

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I WITNESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

If you witness situations involving sexual violence or harassment, it is important to talk about it, react and intervene.

## Anyone can act to prevent sexual violence and try to stop the related behaviours:

- You can show your disapproval and you discomfort regarding words or gestures of a sexual nature, sexist, misogynistic or intimidating behaviours, whether made in person or on line.
- You can react and express your discomfort regarding the lack of respect shown by people around you: on campus, at work, at home and with friends.
- You can, when possible and if your safety is not threatened, take direct action to stop sexual violence you witness.
- You can notify the appropriate authorities and resources as quickly as possible.
- You can also play a crucial role by testifying in support of the person who was subjected to sexual violence.

If the victim is in danger or if you fear for their safety or your own, call 911 and inform your campus single entry point or management.

Remember that the support you provide to the victim will make a huge difference.

To report a situation you've witnessed, you can contact the single entry point on your campus.

If a person appears to be caught in a tough situation or one that is likely to deteriorate, it's important to intervene directly to support that person and offer them a chance to get away:

- Establish visual contact (or another form of contact such as a text message, for example) with the person.
- Communicate your support to the person clearly.
- Notify the people with the person in difficulty, draw their attention to the problematic situation.
- Take action with one or more other people when possible, to stop the inappropriate behaviours.
- Try to move the person away from the source of the problem as if you know them (if this is not the case).
- Create a distraction to give the person in trouble a chance to get away, to move to a safe place.
- Create a distraction to prevent the potential assault or stop it, and accompany the person suffering from the inadequate behaviour to safe place.
- Support the person by being there, by listening, without judging.
- Accompany the person to the right resources (see list on back of this sheet).
- Ask for help, report, notify the authorities.
- If you're not sure, don't hesitate: You need to intervene.

An assault against a minor must be reported to the Youth Protection Director. The identity of the person making the report is confidential and cannot be revealed.



## RESOURCES Gaspé and Magdalen Islands Region

At any time, if your safety is threatened, call 911.

**RESSOURCE and CONTACT INFORMATION** 

Consult the section, Reveal or report a situation of violence, on the Student Zone to know the people responsible for the Single Entry Point in campus and external resources.