

APRIL 28TH, 2021



Drugs and Sexual Assault

Sexual assault can happen to anyone at any time. It is imperative that everyone comprehends the risk and is aware of the realities to protect themselves from becoming victims. Many substances can cause you to become incoherent or unconscious, certain drugs are referred to as "sexual assault" (or "date-rape") drugs. Sexual predators often use them to get control over their victims. Consumption of a beverage containing one or more of these drugs can alter a person's ability to react and their memory.

A person who sexually assaults another person uses these drugs because they are easy to place into a drink. They are tasteless, odorless, and colorless, act fast and leave your system quickly, therefore, if the assault is not reported right away, it may be too late to test for the drugs. The doctor should know to test for these specific drugs, otherwise, they will not show up in the results, unless they are included in a routine screening. Criminal investigations can be difficult to conduct, if not reported within the time frame it takes for the drug to clear a person's system. Because these drugs can affect a victim's memory, the victim may not remember the details or be able to identify the person who assaulted them. (Cont. Pg. 4)

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The Gatsby Gala was a success! Thank You to everyone who attended and donated and a HUGE Thank You to Jacob Butler and Pookie Brannon, and the staff who volunteered to make this a great event! Thanks to all of you, SAFE-T raised \$30,3131.33 gross!



(Cont. from Pg. 1) In some cases, victims do not know what happened until much later. There are helpful things to know and do to stay safe. Take extra precautions by knowing not to drink from a can or bottle, that you did not open yourself, and never drink from a punch bowl or container that has been passed around. If someone offers you a drink, politely decline, order your drink from the bar, watch it be poured, and carry the drink yourself.

Do not leave your drink unattended while talking, dancing, using the restroom, or making a phone call. It is important to keep your drink in your sight at all times. It only takes a second for someone to slip something into a drink. If you realize that your drink has been left unattended, throw it out and get a new one. Do not mix drugs and alcohol. Even over-the-counter drugs like cold medicine can react with alcohol and other substances in negative ways. (Cont. Pg. 9)

Be careful!

SAVE THE DATE!

Online Safety: What are our youth at risk for?
Content. Contact. Conduct.



SAFE-T Webinar Live on Zoom

May 4, 2021

Free to attend.

Tues | 1pm - 2pm

No registration required

To join in browser:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87145547940?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87145547940?pwd=eIRDOExzYmh1K1lzaXZOT3hBR2l3Zz09)
[pwd=eIRDOExzYmh1K1lzaXZOT3hBR2l3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87145547940?pwd=eIRDOExzYmh1K1lzaXZOT3hBR2l3Zz09)

To Join in app:

Meeting ID: 871 4554 7940

Passcode: 935019

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Whether at a bar, at a party, or even at a “friend’s” home – drug-facilitated sexual assault can happen to anyone at any time. For this reason, it’s important that the young people in your life understand the danger and are aware of the facts to protect themselves from becoming victims.

What Drugs are Most Often Used for Drug-facilitated Sexual Assault?

Although there are many substances that can cause you to pass out or lose control, certain drugs are referred to as “sexual assault” (or “date-rape”) drugs because sexual predators often use them to get control over their victims. These drugs include gamma hydroxybutric acid (GHB), Rohypnol, ketamine, and Ecstasy. Drinking a beverage spiked with one or more of these drugs can take away a person’s ability to fight back and memory.

A person who sexually assaults another person uses these drugs because they’re easy to slip into a drink. They’re tasteless, odorless, and colorless. Also, these drugs act fast and leave your system quickly, so if the assault isn’t reported right away, it may be too late to test for the drugs. And the drugs aren’t part of a routine screening, so unless the doctor knows to test for these specific drugs, they won’t show up in the results. All of this makes it difficult to conduct a criminal investigation.

Because these drugs can affect a victims’ memory, they may not remember the details or even be able to identify the person who assaulted them. In some cases, victims don’t know what happened until much later.

What Should Your Teen Look Out For?

Before a night out, give your teen the following tips to ensure they have a fun and safe time:

- **Don’t** drink from a can or bottle that you didn’t open yourself
- **Don’t** take a drink from a punch bowl
- **Don’t** drink from a container that’s being passed around
- If someone offers you a drink from the bar at a club or party, don’t take it. Instead, go to the bar to order your own drink, watch it being poured, and carry the drink yourself.
- **Don’t** leave your drink unattended while talking, dancing, using the restroom, or making a phone call
- If you realize that your drink has been left unattended, throw it out and get a new one
- **Don’t** drink anything that has an unusual taste or appearance, like a salty taste or unexplained residue
- **Don’t** mix drugs and alcohol. Even over-the-counter drugs like cold medicine can react with alcohol and other substances in negative ways.
- Watch out for your friends and ask them to watch out for you. Have a plan to periodically check up on each other.
- If your friend appears very intoxicated, gets sick after drinking a beverage, passes out and is difficult to wake up, seems to have trouble breathing, or behaves in unusual ways, do what you need to do to make sure your friend is safe. **Call 911 if necessary.**

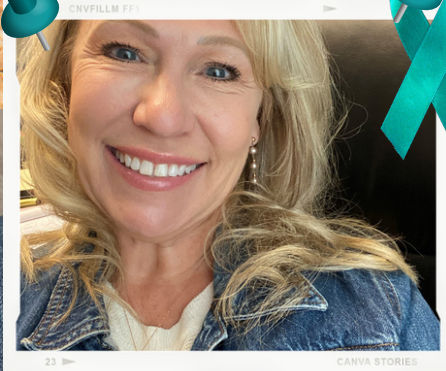
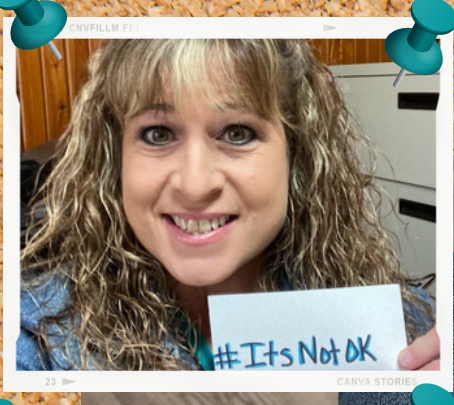
On April 28th SAFE-T Staff joined with millions of people around the world to wear our denim in solidarity with survivors of sexual violence!

Why did we take part in this international unified statement? Because every 73 seconds an American is sexually assaulted. Because 1 in 6 females and 1 in 10 males will experience attempted or completed rape. Because Prevention and Awareness are how we get in front of the epidemic of sexual violence. Because we are SAFE-T and we stand with survivors and victims.

Trigger Warning

To learn the history of Denim Day, please visit <https://www.denimdayinfo.org/why-denim>. The court case decision that started Denim Day may be triggering for some. We ask that you please take good care of you.

Thank you for making our community safer and stronger!



#ThereIsNoExcuseToRape
 #ThereIsNeverAnInvitationToRape
 #DenimDay2021
 #WhatWereYouWearing
 #MeToo
 #MeTooK12
 #SupportSurvivors
 #EndVictimBlaming
 #RapeCultureEndsWithMe
 #SAAM2021
 #SAAPM2021
 #ConsentRules
 #NoMeansNo
 #TimesUp





Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Volunteers needed at all SAFE-T locations:
Mount Pleasant, Paris, Clarksville, & Sulphur Springs.

If you are interested in becoming an Advocate for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors, a Face-to-Face Technology Training will be held May 13th, 2021 from 2:00 PM-4:00 PM.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Program Director Mary Ferguson at 903-572-0973 or Email: mferguson@safe-tagency.com to register.



(Cont. from Pg. 4) If you suspect you have been drugged or sexually assaulted, go to a safe place immediately and ask a trusted friend to stay with you. Report it as soon as possible. If you feel sexual assault was involved, go to a hospital as soon as possible, and ask for an exam and evidence collection. Request that the hospital take a urine sample for drug toxicology testing and have them test for GHB, Rohypnol, Ecstasy, and Ketamine. Do not bathe, shower, or throw away clothing you were wearing during the incident until you have talked to the police and been examined by a doctor. You have the right to have an advocate present at all times. Call a Sexual Assault Crisis Center for support and information.

903-572-0973 Office

903-575-9999 Hotline



Shelter Donations Needed!

Please drop off
all donations at our
Main Office at 204
Patrick St. Mount
Pleasant, TX or the
Thrift Store at 1014
West 1st St in Mt.
Pleasant, TX



- pillows, comforters & throws
- cleaning supplies
- underwear (men & women, all sizes)
- clothes detergent powder
- towels
- twin size sheets
- soap
- hand sanitizer
- socks (men, women, & children)
- baby wipes

Call 903-572-0973 for
more information.





SAFE-T Thrift Store

1014 W 1st St Mount Pleasant, TX 75455

Store: (903) 577-9035 9am - 6pm

We gratefully accept the following donated items:

Gently used clothing
Gently used shoes
Gently used furniture
Household items
Appliances
Pet items

Books
Toys
Curtains and Drapes
Electronics
Lighting
Home hardware

On every Wednesday, we have a storewide
20% discount for everyone over 55.
May 1st- 10% Off Storewide
May 3rd- Spin the Wheel
May 4th- 50% Off Home Improvement



COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

Where survivors of abuse or persons with an abusive partner can come together for support, understanding and fellowship.

SAFE-T Crisis Center

When: Every Thursday of Every Month

Time: 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Where: Zoom

Meeting ID: 865 4875 3453

Passcode: 653690



903.572.0973

You can also click [here](#) to join from a web browser

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86548753453?pwd=VVExN3BPNjg1VTJBNDdBsSU9zdmFQUT09>

