

Definitions & Policies

The following behaviors can violate both the laws of the state of Virginia, and the Randolph-Macon Code of Student Conduct (*Fishtales*) (www.rmc.edu/currentstudents/handbook.pdf.) Randolph-Macon encourages students to report those who exhibit these behaviors and seek out supportive services if they, or a friend, experience any of these offenses.

Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is an umbrella term sometimes utilized to describe the wide range of violent behaviors in which the perpetrator uses sex as a weapon. Sexual violence includes but is not limited to sexual assault/misconduct, rape, and some forms of sexual harassment. College policies on Sexual Assault/Misconduct and rape, as defined in the community standards portion of *Fishtales*, are written below. They can also be found in Article 1, Sections 21 and 22 of *Fishtales*.

Sexual Assault/ Misconduct/Rape

Sexual assault involves any physical contact of a sexual nature that is against one's will or without one's consent resulting from the use of force, coercion, intimidation, or threats. **Rape** is one type of sexual assault that includes sexual intercourse or anal, oral, or vaginal penetration. Physical contact of a sexual nature also constitutes sexual assault when someone is unconscious or incapable of giving consent (this includes a person being under the influence of alcohol or drugs). Because sexual assault is a crime, a victim may also choose to take criminal action against a violator.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when committed by threat, intimidation, force or through taking advantage of another's incapacity, and/or when the conduct and/or verbal action is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive either to limit an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program or to create a hostile or abusive educational or working environment for students, faculty, staff or guests

Relationship/Dating Violence

Includes dating violence, domestic violence and violence between romantic/intimate partners. Relationship Violence is defined as a pattern of repeated actual and/or threatened acts that physically, sexually, verbally, or emotionally abuses a member of a couple involved in a romantic or intimate relationship. Although there are no specific policies in *Fishtales* regarding relationship violence, there are many behaviors the perpetrators of relationship violence exhibit that are against college policy, including harassment and violence. Policies on harassment and violence can be found in Article 1, Sections 14 and 29 of the Community Standards portion of *Fishtales*.

Stalking & Cyberstalking

Stalking and cyberstalking are defined as persistent behaviors that are directed at a specific person that creates fear and is unwelcome and intrusive. These behaviors include unwanted letters, emails or phone calls and unwanted visits. Stalking is an illegal form of harassment, which is included in Article 1, Sections 14 of the Community Standards portion of *Fishtales*.

RESOURCES

<u>Ashland Police</u>	798-1227
<u>Hanover County Emergency Assistance</u>	9-911
<u>Hanover County Victim Assistance Program</u>	752-2702
<u>Hanover Safe Place</u>	752-2702
<u>R-MC Campus Safety</u>	Ext 4710 or 752-7200
<u>R-MC Counseling Center</u>	Ext 7270
<u>R-MC Dean of Students Office</u>	Ext 7266
<u>R-MC Judicial Officer</u> (Rodney Bardwell)	Ext 3116
<u>Macon Peer Response</u> Contact Campus Safety to Access This Service	Ext 4710 or 752-7200
<u>R-MC Dean of The College Office</u> (For Reports of Harassment)	Ext 7268
<u>R-MC Ombuds</u> Art Conway Mary Neal Maria Scott	Ext 3720 Ext 7259 Ext 7285
<u>R-MC Residence Life</u>	Ext 4722
<u>R-MC Sexual Assault Responders</u> Beth Schubert Craig Anderson	Ext 7270 Ext 7270
<u>R-MC Sexual Assault Response Coordinator</u> Craig Anderson	Ext 5471
<u>R-MC Sexual and Relationship Violence Education Coordinator</u> Shalise Bates-Pratt	Ext 3205
<u>Student Health Center</u> Hunter Shirey	Ext 3041
<u>VA Statewide Hotline</u>	1-800-838-8238

* Look inside of this brochure for online reporting information.



A STUDENT'S GUIDE TO

SEXUAL ASSAULT &

HARASSMENT RESOURCES

Sexual Assault Responders

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Sexual Violence Education Coordinator

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What to Do

If you think that you or a friend have been sexually assaulted or harassed:

Sexual assault and sexual harassment are serious issues, and they are crimes. Sexual assault, rape and harassment are violations of the College's Code of Student Conduct and state law. Being forced into sexual activity, whether by a date, a steady relationship, a casual acquaintance or a stranger is a sexual assault. Nothing a person does, says, or wears gives someone else the right to commit an assault - sexual or otherwise. Sexual assault occurs on our campus and we want to encourage Randolph-Macon students who believe they have been sexually assaulted to report the assault to the local authorities and to campus authorities (**Ashland Police** 798-1227; **RMC Campus Safety** 752-7200 or Ext. 4710). The local authorities can help victims investigate and prosecute; they can also direct victims to other appropriate resources. Campus Safety can advise victims about the College's internal judicial procedures as well as assist in referrals to the local police.

Students who chose to report incidents of sexual assault or sexual harassment but are not ready to go to campus or local authorities have several on and off campus options to choose from. Reports can also be made to The Dean of Students Office, Residence Life, The Non-Discrimination Committee, the Sexual Assault Responders, Macon Peer Response or the Ombuds. Any of these resources can help a student survivor of sexual assault or sexual harassment get connected to supportive services or the police. The college also strongly encourages students to file a report through the **Online Reporting System**. This system allows students to report incidents of abuse or violence to the Sexual Assault Response coordinators. This report does not reveal the victim's identity unless they want to, but it does help the administration track and respond to incidents of sexual and relationship violence and plan for prevention resources and programs. Victims can access campus services through this system without making a formal report. There are two ways to make anonymous reports. They are as follows:

ONLINE REPORTS

www.rmc.edu/directory/offices/counseling/sexualassaultform.asp

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING NUMBER

804-752-7270

Support

For Survivor of
Sexual Assault & Harassment

**Contact information for the services below are listed on the back of this brochure.*

College Resources

Sexual Assault Responders Professional Staff members who are available to support and assist students who have been assaulted. Responders provide a caring and safe environment to talk, information, and as appropriate, local resources. The survivor's identity will be kept confidential. When there is an ongoing threat to the community, the incident may be discussed with other administrators with no identifying information, and a warning with no identifying information may be sent to the community at large.

Macon Peer Response (MPR) MPR is a peer education, response and referral service provided by a group of students who are trained to provide confidential sexual assault & relationship violence education and referral assistance.

Residence Life Staff Residence Life Staff members (including Resident Assistant staff members) are always available by calling Campus Safety and asking to speak to a professional staff member.

Dean of Students Staff The Dean of Students Staff can advise a student, who has been sexually assaulted or who is in an abusive relationship, of available services and provide information about judicial responses.

R-MC Counseling Center This center offers free, confidential, professional assistance in dealing with the trauma experienced by the victim. The center offers options and referrals for students who may wish to seek services off-campus.

R-MC Ombuds These are mediators and advisors who attempt to resolve disputes involving harassment and discrimination among members of the college community.

The Gender Resource Center (GRC) The director of the GRC is the Sexual and Relationship Violence Education Coordinator and can provide general advocacy and referral services, and help students explore their options on and off of campus.

The Student Health Center The student health center can provide examinations and testing related to medical issues experienced due to abusive or violent situations..

Local /Statewide Resources

Hanover Safe Place This Ashland area crisis center operates a 24-hour hotline. Advocates can help victims of sexual assault or dating violence by providing accompaniment services and assisting with accessing local law enforcement and support services.

Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA) VSDVAA operates a statewide, 24-hour family violence and sexual assault hotline that can provide crisis consultation, referral, and information to victims of sexual assault and relationship violence. This hotline can also connect you with national resources if they are needed outside of the state of Virginia.

Medical

Considerations for sexually assaulted students and their friends.

If you have been sexually assaulted, it may be important to seek immediate and/or follow-up medical attention for several reasons: To assess and treat physical injuries and/or to determine the risk of sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancy and to take appropriate measures to gather evidence toward possible judicial action. Do not destroy any evidence in case you choose to pursue judicial action, **Do not:**

- Bathe, shower, brush or comb your hair
- Douche, Change clothes or put on makeup
- Eat or drink anything or brush or rinse your teeth if there was oral contact
- Touch items at the location of the event

Take a change of clothing to the hospital because some items of clothing may be kept as evidence. At the emergency room the physician may collect hair samples, semen and other evidence. The police may be contacted to take possession of these samples until you make a decision about prosecution.

In a sexual assault case, collection of the physical evidence needed for prosecution is extremely important, to be done ideally within the first 24 hrs but not later than 72 - 96 hrs after the event took place.