

## Sexual Abuse Can Include:

- Unwelcome sexual advances or obscene/sexual comments, gestures, or actions
- Viewing or making demands of an inmate by a staff member for reasons unrelated to official duties
- Exposure of genitals or masturbation in the presence of another
- “Favors” in exchange for sex (i.e. protection, privileges, housing)
- Threats, intimidation, blackmail, or forced sexual contact
- Any sexual contact between prison staff, contractor, or volunteer with an inmate is sexual abuse

*THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG WAY TO REACT TO A SEXUAL ASSAULT.*

When people are afraid, in shock or caught by surprise, they respond in all kinds of ways. Some freeze, laugh, go along with it (submit), or they “zone out” or go emotionally blank. These are all things that helped them survive the situation.

A lot of sexual abuse victims believe they caused the abuse to happen or that they did something to make it worse. While that is a very common response, **this is not your fault. No one deserves to be sexually assaulted.**

## Reporting Options

If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, you can:

- Submit an Inmate Interview Request form or grievance
- Verbally report the assault to any correctional staff
- Call or write to the Ombudsman’s Office. Dial: 01# or send a complaint to:

Ombudsman's Office  
Room 807, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

- Call the PREA reporting hotline by dialing: 08#, PIN: 111-111-111

**All reports made to NDCS will be investigated when possible.**

The NDCS has  
**ZERO TOLERANCE**  
for sexual abuse.

What you need  
to know about  
**Sexual Assault**



**Safe for the Sentence**



Nebraska Coalition to End  
Sexual and Domestic Violence  
402-476-6256  
[www.nebraskacoalition.org](http://www.nebraskacoalition.org)

## Supportive Services

You can reach a confidential sexual assault advocate who can talk to you about what you have experienced. Advocates are specially trained to understand what you have been through and do not report to the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS).

Everything you share with an advocate is completely confidential. An advocate can explain your options after an assault, provide safety planning, talk about feelings you experience after an assault, and discuss ways to cope.

If you want to talk to an advocate you can do so by dialing: 07# and use the generic PIN: 333-333-333. These calls will not be recorded or monitored.

If you don't feel comfortable or safe using the phone to contact an advocate, you can send a confidential letter to the **Prison Advocacy Coordinator** at:

Nebraska Coalition  
245 S. 84th St., Suite 200  
Lincoln, NE 68510

*Sexual assault is considered a traumatic event and can have far-reaching effects. Sexual assault victims deserve to receive confidential support to help them heal.*

## What is PREA?

PREA stands for Prison Rape Elimination Act. PREA outlines standards to help guide correctional facilities to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse within the facility. The standards call for the following:

- Zero tolerance for sexual abuse in prisons
- Better training for staff on how to prevent and respond to sexual abuse
- Guaranteed access to safe and confidential reporting channels for survivors of abuse
- Clear investigation and response protocols
- Multiple ways for victims to make private, internal reports
- At least one way to anonymously report abuse/harassment to someone outside of correctional agency
- Separate the victim from alleged abusers and protect from retaliation
- Victim access to sexual assault victim advocates, who are trained in providing crisis intervention and emotional support
- Emergency medical services and ongoing medical and mental health care for victims
- The option for victims to obtain a medical forensic exam
- New inmate screening to assess risk of being sexually abused or sexually abusive, including vulnerability factors, and use of this information to inform housing, bed, work, education and program assignments
- Prevent youthful offenders from being housed or have unsupervised contact with adult inmates in common spaces

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