

## What to do if someone is raped?

1. Advise the victim to seek the help of a counselor or a therapist who is an expert in handling cases of sexual abuse.
2. Assist her in securing a safe and temporary shelter if she needs to move to another place for security reasons. She can be referred to a crisis center or any government agency that offers temporary shelter.
3. Make sure that the evidence is safe and intact. This would help should the victim decides to file a case.
4. Secure a Medico-legal certificate from a Medico-legal officer. Absence of bodily injuries does not mean that rape did not occur or that the case may not be pursued anymore.
5. Support the victim along the way when she decides to file a case.
6. Ensure that she is prepared in all aspects. Make her understand the overall picture of the case. Inform her that it is possible that doctors, police, lawyers and judges would not be sensitive to her situation and experience.
7. Help the victim choose the lawyer who understands her most.
8. Coordinate with people who can assist or support her all throughout.

References:

1. The Anti-Rape Law of 1997 and Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998, NCRFW.
2. Ang Batas Laban sa Panggagahasa, Isang Praymer, WLB in cooperation with NCRFW and UNFPA, 1998.

## WHERE DO WE GO FOR HELP?

- National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)**  
Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Division  
Taft Avenue, Manila  
Hotline: (02) 8525-6028
- Philippine National Police (PNP)**  
Hotline: 117/911  
Women and Children Protection Center  
Camp Crame, Quezon City  
Main Office: (02) 8532-6690 / 7410-3213 / 7723-0401 local 5260, 5360, 5361  
Visayas: 0917-7085157 / (032) 410-8483  
Mindanao: 0917-1806037  
Aleng Pulis Text Hot-line: 0919-7777377 / 09667255961
- DOJ – Public Attorney’s Office (DOJ-PAO)**  
(02) 8929-9436 local 106, 107 or 159 (Local "0" for operator)  
Mobile: 0939-3233665
- UP PGH Women’s Desk**  
Tel. no.: (02) 8524-2990 / 8353-0667 /  
8542-1512 / 8554-8400 local 2536
- DOH WCPU**  
Call center: (02) 8651-7800 local 5003-5004 / Mobile: 0919-1601418  
WCPU Directory: [childprotectionnetwork.org/wcpu-directory/](http://childprotectionnetwork.org/wcpu-directory/)
- DSWD Ugnayan Pag-asa Crisis Intervention Center**  
Hotlines: (02) 8734-8639 / (02) 8734-8654 / (02) 8734-8626 to 27
- DSWD Community-Based Services Section (CBSS)**  
Hotline: (02) 8733-0010 to 18 loc. 116
- Women’s Care Center Inc.**  
St. Scholastica’s Archives-Museum, 884 Pablo Ocampo Street, Manila  
Mobile: 0920-9677852 / 0917-8250320



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For more information, please contact the:

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# Republic Act 8353

The Anti-Rape Law of 1997  
as amended by RA 11648



## Republic Act 8353: An Act Expanding the Definition of the Crime of Rape and Reclassifying the same as Crime Against Persons

The Anti-Rape Law of 1997 as amended by  
RA 11648 redefines rape as:

### 1. A crime against persons

*Rape violates a person's well being and not  
just ones virginity or purity*

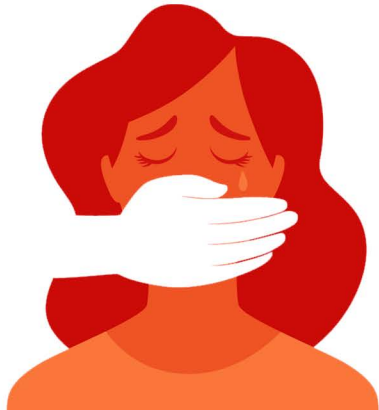
The law considers that any person, whether a prostituted  
person, non-virgin or one who has an active sexual life  
may be victimized by rape.

### 2. A public offense

*By declaring that rape is a crime against  
persons, the law no longer considers it as a  
private crime.*

Anyone who has knowledge of the crime may file a case  
on the victim's behalf.

The prosecution continues even if the victim drops the  
case or pardons the offender.



## What constitutes rape?

*Rape is committed:*

*By a person who shall have sexual  
intercourse with another person under any  
of the following circumstances:*

- A.** Through force, threat, or intimidation
- B.** When the victim is deprived of reason or is unconscious
- C.** Through fraudulent machination or grave abuse of authority; and
- D.** When the victim is under sixteen (16) years of age or is demented, even if none of the above circumstances are present. However, there shall be no criminal liability when the age difference between the one who is below 16 and the other person is not more than three (3) years and the sexual act is proven to be consensual, non-abusive, and non-exploitative. This exception shall not apply when the victim is under thirteen (3) year old.

*By any person who, under any of the above  
circumstances, commits an act of sexual assault by  
inserting his penis into another person's mouth  
or anal orifice, or any instrument or object, into  
the genital or oral orifice of another person.*

## Who can be raped?

Anyone can be a rape victim, but the incidence of rape is more rampant in women and girls.

## Who can commit rape?

Any man or woman may be held liable for rape.

It is possible that a man may rape his own wife, an act deemed as **"marital rape."** The penalty for rape in general may apply on the offender who commits marital rape.



## How is the crime punished?

*The penalty varies depending on the act itself and  
the circumstances surrounding it.*

**Reclusion Perpetua** (*Imprisonment from 20 to 40 years*) is imposed on the offender if rape is committed through sexual intercourse.

**Prision Mayor** (*Imprisonment from 6 to 12 years*) is imposed on the offender if rape was committed through oral or anal sex or through the use of any object or instrument that was inserted into the mouth or anal orifice of the woman or a man.

This may also be elevated to **Reclusion Temporal** (*Imprisonment from 12 to 20 years*) or **Reclusion Perpetua** depending on the circumstances surrounding the crime.