

1836 Better educational support for sexual assault victims

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Union notes:

- One in five women aged between 16 and 59 have experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 16. ¹
- Nearly half a million adults are sexually assaulted in England and Wales each year.¹
- Approximately 90% of those who are raped knew the perpetrator prior to the offense.¹
- Where the age is known, those aged under 24 represent 25% of service users.¹
- 1 in 7 Hidden Mark survey respondents has experienced a serious physical or sexual assault during their time as a student.²
- One in four victims of serious sexual assault stated that their studies had been affected by the incident. ²
- One in seven victims of serious physical assault reported that their attendance had suffered.²

Union believes:

- Being a victim of rape; sexual assault; domestic violence or revenge porn has a large impact in your life.
- No one should have their education impacted upon because of sexual assault.
- University students are particularly vulnerable to being a victim of rape; sexual assault; domestic violence or revenge porn.

Union resolves:

- To lobby the university to make being a victim of rape; sexual assault; domestic violence or revenge porn an allowable extenuating circumstance.
- To mandate the Student Officer Committee, led by the Welfare, Community & Diversity Officer, to write a letter to the Vice-Chancellor appealing for a separate pot of funding for counselling for victims of rape; sexual assault; domestic violence and revenge porn.
- To campaign for the university to train all advisors in basic techniques of what to do if your advisee is a victim of rape; sexual assault; domestic violence or revenge porn.

¹ <http://rapecrisis.org.uk/statistics.php>

² http://www.nus.org.uk/Global/NUS_hidden_marks_report_2nd_edition_web.pdf