

Victim Blaming Statements

How many of these examples of victim blaming have you heard before?
Fill in the empty spaces with other victim-blaming statements you have heard.

She was high, what do you expect?		She was drunk and slutty at a party and then woke up embarrassed. So what?	She shouldn't have been there alone.	They both have problems.
Guys are always up for sex.	She provoked him. She was flirting with him all night.		Boys will be boys!	He was too drunk to know what he was doing.
Maybe she likes it rough. To each their own.	She should have known what she was getting herself into.	What was she wearing?		Are you sure it was rape? That sounds extreme.
	She's just after his money.	He just did what anyone would have done in that situation.	What time of night was it?	
She has a history of sleeping around.	There's "rape" and then there's rape.	That's what you get for being a slut.	So he got lucky with his teacher, did he?	He dumped her and she screams rape. Sounds like revenge to me.

Responses to Victim Blaming Statements

How would you respond?

I expect people not to sexually assault someone who is unconscious.		Embarrassment or shame is a common reaction after experiencing violence.	It's not a crime to be alone. Sexually assaulting someone is a crime, though. Why would he think that is ok?	Every relationship has problems, so serious and some less serious. When one partner sexually assaults the other, that's a serious problem.
Men also experience sexual assault. Sexual assault is violence, not sex. It's not enjoyable. No one wants to be raped.	Sexy clothing, flirting, and dancing do not mean someone is consenting to sex.	You need consent every time you have sex, even if you are married.	Most men will never sexually assault anyone in their lifetime. It's not ok to let other men think rape is normal, enjoyable or "no big deal".	Much like drunk driving, assaulting someone while drunk is a crime and harms the victim.
If a person likes rough sex, they will give their consent before and during sex. No consent = sexual assault.	She didn't decide to get raped. He chose to rape her.	Sexy clothing, flirting, and dancing do not mean someone is consenting to sex.	She may not resist in order to avoid getting hurt even more, or hoping the assault will end sooner.	An extreme number is that 1 in 4 women in North America will be experience sexual violence in her lifetime.
	A report of sexual assault can mean spending months in court, facing attacks on one's reputation, and paying thousands of dollars in legal fees. Nobody gets rich by faking rape.	"I wouldn't have raped her. I would have made sure she got home safe." Let him know that most men do not rape.	The real question is "why did he decide to harm her?"	
How much sex you have doesn't change the fact that someone decided to assault you.	If there is no consent, it's rape. Period.	Would you say a man deserves to be raped because he has had a lot of sex?	When someone has more power than you (a teacher, coach, physically intimidating person) and uses their position to have sex with you, it's sexual assault.	Less than 5% of reported sexual assaults are false (2% according to Statistics Canada). There are many reasons why a person may not report it immediately.