

VAWA

Violence Against Women



What is the Violence Against Women Act?

The Violence Against Women Act is legislature that was enacted in 2013 to amend what types of incidents colleges have to report on. It amended the already in place Clery Act to include domestic and dating violence, and stalking to its list of required reportable crimes. Since this legislation has been put into effect, Western Illinois University has created presentations and packets of information to educate our campus community in an effort to end sexual misconduct/violence.

What is Title IX?

Title IX is legislature designed to protect students from sex based discrimination. It applies to all public educational facilities including WIU. Sexual misconduct, harassment, assault, stalking, and domestic partner violence are all considered discriminatory actions under Title IX.

How can I help?

You can help by completing training, engaging in conversations about sexual misconduct, and by helping educate others who are not aware of the issues. These conversations can be intimidating at first, however, they are important to have in order to help eliminate sexual misconduct/violence. Feel free to reach out to the EOA office for tips/tricks.

What is Sexual Misconduct/Violence?

Sexual misconduct/violence is an often misunderstood concept. Some examples include: sexual requests, unwanted sexual touching or kissing, sexual blackmail, coerced sex of any kind, and/or nonconsensual sexual penetration with any body part or object.

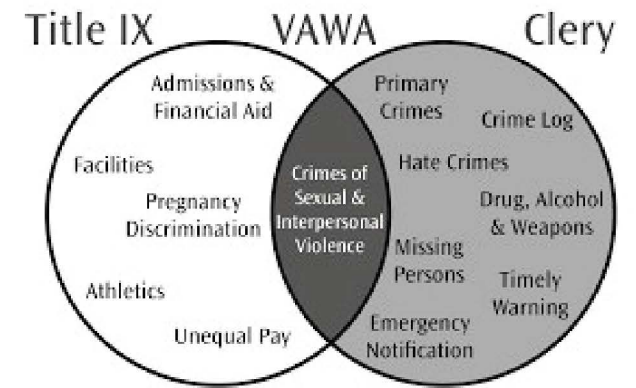
CONTACT



Office of Equal Opportunity and Access
Sherman Hall 312
(309) 298-1977
eoa-office@wiu.edu
title-ix@wiu.edu

What if I only Witnessed a Violation?

Sometimes you may not be sure what you witnessed is an act of sexual violence or you might not know if it is your place to tell anyone. In any case, even just a suspected one, the right thing to do is report the activity. Our Title IX Coordinator is available for third parties who wish to report a violation. Once a violation has been reported a preliminary investigation is started to gauge if the victim is willing to proceed with the Title IX process. WIU maintains a policy that all investigations are conducted adequately, reliably, and impartially.



Can my Significant Other be my Attacker?

Unfortunately, yes they can. Dating and domestic violence is among the greatest concerns to the safety of college students and often one of the most deadly. A majority of sexual and violent crimes are committed by those that the victim knew or whom they have been in an intimate relation. It's important to remember that just by agreeing to be someone's partner, it does not give them the right to do anything to your body without your consent. Verbal or physical abuse, stalking or isolation from friends and family from a significant other are all signs that could escalate to potential serious injury. If you, or if you feel like someone you know is being victimized by intimate partner violence, it is always best to speak up and report your concerns to school officials.

Why We Need the Violence Against Women Act



