Any type of sexual contact or behavior that takes place without the consent of the recipient is sexual assault. Sometimes such assaults are committed by a stranger, but more commonly, they occur between people who know each other. Every two minutes someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. Thus, each year, more than 200,000 people are sexually assaulted; more than half of those assaults go unreported.

Some people don’t report an assault because they are embarrassed or feel they did something to instigate the attack. Being a victim of sexual assault can result in severe emotional and psychological damage. Not talking to anyone or seeking counseling for the assault can affect your relationships with friends and family, affect your employment or school work, and cause you to withdraw from social situations.

To help reduce your chances of being a victim of sexual assault, it helps to understand victimization and reporting. RAINN is the nation’s largest anti-sexual violence organization. It has compiled a large amount of data on sexual violence to educate, prevent, and assist.

- Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact or behavior that takes place without the explicit consent of the recipient. Sometimes it is committed by a stranger, but it most commonly occurs between people who know each other, whether they are spouses or on a date.

- Self-defense classes are offered in most cities and on college campuses, and they’re usually reasonably priced or free.
If you are sexually assaulted...

- Get away from the perpetrator. Find a safe place to go until help arrives; do not bathe or change your clothes—they will serve as evidence for the police and medical staff that will take care of you.

- Seek medical help even if you do not have any visible signs of physical injury; you may still be at risk for having a sexually transmitted disease. Specially trained medical staff may be able to collect important evidence of the assault. Even if you don’t immediately want to talk to law enforcement, the evidence will have been preserved in case you decide to do so.
You’ve probably been sitting in traffic or in a parking lot on campus and had a police car speeding by with its lights and siren activated. If you’re like most, you’ve no doubt wondered where they were going and why. Have you ever considered, though, who sent them or how they got the call to begin with? Often overlooked, but no less important to the field of law enforcement, is the job of a police telecommunicator.

A career as a police telecommunicator or call taker can be quite stressful. In many police agencies across the country, police telecommunicators are responsible for taking calls for service, doing double-duty as 911 operators. Often times, they are the first point of contact for people who are in desperate need of help. No matter how bad the situation sounds on the other end of that phone, police telecommunicators are trained to stay calm and maintain their wits in order to make sure people get the emergency services they need. Police telecommunicators must be able to multitask and deal with all different kinds of personality types. They must also be able to remain in control of their emotions in order to help those who are in need of help to remain calm.

There are plenty of stories of police telecommunicators walking people through CPR over the phone, talking calmly to people who have
reported gruesome tragedies, and even talking people out of committing suicide. In many circumstances, dispatchers may find themselves as long-distance life savers.

Think the job might be for you? Police telecommunicators deal with a great deal of stress and rarely receive the recognition and appreciation they deserve. Anyone looking to become a dispatcher needs to have a strong desire to help others and a thick skin. They must also be able to handle several tasks at once and deal with people who are in their greatest moments of need and distress.

Landing a job as a police dispatcher can be a great entry point for other work in the criminal justice field or you can spend a full career in dispatch. In any case, as with every other career in criminal justice, working as a dispatcher is a great way to serve your community and help other people.

The UTSA Police Department joins Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International in honoring the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to the world’s citizens, including our very own dispatchers here at UTSAPD. The telecommunicators here at UTSAPD are a top notch group of professionals who deserve recognition for their great efforts. Next time you see or talk to one, thank them for their service!
FACT: About four out of five college students drink alcohol.
FACT: About half of college students who drink, also consume alcohol through binge drinking. The more students drink, the more likely they will suffer negative consequences. Those consequences can range in severity from having a hangover, performing poorly on a test, or missing class to getting into an argument or fight, driving under the influence, being hurt or injured, or being taken advantage of sexually. The negative consequences of alcohol use on college campuses are widespread and each year, drinking impacts thousands of college students – whether they drink or not -- as well as families, friends and entire college communities.

Some of the consequences of college drinking include:

- Assault: More than 690,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student who has been drinking.
- Sexual Abuse: More than 97,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape.
- Injury: 599,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 receive unintentional injuries while under the influence of alcohol.
- Academic Problems: About 25 percent of college students report academic consequences of their drinking including missing class, failing behind, doing poorly on exams or papers, and receiving lower grades overall.
- Health Problems/Suicide Attempts: More than 150,000 students develop an alcohol-related health problem and between 1.2 and 1.5 percent of students indicate that they tried to commit suicide within the past year due to drinking or drug use.
- Death: 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die each year from unintentional alcohol-related injuries.

What factors contribute to the problem?

Students sometimes drink because they think alcohol makes it easier to meet other people, relaxes their social inhibitions, and helps them have more fun. In addition, advertisements for alcohol are everywhere, with slick marketing campaigns featuring attractive, youthful actors and models. And keg parties and the drinking activities promoted by campus groups, including fraternities and sororities, also set the stage for dangerous attitudes toward drinking.

Sobering realities: Prevention

Underage drinking is a complex problem, requiring cooperation at all levels of society. Four basic approaches, however, have proven to be effective in prevention of the problem:

1. Changing cultural misconceptions and behaviors about alcohol use through education;
2. Curtailing the availability of alcohol to young people under age 21;
3. Consistent enforcement of existing laws and regulations regarding alcohol purchase;
4. Expanded access to treatment and recovery support services for adolescents and their families.

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PARK SAFETY

UTSA Police Department suggests that you minimize your "risk factors" while in local parks, hiking trails, and greenbelts. Students can remove a risk factor by following each of these tips:

Own the trail. Project alertness, confidence, and determination. Your shoulders are back, you are aware of your surroundings, and you have somewhere to go.

Go with a buddy. Enjoy your trails and parks with a friend. Two or more trail users can assist each other in the event of accident or injury, and one can always seek help.

The day is your friend. It's better to avoid dusk and darkness.

Use all your senses. Listen for suspicious noises. Don't wear headphones; they impair your ability to hear someone approaching you from behind. If you sense that an area may be unsafe for you, leave.

Take what you need. Carry personal identification. If you use a medication frequently, such as for diabetes or angina, take it and instructions for use with you.

Leave valuables at home. Don't make yourself an obvious target. If you must leave valuables in your vehicle while you are enjoying your picnic lunch or using the trails, hide them well before you arrive at the parking area; auto burglaries are all too common.

Call for help. If you need assistance or encounter someone else needing assistance call 911.

Have someone waiting. Always let someone else know where you will be going and when you will return, and instruct him or her to call 911 if you do not return as planned.

Be easy to find. Use marked, authorized trails only.

Trust your instincts. If you observe anything/anyone suspicious, leave the area and call the police.

We hope this assists with the safety and awareness while in parks on or off campus.
The below is a summary of the crimes that occurred as of last month. For more information, go to www.utsa.edu/utsapd and click on Crime Stats.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Thefts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Burglary of Vehicle</td>
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<td>Drug Arrests</td>
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<td>Assaults</td>
<td>7</td>
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**LOST & FOUND**

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<td>Bag/Backpacks</td>
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<td>Binders/Folders</td>
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<td>Books</td>
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APRIL

**APR 1**
Sex Signals
2:00PM
Business Bldg.—Richard S. Liu Auditorium

**APR 4**
Call To Action Day
11:00AM—2:00PM
UC Paseo

**APR 6**
Beaks Up. Speak Up. Selfie Station
10:00AM—2:00PM
UTSA Rowdy Wellness Health Fair, DT Campus

**APR 11**
Bringing In The Bystander Workshop
2:00PM—4:00PM
UC Pecan Room 2.01.26

**APR 13**
Students Against Sexual Assault
6:30PM
HEB UC—Travis Room 2.202

**APR 15**
Beaks Up. Speak Up. Selfie Station
10:00AM—2:00PM
Sombrilla—Fiesta UTSA

**APR 18**
Bringing In The Bystander Workshop
2:00PM—4:00PM
HEB UC— Bexar Room 1.102

**APR 19**
Beaks Up. Speak Up. Selfie Station
11:00AM—2:00PM
Sombrilla

**APR 21**
Beaks Up. Speak Up. Selfie Station
6:00PM—9:00PM
UC Paseo—Party on the

**APR 26**
Beaks Up. Speak Up. Selfie Station
11:00AM—2:00PM
Sombrilla

**APR 28**
Take Back The Night
6:00PM—9:00PM
Eastside Convocation
The UTSA Community comes together with UTSAPD to raise awareness on sexual assault prevention with the CALL TO ACTION DAY, which officially kicked off a month long of events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The UTSAPD Motor Unit successfully competed in the 3rd annual Capitol of Texas Motor Chute Out, a nationally recognized police motorcycle training and competition. UTSAPD sent their two veteran motor officers, OFC Mark Smith and SGT Shawn Smith. Both officers plan to compete next year.

UTSAPD was honored to receive the 2015 Community Engagement Award from TAASA which recognizes organizations that made significant contributions to the anti-sexual violence field – from community empowerment to advocacy to victim services and more. These efforts were headed up by CPL Maranda Tupper.
Our department is seeking men and women from all backgrounds who want to be members of a professional law enforcement agency that serves a diverse and dynamic community. Apply at jobs.utsa.com