

Our Services

We provide a variety of services including:



- ~ 24 hour crisis line
- ~ individual and group counseling to survivors of sexual assault or abuse
- ~ women's self defense
- ~ advocacy and accompaniment to law enforcement, court, medical exams, etc.

- ~ age appropriate violence prevention education to people of all ages
- ~ information and resources to other agencies in the community that can help you

If your partner has been charged with unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor, we can offer our services to you, whether or not you feel you have been assaulted. Our goal is to be there for you without judging. If you have been taken advantage of, remember it is not your fault!



Resources

North Coast Rape Crisis Team
Humboldt County (707)445-2881
Del Norte County (707)465-2851
(24hr hotlines, collect calls accepted)
Planned Parenthood (707)442-5700
Youth Service Bureau (707)444-2273
Raven Project (707)443-7099
National Youth Crisis Line 1(800)786-2929
Confidential Help Line for Teens 1(800)TLC-TEEN
(a line run by teens, open 6p-10p)

Websites

<http://www.youngwomenshealth.org> or
<http://www.youngmenshealthsite.org>
Website with information on health, sexuality and relationships for young women and men.

<http://www.sexetc.org>
Internet site with information about boys' health, girls' health, body image, sexual violence, and more.

<http://www.teencvs.org>
Website with teen polls and information on relationships and abuse.

~out of area hotlines and websites may not accurately reflect local procedures~

North Coast Rape Crisis Team

po box 1011.eureka.ca.95502
collect calls accepted
24-hour line~707.445.2881
TTY line~707.443.2738*
business line~707.443.2737*
(*Mon-Fri 8:30-5 pm)
ncrct.org

Unlawful Sexual Intercourse

Understanding the Statutory Rape Law



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The law on Unlawful Sexual Intercourse with a Minor (sometimes called statutory rape) states that no one can have sex with anyone under the age of 18 (minors). The law applies even if everyone involved is a minor. We know that sometimes minors have sex and do not get in trouble. While anyone could be prosecuted (charged), some situations make prosecution more likely. If the youngest person involved is at least 14, prosecution is more likely if there is:

- an age difference. The closer in age the less likely anyone will face prosecution.
- violence in the relationship.
- adult concern (such as pregnancy, substance abuse, etc.).

Sometimes this law is charged when what really happened was rape.

Any sexual contact with someone under 14 can be charged as child sexual abuse.



Questions & Answers

What if I don't want my partner to get in trouble?

The legal system can prosecute whether or not you feel what happened was a crime.

What if my parent said it was ok for us to have sex?

Just as your parents can't give you permission to break any other law, your parents permission does not make this law go away.

What if we are the same age?

You could be prosecuted even if you are both the same age. The closer the age, the less likely someone will face prosecution.

What if we are married?

Marriage is the only thing that makes this law not apply. You need parental and court permission to be married before you are 18.

What about other sexual acts?

Other sexual acts are covered under similar laws which state that minors can't consent to participate in any sexual act.

The way this law is written may sound like it's just a way to restrict the rights of people under 18, but there is some logic to it. Think of all the things a 26 year old might



have that a 15 year old probably doesn't... a car, a place to live, a job and money, access to alcohol and cigarettes, maybe more access to other drugs and possibly more sexual partners. All this boils down to more experience. It doesn't mean that the 26 year old is smarter or more mature than the 15 year old, but they might have experience that they could use to put pressure on or control their younger partner. This law is one way to hold them accountable for their actions.