

Rape Myths vs. Reality

Myth: Rape is committed by creepy people on the street.

Reality: While stranger rape does happen, at least 80% of sexual assaults are committed by someone the victims knows. 33% of assaults are committed by a current or former partner.

Myth: If they didn't say "no" or fight back they weren't really raped.

Reality: Not all victims are physically able to verbalize or fight back against their attacker. Many people freeze when their safety is threatened and it may have been more dangerous to say no or try to escape.

Myth: Rape victims only speak up to get attention. They're not really victims and probably making it up.

Reality: Survivors of sexual assault face intense scrutiny and negativity when they speak up. It is estimated that only 31% of sexual assaults are reported to authorities. Of the reports filed, only about 5% are considered unfounded. The number of assaults that go unreported are astronomically higher than the false reports made.

Myth: If I tell the university I was assaulted while drinking underage I'll get in trouble.

Reality: SIU offers amnesty to those sexually assaulted if they were breaking the code of conduct when it happened. We want to keep Salukis safe!



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