

Resources and Supports for Survivors



#4ImmigrantWomen

Sexual violence

occurs in every country and every community.

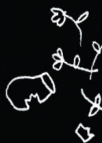
Sexual violence

happens to LGBTQIA+ community members.

Sexual violence

happens to immigrant and refugees.

It's not ok.





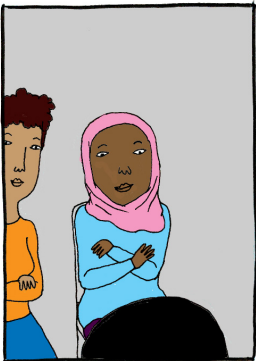
Myth

Sexual violence happens in immigrant and refugee communities due to their “culture”

Fact

Sexual violence happens in ALL communities. It is racist and xenophobic to say that immigrants have more violent cultures.

Xenophobia is the fear or hatred of foreigners.



**Am I being sexually abused
or harassed?**

Sexual abuse or harassment is any behaviour of a sexual nature that is unwanted and happens without your consent.

Giving consent =
voluntarily agreeing
to engage
in sexual activity.



Consent:

- should never be assumed or implied
- is not silence or the absence of “no”
- can never be obtained through threats or coercion
- can be withdrawn at any time

Consent:

- cannot be given if the perpetrator abuses a position of trust, power or authority
- cannot be given if the person is unconscious or incapable of consenting due to the use of alcohol or drugs

Source:

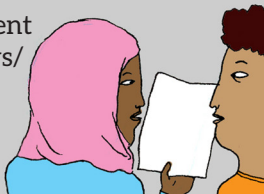
www.ontario.ca/page/lets-stop-sexual-harassment-and-violence



What Are My Rights?

Ontario has a Sexual Violence and Harassment Plan Act (Supporting Survivors and Challenging Sexual Violence and Harassment) which protects and supports survivors of sexual violence and harassment, as well as provides access to justice for victims of sexual harassment in Ontario. In addition, this act includes information and protection related to workplace harassment and workplace sexual harassment.

For more information on the Sexual Violence and Harassment Plan Act: www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/S16002





**If you have experienced sexual violence,
it is not your fault.**

You deserve to live free
from sexual violence.





We can all play a role
in preventing & addressing sexual violence
against immigrant & refugee women

Immigrant and refugee women
may face barriers that make it difficult
to get support such as:

- Fear of deportation
- Social isolation
- Fear of police
- Language barriers
- Poverty
- Racism and
discrimination

How Can I Report?

You can report to the police,
a legal support organization,
sexual assault support centre,
or a settlement agency.

Get support:

Sexual Assault Centres:

www.sexualassaultsupport.ca/support


Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence
Treatment Centres in Ontario:

www.satontario.com



COMMUNITY
CENTRE

If you are concerned
about reporting because of
your immigration status
contact Legal Aid Ontario
at 1 800 668 8258
or your local settlement agency.

The background features a light beige color with a faint, stylized map of the United States. On the right side, there is a profile illustration of a person's face with brown skin, looking towards the left. On the bottom left, there is a partial illustration of a laptop keyboard.

For additional legal advice,
contact the toll-free
Independent Legal Advice
for Sexual Assault Survivors line
at 1-855-226-3904.



How Can I Be Safe?

Your safety is important.

In order to plan for safety, you can:

- Speak with someone you trust
- Write down or document what has happened, as a record
- Connect with a community organization especially if you need shelter, support with children or legal issues

How can YOU support someone
who has been sexually assaulted or abused?

- Believe them.
- Listen to them.
- Find resources.
- Know it's their choice to take action.

Where Can I Get Support?

Assaulted Women's Helpline
1 866 863 0511 / TTY 1 866 863 7868

Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres
www.sexualassaultsupport.ca/support

Ending Violence, Getting Help
(Ministry of the Status of Women):
www.women.gov.on.ca

Neighbours, Friends & Families
www.immigrantandrefugeenff.ca
for information and support about
intimate partner violence.

Shelter Safe Ontario
www.sheltersafe.ca/ontario

To learn more

about sexual violence & this campaign, visit
www.ocasi.org/campaigns/4ImmigrantWomen

