

## Understanding the Victim's Experience Discussion Questions

### Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to give participants insight into sexual assault victims' experience, and an opportunity to discuss those insights with others.

### Instructions

You will either read a victim impact statement, or view video clips of victims speaking about their experiences. Afterward, you will have an opportunity to discuss the material.

### Discussion Questions

1. What did you notice? What stood out to you? Can you explain why?
2. What surprised you, if anything? What did you expect that was different from what you heard or read? What did you learn that was new to you?
3. If you were going to summarize the content of this story or stories – for example, if you wanted to show the victim(s) that you heard what was important about what they were saying – what would you say? ("I heard her saying that ....")
4. How does the story (or stories) make you feel? Do you find yourself feeling angry? Sad? Disbelieving or suspicious? Numb (like you've heard it all before)? If you were dealing with this victim/these victims in person, how do you think your feelings would affect your interaction?