

From touching, to kissing, to having sex - if you have sexual contact with someone who has not given consent, it could be sexual assault,

Even if:

- You think they want it
- You are dating, in a relationship, or married
- You have had sex with them before
- They are dressed in sexy clothing
- They said “yes” last time

Sexual assault and sexual harassment are all forms of sex discrimination. Title IX and MCLA’s Sexual Harassment Policy prohibit all forms of sex and gender-based discrimination, including sexual assault.

MCLA’s Title IX and Equal Opportunity Office takes reports of sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence extremely seriously.

Scan the QR code to make a report.



FILE A COMPLAINT

Resources

On Campus Reporting Options:

Dean for Title IX, Equal Opportunity, and Student Wellness

Patrick Connelly
413-662-5127
Patrick.Connelly@mcla.edu

Director of Title IX and Equal Opportunity

Justin MacDowell
413-662-5571
Justin.MacDowell@mcla.edu

Email: TitleIX@mcla.edu
Online: mcla.edu/titleix



MCLA Counseling Services

MountainOne Student Wellness Center, 2nd Floor
413-662-5331
counselingservices@mcla.edu

MCLA Health Services

MountainOne Student Wellness Center, 1st Floor
413-662-5421
healthservices@mcla.edu

Elizabeth Freeman Center (24 hour hotline)

61 Main Street, Suite 202, North Adams
866-401-2425
info@elizabethfreemancenter.org

The Brien Center (24 hour hotline)

124 American Legion Drive, North Adams
800-252-0227
mary.murphy@briencenter.org



MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

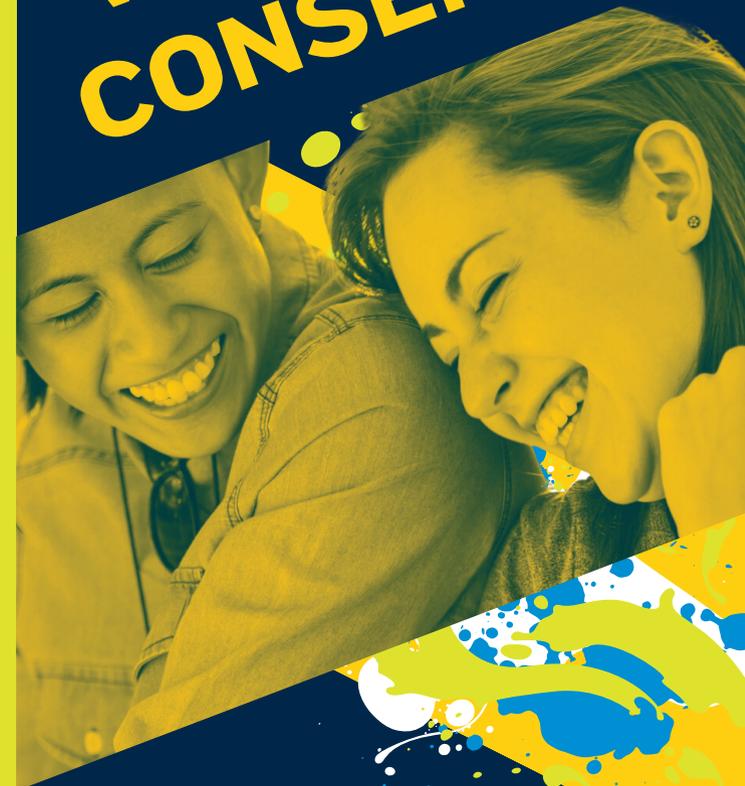
Title IX and Equal Opportunity Office

Venable Hall 309
375 Church Street
North Adams, MA 01247
413-662-5571
TitleIX@mcla.edu



Title IX and EO Office

WHAT IS CONSENT?



Understanding Sexual Consent*



Title IX and Equal Opportunity Office

Consent is...

Freely given
Reversible
Informed
Enthusiastic
Specific

Consent is an understandable exchange of affirmative words or actions, which indicates a willingness by all parties to participate in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. Consent must be informed and freely and actively given. It is the responsibility of the initiator to obtain clear and affirmative responses at each stage of sexual involvement. Consent to sexual activity may be withdrawn at anytime, as long as the withdrawal is communicated clearly. Whether an individual has taken advantage of a position of influence over a Reporting Party may be a factor in determining consent. A position of influence could include supervisory or disciplinary authority. Silence, previous sexual experiences, and/or a current relationship may not, in themselves, be taken to imply consent. Similarly, consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply consent to other forms. Further, consent cannot be obtained through incapacitation, force, or coercion.



...F.R.I.E.S.

yes!

Consent is always **freely given**. Both partners have the freedom to say "Yes" or "No." Consent never involves any type of pressure, force, or manipulation.



Consent is always **reversible**. In other words, consent can be withdrawn. Either person can change their mind at any time. Yes, even in the middle of an act.



Consent is always **informed**. Both partners need to know exactly what they are consenting to every single time.



Consent is always **enthusiastic**. Both partners should be excited and very much interested in what is happening. If they are not, **STOP** immediately. "Maybe" is not "Yes."



Consent is always **specific**. Each individual affection/intimate act requires consent each time, even if you have done it before.

*Thank you to the Stop Abuse in Family Society

There is no consent if...



It is given by someone else.



It is someone in a position of power and authority such as a supervisor, coach, or professor.



"No" is implied. People can say "no" in many different ways, such as freezing, moving away, saying "I don't know," or even "maybe."



You or your partner are incapacitated due to being under the influence of medication, alcohol, or other drugs, unconscious, or sleeping.



You or your partner have changed their minds and withdraw consent. Like implying "no," withdrawing consent can be done in multiple ways both verbal or non-verbal.

