

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS

Understanding Sexual Violence

Now more than ever, fraternities are being connected to cultures of sexual assault on college campuses.

A study from Rutgers University in 2018 found that “spending time with peers who are accepting of sexual violence leads men to be accepting of sexual violence themselves.”

Individuals who were interested in fraternities scored higher on “proclivity to perpetuate sexual aggression and some rape myths than non-interested non-members.” The study also suggested that the socialization process within fraternities “reinforces feelings of male dominance and control.” ¹

Another study found that fraternity men are three times more likely to commit rape than their non-Greek peers.

Sexual assault claims account for 15% of insurance claims, according to a fraternity insurance provider.²

Sexual violence has no place in Delta Tau Delta.

The Central Office has compiled a list of resources and guidance to assist you and your brothers in ensuring your chapter provides a safe experience for all members, new members and guests.

This is not meant to be an exhaustive, step-by-step guide to combating sexual violence, but rather be a jumping-off point for critical dialogue in our brotherhood about how to truly live lives of excellence.

WHAT IS SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

Sexual violence is an all-encompassing, non-legal term that refers to crimes like sexual assault, rape and sexual abuse. The legal definition of these crimes vary greatly state to state (and higher education institution to higher education institution), which is why it’s important to do your own research and ask questions about what sexual assault means where you live. Sexual assault and relationship violence can also show up in different ways including:

- Stalking
- Online/internet harassment
- Sexual harassment in the workplace ³

Link: Statistics from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center



DELTA TAU DELTA

¹ <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/fulfillment-any-age/201809/what-women-have-fear-men-infraternities>

² <https://www.kpbs.org/news/2014/oct/21/fraternities-and-campus-sexual-assault-problem/>

³ <https://www.rainn.org/types-sexual-violence>

PROACTIVE MEASURES

Create a safety plan for your chapter:

Your chapter president, director of risk management and shelter manager should collaborate to identify ways to improve your chapter

Think about a typical social event for your chapter. What usually goes well? What doesn't go well?

Identify opportunities to make the shelter a safer place for guests, members, and new members

What definitions does your institution use, especially around concepts about incapacitation and consent?

Familiarize yourself with your college/university's sexual violence policies (they vary significantly institution to institution)



DELTA TAU DELTA