

Rape Culture: where rape, sexual assault & abuse are an accepted and expected societal norm.

1 First, it starts with systems of oppression.



AGEISM • CLASSISM • POVERTY • SEXISM • ABLEISM
STATE VIOLENCE • WHITE SUPREMACY • HETEROSEXISM
CISGENDERISM • RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION • COLONIALISM

2 *What connects those systems of oppression to sexual assault & abuse?*

Victim Blaming

3 HERE ARE SOME WAYS THAT RAPE CULTURE INFLUENCES OUR LIVES:

Sexual Violence	Legal	Media	Body Autonomy	Sexuality & Gender	Trauma	Education	Public Space
sexual assault & abuse; stalking; harassment; incest; sex trafficking; online sexual harassment; intimate partner sexual violence; 80% of survivors know their perpetrator	low reporting & prosecutions; Prison Industrial Complex; high incarceration rates of people of color; immigration status discrimination; multiple barriers to justice	rape jokes & imagery in advertising & media; objectifying & tokenizing images of people of color; victim-blaming survivors in the news	youth, people with disabilities & undocumented folks often unable to leave abusers; reproductive coercion; barriers to healthcare; medical abuse	definitions of gender, gender expression & sexuality are affected by trauma histories; invisibility of queer, trans & disabled people; slut-shaming	historical trauma (Native Amer. boarding schools, slavery, Jim Crow, etc.); mental illness; medical sexual abuse; gaslighting; intergenerational trauma	lack of comprehensive sex education; campus sexual assault; school dress codes; barriers to Title IX; School to Prison Pipeline; school violence; lack of youth resources	rape jokes; workplace harassment; street harassment; hate crimes; gentrification; accessible housing; Stranger Behind the Buses myth; prevention "tips"

4 What this all comes down to is:

Denial of Autonomy

"Denial of Autonomy" means denying people the ability to make choices for themselves and this is at the center of rape culture.



Counseling • Advocacy & Response • Education

www.stacarecenter.org • 785.843.8985

This grant project was funded by the Protection from Abuse Fund administered by the Office of the Kansas Attorney General. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of the Kansas Attorney General.

Do not reproduce or copy without the explicit permission of The Sexual Trauma & Abuse Care Center. Please contact support@stacarecenter.org with questions or requests.