

SEXUAL ASSAULT: WHAT' S THE LAW?

Under Pennsylvania law, sexual assault is referred to under several different terms: Rape, Sexual Assault, Statutory Sexual Assault, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Indecent Assault and Incest.

There are differences between these crimes, but they all include unwanted or inappropriate sexual contact.

It is illegal to force someone into sexual contact.

It is illegal to threaten or coerce someone in order to engage in sexual contact with them.

It is illegal to force one' s spouse into sexual contact.

It is illegal to have sexual contact with someone who is unconscious, or who is unaware that sexual contact is occurring.

It is illegal to have sexual contact with someone who does not have the power to give consent. This includes someone who has a mental disability or is under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

It is illegal to take, distribute, or possess photographs of persons under 18 engaging in sexual acts or simulated sexual acts.

It is illegal to have sexual contact with a close blood or adoptive relative.

It is illegal to have sexual contact with a person who is under 13 years old.

It is illegal to have sexual contact with a person who is under 16 years old if you are four or more years older than her/him.

It is illegal to administer drugs to a person without their knowledge in order to engage in sexual contact.



24 Hour Hotline: 724.836.1122 Toll-free: 1.888.832.2272

www.blackburncenter.org

www.pcar.org www.teenpcar.org www.chooserespect.org

www.menagainstsexualviolence.org

