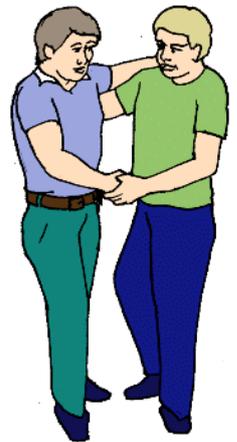


EASY ENGLISH

Sex and the Law



Care
Education
Advocacy



The things in this factsheet are for lots of different people.



For information just about



- you
- your needs



talk to a

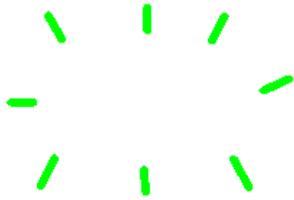


- Doctor or Nurse

or



- Lawyer



New words

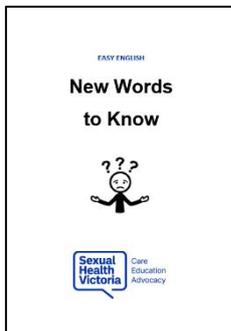
There may be words in this factsheet

- that are new to you and
- you may **not** know what they mean

or

- you may be unsure what they mean.

We will make them **blue** the first time we use them.



Read about them in the

Sexual Health Victoria Fact Sheet

New Words to Know.



What is Sex?



Read about **sex** in the
Sexual Health Victoria Fact Sheet

What is sex?

It will help you know



- what is sex

and

- what is **not** sex.



Sex and the Law



There are laws to help you

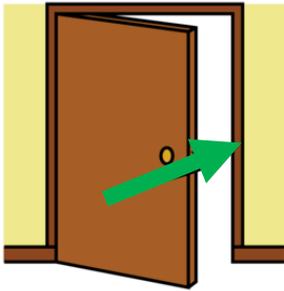


- stay safe

and



- know about your rights about sex.

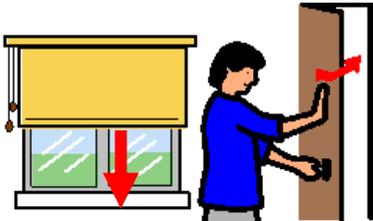


Sex is Private



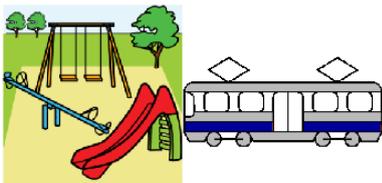
A private place is a

- bedroom
- or
- bathroom.



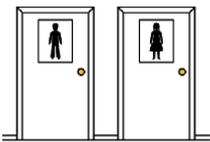
These rooms are **only** private when the

- door is closed
- blinds are closed.

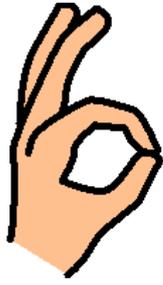


A public place is a

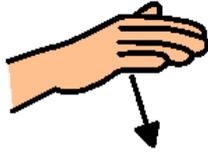
- park
- public transport. Like a train.
- public toilet.



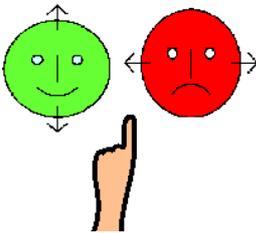
Sex in a public place is a crime.



Consent

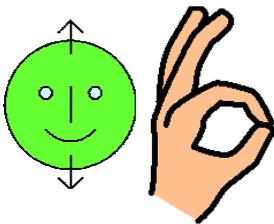


Before you have sex with someone



You choose

- yes
- or
- no.



When you say yes this is called **consent**.

It means you **agree** to have sex with

- that person
- at that time.



Remember



The law is the same even when you are



- married

or



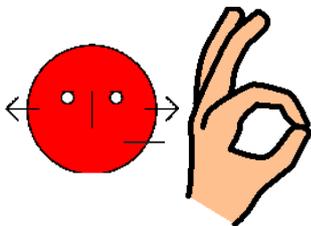
- the person is your

- boyfriend

- girlfriend

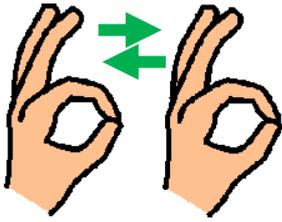
or

- partner.



You can say **no**.

This is OK.



You must agree to have sex.

and

the other person must agree to have sex.



The other person is breaking the law if they have sex with you when you do **not** agree.

This is a crime.



There is no consent when...



you have sex only because

- someone made you feel bad about saying no. Like, they say things like “you do not love me if we do not have sex”.

or



- you are scared you will be hurt. Like, the person says they will hit you.



You also can **not** give consent to sex when



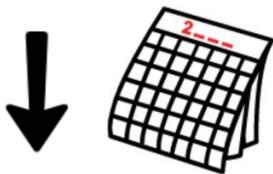
- you are asleep



- you have had too much
 - alcohol
 - or**
 - drugs



- you do not understand what you are saying yes to



- you are under 12 years old.



There are special laws about sex with people under 18 years old



Sex and someone under 12

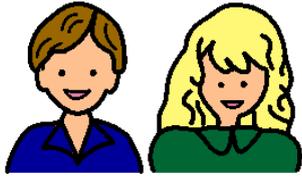


No one can have sex with someone who is under 12 years old. This is a crime.



The person under 12 can **not** legally agree to have sex.

Even if they say yes, it is a crime.



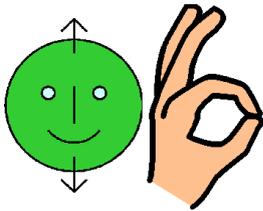
Sex and someone who is 12, 13, 14 or 15 years old



The other person must be within 24 months of your age.

Like, you are 15 and they are 17.

They **can not** be under 12.



If you both say **yes**.

This **may** be OK.



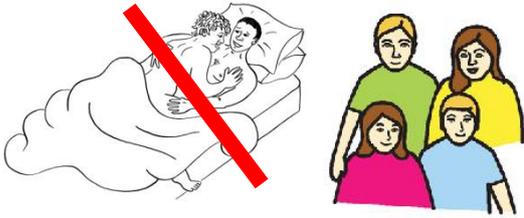
When the person is **more** than 24 months

- older than you
- or
- younger than you



this **is** a crime.

Remember they **can not** be under 12.



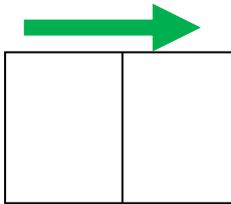
You can **not** have sex with someone

- in your family

or



- whose job it is to help you. Like
 - teacher
 - support worker
 - sports coach.



There is a list of more community people you cannot have sex with on page 19.



Sex and someone

16 or 17 years old



You can have sex with someone who is older than you

but



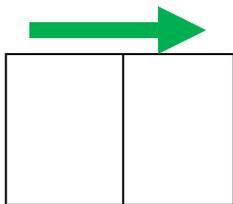
You can **not** have sex with someone

- in your family

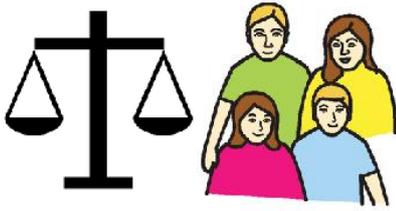
or



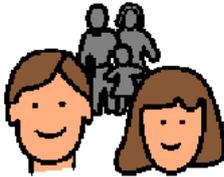
- whose job it is to help you. Like
 - teacher
 - support worker
 - sports coach.



There is a list of more community people you cannot have sex with on page 19.



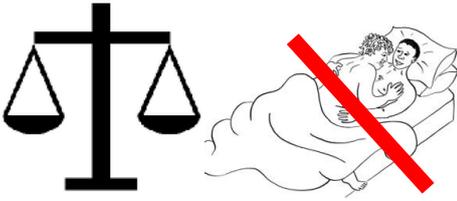
People in your family can not have sex with you



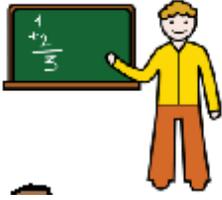
Family is your

- mum or dad
- grandma or grandpa
- brothers or sisters
- step mum or step dad
- other members of your step family like a step brother or step sister.
- adopted family member
- foster family member.

This is a crime.



These people can not have sex with you



A community member or person whose job it is to help you.



It can be your

- teacher
- support staff
- counsellor
- boss
- police
- doctor
- someone from your church. Like,
 - priest
 - rabbi
 - imam.





Want more information?

Victoria Legal Aid



1300 792 387

Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA)



<http://www.casahouse.com.au/>

Victoria Police Sexual Offences and Child
Sex Crimes Investigation Team (SOCIT)



<https://www.police.vic.gov.au/sexual-offences>

Images

We have used images from



- Change People
- COMPIC
- Inspired Services
- Boardmaker - Mayer-Johnson
- Picto-Selector.



This Fact Sheet is based on the Sexual Health Victoria **Sex and Young People** Fact Sheet. Date: 5/06/2016



Access
Easy English

Reviewed by Sexual Health Victoria. March 2023.

Original Easy English written by Access Easy English. May 2018.