also illegal for your school to push you to not file charges.
- Threaten your academic standing or ability to graduate based on whether you choose to report something or not.

If you want to file a police report, you have the right to get help from your school to do so.

2

If you want to file a complaint with your school and start a disciplinary hearing against your harm-doer, you have additional rights.

You have the right to a written explanation of your rights and options for filing a complaint.

It should tell you:

- How to file a complaint.
- The types of consequences a harm-doer might face.
- How the disciplinary hearing works, including how long it will take and how decisions will be made.

Consequences for harm-doers vary by school, and can range from being removed from classes to expulsion.

If you ask for a disciplinary hearing, it's illegal for your school to ask you "mediate" your complaint instead.

"Mediation" means using some other process for handling the complaint other than the official procedure your school has in place, like asking you to "talk things out" with your harm-doer.

In a disciplinary hearing process, you have the right to:

- A quick and fair disciplinary hearing.
- Updates from your school on what's going on at every stage of the process.
- Having an advisor whom you choose present during the hearing.
- Receiving the final results of the hearing at the same time as your harm-doer.

An advisor can be anyone you choose, like a friend, family member, teacher, or lawyer.

You should never have to sign something that says you won't talk about what happened to you (sometimes called a "non-disclosure agreement") in order to get the results of a disciplinary hearing.

If you disagree with the final results of the disciplinary hearing, you have the right to appeal. Contact the office that conducted the hearing and explain to them why you disagree with the results.

3

Even if you choose not to report what happened, you have the right to ask your school for a "no-contact order" to keep your harm-doer from contacting you.

4

You have the right to be protected from retaliation or harassment if you report something.

Your school is required by law to keep you safe from retaliation or harassment from other students, faculty, or staff.

For some survivors, justice looks like reporting—for others, it doesn't. It's your choice. Whatever you choose, you have the right to be believed, respected, and supported.



WHAT JUSTICE LOOKS LIKE TO YOU
You have the right to decide

IT'S NOT



"We formed a task force of students, teachers, and administrators to make Title IX more accessible to students."



"I let my friend know that his rape joke was offensive."



"I advocated for my friend's harm-doer to switch dorms and classes so that they don't have to cross paths every day."



"I held my friend's hand during her clinic appointment."



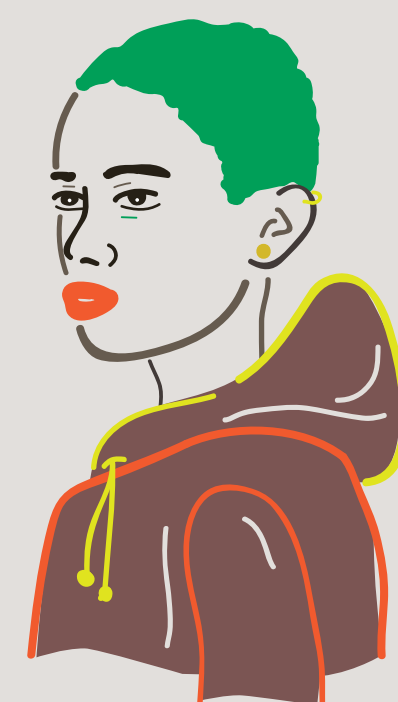
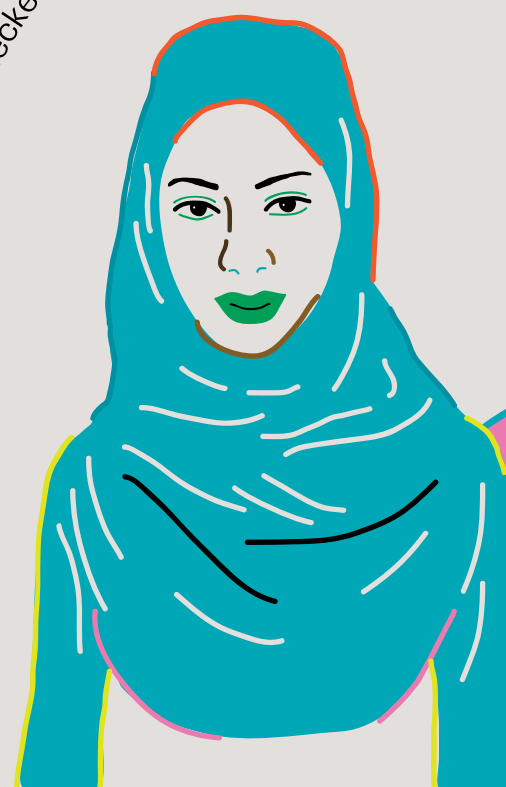
JUST



"I host conversations about safety with my freshman hall—we talk about how to make campus a safer place together."



"I checked out Black Women's Blueprint's website and learned more about my rights under Title IX and the Clery Act."



"I supported my friend after they told me about their trauma."



PERSONAL

"I talked to my girlfriend about consent and we agreed to each other's boundaries."



"When my school ignored my report, I filed a complaint to hold them accountable."



"I organized a campus rally in support of survivors."



CLAP BACK!

We can work together to prevent sexual violence—and we can hold our schools accountable for protecting our rights as survivors and allies.

WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- ▶ An education free from discrimination.
- ▶ Information about sexual violence on campus.
- ▶ Support and healing.
- ▶ Protection from retaliation.

For more information on your rights, visit your campus health or counseling center, or go to blackwomensblueprint.org.

Your school can face serious consequences if it isn't following Title IX or the Clery Act.

You can hold them accountable by

FILING A COMPLAINT



If your school has discriminated against you, file a Title IX complaint.

Contact your school's Title IX coordinator to file one, or file directly with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights.

Find more information, including an online form that you can fill out, here: www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html

⁺
You're supposed to file your complaint within 180 days of when the act of discrimination took place. If you need more time, you can ask for an extension.

If your school won't provide information about sexual violence on campus—or if you have trouble finding support or getting information on resources available to you—you can file a Clery Act Complaint.

Email the U.S. Department of Education's Clery Act Compliance Division at clery@ed.gov

⁺
There's no form to follow, and you can include as much or as little information as you feel comfortable with.

Learn more

Find resources for survivors:

Black Women's Blueprint

Find culturally responsive counseling and healing services, bystander intervention training, and anti-oppression and trauma-responsive workshops: blackwomensblueprint.org

The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)

Find culturally specific resources in your area, including crisis counseling and support: online.rainn.org | 1-800-656-HOPE

The Trevor Project

Find resources designed for LGBTQIA youth, including suicide prevention counseling and sexual assault support: thetrevorproject.org | 1-866-488-7386

Connect with other organizations working to end sexual violence:

End Rape On Campus

endrapeoncampus.org

Safer Campus

safercampus.org

Learn more about Title IX and the Clery Act:

Know Your IX

knowyourix.org

Clery Center

clerycenter.org

Making Policy Public is a program of the Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP). CUP partners with policy advocates and graphic designers to produce foldout posters that explain complicated policy issues, like this one: makingpolicypublic.net

Collaborators

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Black Women's Blueprint Ericka Dixon, Sherine Powerful, Ashley Hobbs

Designers Flora Chan, Abby Chen



The Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP) is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement. welcometocup.org



Black Women's Blueprint is a national black feminist organization committed to ending the systemic forms of oppression that keep equity just out of reach. Black Women's Blueprint dedicates itself to creating and facilitating spaces of learning, empathy, and support amongst college students as a vehicle for arresting, reversing, and ending rape culture ideologies on campuses and in the larger community. blackwomensblueprint.org

Flora Chan and **Abby Chen** are NYC-based designers who just happen to really enjoy making things together. floramakesthings.com and abbychen.me

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