

Myths and Facts:

Myth: Sexual assault is when a man rapes a woman.

Fact: Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact without voluntary consent. Sexual contact can range from kissing, to grabbing, to penetration. All genders can experience sexual assault and all genders can sexually assault.

Myth: People are usually sexually assaulted by strangers.

Fact: Across Canada, 85% of sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the survivor.

Myth: Older adults don't have to worry about sexual violence.

Fact: Sexual violence can happen to any and all age groups. Older adults are not exempt.

Myth: If you live in a long-term care facility, you are secure from sexual harassment or sexual abuse.

Fact: Sexual harassment and sexual abuse can and does occur in long-term care facilities.

Myth: Older women and older men are equally likely to be survivors of sexual violence.

Fact: While men also experience sexual violence, statistically, older women are more likely to be survivors.

Resources

Protection for Persons in Care Reporting Line:

1.888.357.9339

8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

SAGE Seniors Safe House:

780.702.1520

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

Edmonton Seniors Abuse Helpline:

780.454.8888

24/7 support, referrals, and crisis intervention

Family Violence Info Line:

780.310.1818

24/7 information, advice, and referrals

The Seniors Protection Partnership:

780.477.2929

SACE respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory and Metis District 9, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis peoples.

For information about accessibility at SACE please visit sace.ca/accessibility

Registered under the Societies Act of Alberta since 1975

Charitable Number:
107971772 RP0001

300 - 10339 124 St. NW
Edmonton, AB T5N 3W1
info@saca.ca | 780.423.4102



Sexual Violence & Older Adults

Information and Resources



sace
SUPPORT &
INFO LINE

780 ·
423 ·
4121

What is Sexual Violence?

Sexual violence is an umbrella term that refers to any form of non-consensual sexual behavior including sexual assault, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and sexual violence facilitated through technology.

It can happen to anyone

Sexual violence is an unfortunately common issue in the older adults community that is rarely discussed. **1 in 2** people in Alberta experience some form of sexual abuse in their lifetime. While people can and do experience sexual abuse in their adult years, it's also common for many older adults to carry experiences of sexual abuse from their childhood, youth, and early adulthood.

Consent is a voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. Consent must be clear, informed, voluntary, sober enough, act and person-specific, ongoing, mutual, active, and come directly from the individuals engaging in the sexual contact.

SACE Services

SACE is here for all people who have experienced sexual assault. People of any age, gender, sexual orientation, and background can access our services without judgment.

Support and Information Line

This line is available daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. for anyone who has experienced sexual assault or abuse, as well as to those who are supporting anyone impacted by it. Call 780.423.4121 to be connected to a volunteer trained in supportive listening.

Police & Court Support

Making a police report or going to court can be confusing, scary, and triggering. Our Police and Court Support Program is designed to help people who have experienced sexual violence through this process, whether they are a counselling client at SACE or not.

What to Expect When Accessing SACE Counselling:

All individuals of any age are eligible to access our trauma-focused counselling services if they have experienced sexual violence at any point in their lives. We often see seniors regarding historical abuse from when they were young.

Often, seniors have been told that there is no need for therapy – that they should just “put it out of mind” or “just get over it”. We know that therapy can benefit anyone of any age and we are here to help!

Anyone wanting to access services at SACE can call us at 780.423.4102 and ask to speak to our Client Care Team. All counselling is provided at no fee.

We are a **self-referral service**, so the client needs to do their own intake. We can work with adults with a Guardian and would need a copy of the Guardianship Order before proceeding.

We primarily provide counselling in-person. If coming to our office is a barrier, please reach out to our team to discuss whether other delivery options are available.

Our counselling offices are comfortable and relaxing for our clients, and past senior clients have stated that they wish they'd come in sooner.



Listen. Believe. Support.
sace.ca

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780·
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