



My Rights...

I have the right to stand up for what I believe in, even when it is not the overall opinion of those around me. I have the right to speak my mind, to be an individual, and to treat myself and others with respect. I have the right to not be judged by my sexual identity instead of my personal character. I have the right to tell others “NO” without guilt. I have the right to practice abstinence and not give in to coercion, threats of violence, and any other tactics that may be used to change my mind. I have the right to love myself, my family, friends, and others and care for their well-being. I have the right to make mistakes in relationships, but those mistakes should never lead to force against me or someone I am dating. I have the right to laugh, cry, become angry, and stressed. I understand that the only person responsible for sexual violence is the person who engages in it without the consent of others and because of this; I have the right to ask for my partner’s consent before engaging in sex. I have the right to love myself. I have the right to be single. I have the right to live.

-- LaWanda Swan, Graduate Assistant
Sexual Assault Services &
Student Counseling Services
Dedicated to Survivors of Sexual Assault

