

SEXUAL CONSENT IS...

an **ongoing, mutual agreement** between people about if, and how they will be sexual together.

Everyone has the right to decide what happens to their body and to feel comfortable and safe.

It is the **responsibility of all people involved** to get consent. Consent is needed for different activities, including:



Touching



Kissing



Sex



Taking sexual photos or sexting



Sexual activities

In WA, it is against the law to have sex with someone if they are intoxicated, asleep or unconscious, under the age of 16, or otherwise unable to give informed consent.

The age of consent is 18 if there is a position of authority.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT

Police

000 or 131 444

Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC)

(24/7 Service)

1800 199 888

eSafety Commissioner

www.esafety.gov.au

SARC Counselling

(8.30am - 11.00pm)

(08) 6458 1828

Legal Aid Infoline

1300 650 579

www.legalaid.wa.gov.au



WAAC'S GUIDE TO:

SEXUAL CONSENT

CONTACT US



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CONSENT IS BEST WHEN EVERYONE IS...

A

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING

Consent should be enthusiastic! Silence or an absence of a 'no' does not mean 'yes'. Do not assume you have consent without communicating.

Sexual partners need to actively say or do something to check for consent. **Pay attention to words and body language.**

W

WILLINGLY INVOLVED

Everyone involved must want to do it! **It is not consent if someone feels pressured to say yes.**

If someone does not seem sure, stop and check to see if they want to keep going or want to stop.

A

ABLE AND CAPABLE

Everyone must have the decision making capacity and ability to give informed consent.

Age, influence of alcohol and drugs, consciousness, and power dynamics can impact our ability to communicate or withhold consent.

R

RESPECTING CHOICES

Sometimes people change their mind. Everyone has the right to withdraw consent.

E

EXPLICIT AND SPECIFIC

Consent needs to be specific for each sexual activity. Saying yes to one thing (like oral sex) does not mean you have said yes to other things (like anal sex). **You can only consent to something if you know the full picture.**

yes!

No!

Asking for consent:

"I really want to kiss you, is that okay?"

"Do you want to have sex?"

"Is it okay if I touch you here?"



"Yes" can sound and look like:

"I like that"

Nodding

"Keep doing that"

Touching you back

"Touch me here"

Smiling

"No" can sound and look like:

"Let's take a break"

Avoiding eye contact

"I want to stop"

Pushing away

"I do not like that"

Not moving

Accepting "no"

Do not take it personally, there are many reasons why someone might say no!

- Ask them if they are okay and whether they would like to do anything different
- Listen to their response
- Do not try to persuade or convince them

Times to check in:

- If someone says "maybe" at any point
- When the sexual activity changes
- If you feel uncertain
- When there is silence

