



SEXUAL ASSAULT

What is sexual abuse?

A sexual assault is an act of a sexual nature, with or without physical contact, committed by an individual without the consent of the person concerned or, in some cases (including children), through the use of emotional manipulation or intimidation.

It is an act aimed at subjecting another person to his or her own wishes through an abuse of power, the use of force, coercion, or threat (implicit or explicit).

Assaults can take different forms (e.g. touching, sexual intercourse, harassment, production/distribution of intimate photos, etc.) and can be committed by people of all ages, genders, cultures, etc. They can be committed by people known to the victim (e.g. neighbour, relative, family friend), or by strangers.

What is sexual consent?

Each partner must consent to sexual activity. That is, everyone accepts that the activity takes place, whether it is a sexual relationship, a kiss or any other gesture of a sexual nature. The consent of partners must be clear, free and informed. If these conditions are not met, it is sexual assault.

Consent is valid only if :

- **AGE** of consent is respected;

- 12 y.o.	12 and 13 y.o.	14 and 15 y.o.	16 y.o. +
NO	YES	YES	YES
A person under 12 is not able to consent to a sexual activity	Only if the age difference is less than 2 years	Only if the age difference is less than 5 years	Age to consent is 16 years and over in Canada*

* Not valid if Your partner is in a position of authority over you or is in a position of trust in relation to you. For example, teachers are usually in a position of authority over their students.

- If the person is in a **STATE OF MIND** (ex: not intoxicated) where it is possible to consent;
- If there is **NO MANIPULATION**, threat or any other form of pressure;
- If the consent is given by the **PERSON HIMSELF/HERSELF**.

Référence: <https://educaloi.qc.ca/capsules/le-consentement-sexuel/>





Why Is It Important To Talk About It?

Sexual assault in childhood or adulthood has consequences not only for the people who are victims of it, but also for those around them and for society as a whole. For example, sexual assault is a public health problem that affects the entire population.

The consequences that can follow a sexual assault are multiple and can last throughout life and continue through generations with adverse effects on the health, education, employment, criminal activity and economic condition of the victims, but also of their families, communities and societies.

Examples of consequences:

State of shock	Denial
Fear	Confusion
Anxiety, nervousness	Withdrawal, isolation
Feeling of guilt	Grief
Post-trauma (PTSD)	Sexual / Relational difficulties

CALACS West Island
www.calacsdelouest.ca

Expertise Marie-Vincent
www.marie-vincent.org



CAVAC
www.cavac.qc.ca

CRIPHASE
www.criphase.org

INSPQ
www.inspq.qc.ca/agression-sexuelle/

IVAC
www.ivac.qc.ca

Center for victims of sexual assault of Montreal
www.cvasm.org

Équipe Santé Mentale Jeunesse
Youth Mental Health Team
CIUSSS-ODIM

Douglas
FONDATION
FOUNDATION

Do you want to file a complaint or are you wondering about the process? Several of these resources can inform you and accompany you in the process.

RESOURCES (CRISIS/EMERGENCIES)

Centre for Victims of Sexual Assault of Montreal / Hôpital Général de Montréal (CUSM)

English / women, men / 18+ / crisis intervention, medical care and follow-up, follow-up psychosocial / Monday to Friday — 5pm to 8am — 24hrs the weekend and Holidays
514.934.8090

Sexual Assault Clinic / Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu CHUM

French / women, men / 18+ / crisis intervention, medical and psychosocial follow-up / 24 hres—7 days
514.890.8444 (on-call worker) 514.890.8159 (emergency)

CHU Sainte-Justine

Priority French / children, adolescents / 24hrs emergency / clinic by appointment / medical and psychosocial follow-ups
514.345.4721 (adolescent clinic)
514.345.4866 (children's clinic)
514.345.4919 (emergency)

Montreal Children's Hospital

Priority English / children, teenagers / 24hrs emergency / clinic by appointment / medical and psychosocial follow-ups
514.412.4481 (clinic) 514.412.4499 (emergency)

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres:

514-935-6196
http://www.batshaw.qc.ca/en/
24/7 Telephone line for English speaking families

