

## **A Rape Victim's Rights**

- To be treated with dignity and respect.
- To be given as much credence as a victim of any other crime.
- To be considered a victim of rape when forced into any unwanted act of sex through any type of coercion, violent or otherwise.
- To be asked only those questions that are relevant to a court case or to medical treatment.
- To choose whether to report the rape to the police.
- To receive medical and mental health treatment and participate in legal procedures.
- To receive medical and mental health services whether or not the rape is reported to the police.
- Not to be subjected to prejudice based on race, sex, class, age, lifestyle, or occupation.
- Not to be asked questions about prior sexual experience.
- To have access to unbiased support persons, such as advocates and peer counselors.
- To be provided with information about all possible options related to legal and medical procedures.
- To have his/her name kept out of the media.
- To be considered a victim of rape regardless of any possible relationship to the assailant, such as a boyfriend, girlfriend, or spouse.
- To have deterred the assailant by any means necessary. No one should be criminally prosecuted for harming an assailant during a rape or attempted rape.