What Should I Do If I Am Sexually Assaulted?

Sexual Assault Resources for Students at Calvin Theological Seminary

The following are steps that you may wish to take immediately following an assault/rape:

Contact Police:

- **Call 911 immediately if you are in a life-threatening situation.**

- **Contact Campus Safety** at 616-526-3333 if you are on campus. The police can provide protection from the assailant(s) and can collect evidence and testimony for potential criminal charges. Campus Safety officers are available and trained to assist students who experience sexual assault. Campus Safety officers can also assist students in contacting local police and with directing police to your location. [http://www.calvin.edu/offices-services/campus-safety/](http://www.calvin.edu/offices-services/campus-safety/)

- **Contact local police:**
  - Grand Rapids: 616-456-3400
  - Kentwood: 616-698-6580
  - East Grand Rapids: 616-949-7010
  - Wyoming: 616-530-7300

- **Contact the local YWCA 24 Hour Confidential Helpline 616-454-9922.** A trained volunteer advocate will help you decide what to do. [https://www.ywcawcmi.org/our-services/sexual-assault/](https://www.ywcawcmi.org/our-services/sexual-assault/)

**Go to a safe place and contact a safe person.** Students may contact one of the Deans of Students, Sarah Chun ([sc038@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:sc038@calvinseminary.edu) or 616-957-6015) or Jeff Sajdak ([js036@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:js036@calvinseminary.edu) or 616-957-6042).

**Do not blame yourself.**

**Preserve evidence.** Do not wash, eat, chew gum, brush your teeth, drink, douche, or change clothes. If you do change clothes, save each item of clothing in a separate paper bag.

**Seek medical attention.** The Nurse Examiner Program at the YWCA provides (at no cost):

- Immediate medical attention if you have been sexually assaulted, to treat possible injuries and address the possibility of pregnancy and contracting STDs.
- Sensitive, timely medical-forensic exams.
- Crisis counseling and educational resources.
- [https://www.ywcawcmi.org/our-services/sexual-assault/](https://www.ywcawcmi.org/our-services/sexual-assault/)
If injuries are severe, go to the nearest hospital emergency room. An exam should be conducted within 120 hours post-assault to collect evidence. Regardless of the amount of time that has passed, it is still recommended to receive medical attention for potential injuries to be treated and STD and pregnancy testing to be completed. For information on seeking medical attention visit: https://www.ywcawcmi.org/our-services/sexual-assault/

Seek support:

1. **Counseling services**: Calvin Seminary offers a variety of counseling opportunities to students and families. Information is available on the Counseling page.

2. **Contact a Calvin Seminary Safe and Healthy Community Coordinator**. Calvin Seminary has designated staff who are prepared to work with students who experience sexual assault, harassment, or discrimination to assist the student by:
   - Addressing concerns or questions about personal safety.
   - Coordinating a variety of protective measures.
   - Providing information about available resources.
   - Developing options for addressing the specific situation.
   - Arranging for academic support/relief.
   - Explaining the reporting process.
   - Addressing concerns about seminary and/or police process.
   - Reviewing the process for filing a complaint against a Calvin Seminary faculty, staff, or student.
   - Connecting the student with local police, if desired.
   - Explaining student rights in the seminary disciplinary process.

3. **YWCA Counseling and Support Groups**
   - There are no costs associated. More information can be found online at: https://www.ywcawcmi.org/our-services/sexual-assault/